



July 9, 2026

# Engaged Communities Goal Team

## July Quarterly Meeting

# Agenda

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**1**

**Welcome and  
Introductions**

**2**

**Workgroup Intros and  
Updates**

**3**

**Chesapeake Bay  
Program Updates**

**4**

**Management Strategy  
Collaboration**

**5**

**Open Discussion**

**6**

**Wrap-Up**

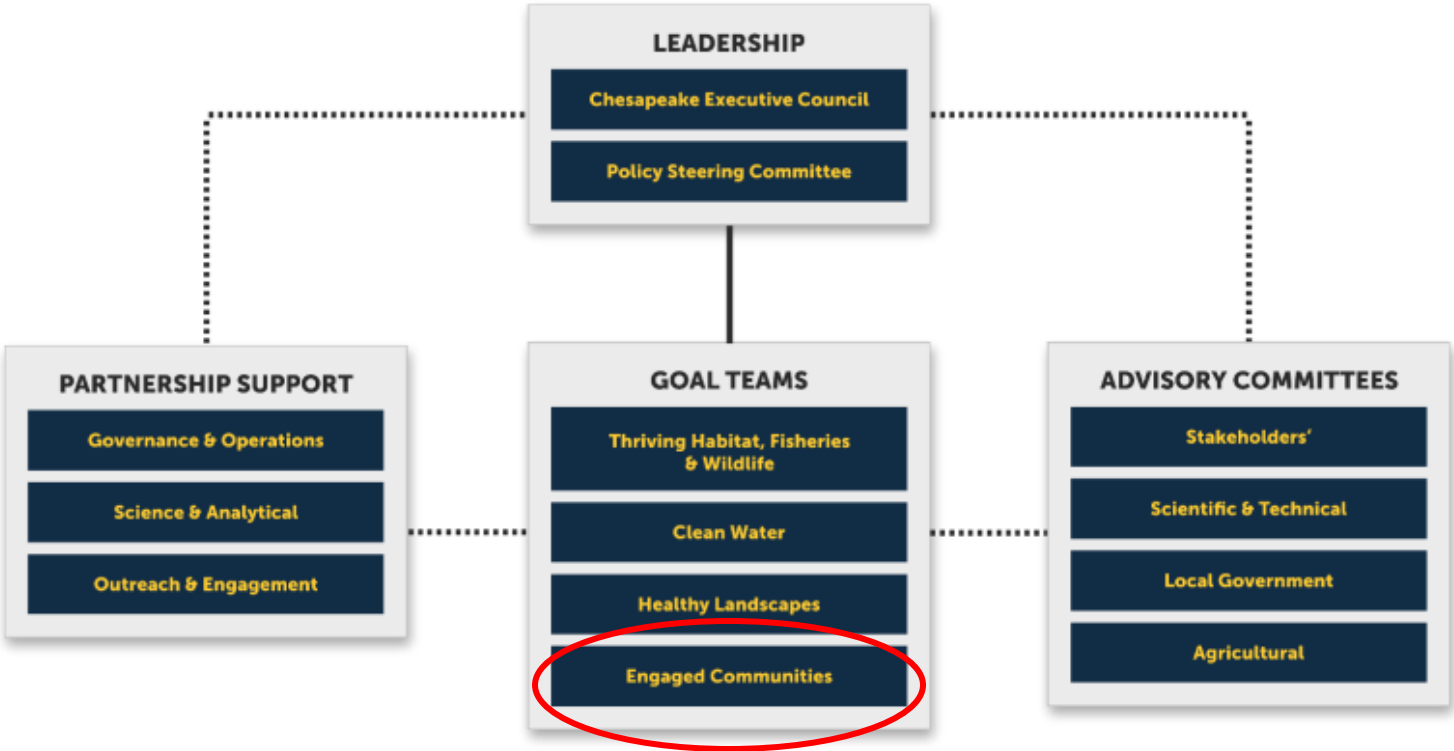


# Welcome and Introductions

Overview of Chesapeake Bay Program and  
Goal Team Structure

Member Introductions

# Chesapeake Bay Program Organizational Structure



# Engaged Communities Goal



Photo by Will Parson/Chesapeake Bay Program

*Engage and grow a community of local stewards and leaders through education, recreation and professional development opportunities to ensure the long-term success of restoration and conservation efforts.*

# Engaged Communities – Outcome Workgroups

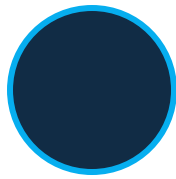
2025 Outcome	Workgroup / Action Team
Local Government Leadership	Local Government Leadership Workgroup
Public Access	Public Access Workgroup <i>Proposed: Greenspace Action Team</i>
School District Environmental Literacy Planning Student Environmental Literacy Experiences	Education Workgroup
Stewardship	Stewardship Workgroup
Workforce	Workforce Workgroup <i>New: K-12 Career and Technical Education Action Team</i>

# Welcome new Goal Team members!

Signatory Partner	Lead Representative	Alternate
DE	Holly Walker, DNREC	Samantha Cotten, DNREC
DC	Julia Wakeling, DOEE (Goal Team co-chair)	Julie Lawson, DOEE (Goal Team co-chair)
MD	Olivia Wisner, DNR	
NY	Cassie Davis, DEC	
PA	Jennifer Fetter, Penn State Extension	Kate Beats, DEP
VA	Lori Schoenwiesner, DCR	Ellen Powell, DOF
WV	Scott Settle, DEP	
CBC	Norah Carlos	Anna Killius
Federal	Wendy O'Sullivan, NPS	Shannon Sprague, NOAA

# Welcome new Goal Team members!

Role	Representative
At-Large Member (voting)	Kacey Wetzel, CBT
At-Large Member (voting)	Darran White Tilghman, ShoreRivers
At-Large Member (voting)	William Urvina, Choose Clean Water Coalition
Workgroup Chair (non-voting)	Marissa O'Neill, DC DOEE (Stewardship)
Workgroup Chair (non-voting)	Lorenzo Cinalli, DC DPR (Public Access)
Workgroup Chair (non-voting)	Bart Merrick, NOAA (Workforce)
Workgroup Chair (non-voting)	Maura Christian, VA DEQ (Local Govt. Leadership)
Workgroup Chair (non-voting)	Caitlin Bolton, MWCOG (Local Govt. Leadership)
Workgroup Chair (non-voting)	Laura Casdorff, VA DEQ (Education)



# **Round-Robin Workgroup Updates**

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# Chesapeake Bay Program Updates

- Revised [Governance and Management Framework](#)
  - *“Workgroups should designate up to 15 voting members who cast votes in instances where unanimous consent cannot be reached. Voting members will be approved by the Goal Team.”*
  - ***Voting members for Goal Team and each Workgroup should be identified by July 31st.***
- Drafting CBP Strategic Plan this summer; public feedback period in January 2027.

# Strategic Plan Timeline



# Strategic Planning Documents

- **Engaged Communities Management Strategy:** contains Outcome sub-chapters; implemented, evaluated, and updated every 6 years.
- **Outcome Workplan:** describes the major activities that will be collaboratively undertaken by CBP partners to make progress toward the Outcome / Target; implemented and updated every 1-3 years.



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# Goal Management Strategy

- **Goal Language**
- **Goal Situation Analysis:** shared challenges for partnership to address, including Changing Environmental Conditions
- **Goal Level Management Approaches (*optional*):** strategies that partners should collaboratively undertake to address challenges that impact multiple Outcomes within the Goal



# Outcome Sub-Sections

- Outcome Language (including Targets)
  - Baseline and Current Condition
  - Monitoring Progress and Indicators
  - Snapshot of Signatory Programs
  - Outcome Level Management Approaches
  - Participating Partners
  - Signatory Statutory Authorities Driving Outcome Attainment
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# Workplans

- Separate 3-year Workplans will include:
  - Narrative summary
  - Descriptions of the major actions to be undertaken
  - Project lead and participating partners
  - Capacity and financial resources needed and committed, as well as potential sources to fill gaps
  - Timeline for completion
  - Performance targets and deliverables



# Engaged Communities – Goal Level Challenges

## Shared Challenges Across Outcomes





# Open Discussion

Time for questions, follow-up discussion, and identifying collaboration opportunities.



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# Reminders

**Next Engaged Communities Goal Team Meeting:** October 2026, in-person location/date TBD

- **Action:** Workgroups should complete initial draft of Outcome sub-chapter **by July 24<sup>th</sup>**.
- **Action:** Goal Team should complete initial draft of Goal level Challenges and Management Approaches **by July 28<sup>th</sup>**.
- **Action:** Workgroups should identify their 15 voting members **by July 31<sup>st</sup>**.

Please reach out to Katie Ayers, Goal Team Coordinator ([ayers.katie@epa.gov](mailto:ayers.katie@epa.gov)), **if you are interested in contributing to or reviewing the Engaged Communities Management Strategy.**



Photo by Will Parson/Chesapeake Bay Program with aerial support by Southwings

# Thank you!

*Comments, questions, ideas?*

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