



**Chesapeake Bay Program**  
*Science. Restoration. Partnership.*

**Forestry Workgroup Meeting**  
**September 10th, 2025 | 9:00 am - 11:00 am**

[Meeting Materials](#)

[Microsoft Teams Link](#)

**Meeting ID:** 232 877 875 374 0 | **Passcode:** SW3yn2Nz

**Call:** +1 469-208-1525 | **Phone conference ID:** 751 533 099#

*This meeting will be recorded for internal use to ensure the meeting note accuracy.*

<b>9:00</b> (5 min)	<p><b>Welcome and Introductions – Anne Hairston Strang (MD FS, FWG Co-Chair)</b></p> <p>For roll call purposes, please enter your name &amp; affiliation in the chat box. Call-in participants are requested to identify themselves verbally.</p>
<b>9:05</b> (10 min)	<p><b>Announcements – Katie Brownson (USFS, FWG Coordinator)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Staffing update: With Marilyn Yang departing from the Bay Program to start her masters, STAR staffer, Allison Welch (<a href="mailto:awelch@chesapeakebay.net">awelch@chesapeakebay.net</a>) will be covering the September 10th FWG meeting until the new staffer is hired.</li> <li>The <a href="#">Agroforestry EPEG recommendations</a> were approved! This practice will be eligible for states to start tracking during annual reporting; however, crediting won't happen until Phase 7.</li> <li>Update on Forest Buffer and Tree Canopy indicators</li> </ul>
<b>9:15</b> (15 min)	<p><b>Round Robin</b></p> <p>Please come ready to share 2-3 high priority items/updates from your state or organization! <i>To help us stay on schedule, each state will be allotted 2 minutes to present.</i></p>
<b>9:30</b> (10 min)	<p><b>Update on the New Municipal and County Tree Canopy Status and Change Factsheets &amp; State of Chesapeake Forests StoryMap – Julie Mawhorter and Katie Brownson (USFS)</b></p> <p>Julie and Katie will provide a brief overview and demo of the recently released Tree Canopy Factsheets and Storymap and get input on strategies for distributing these new communications products.</p>
<b>9:40</b> (35 min)	<p><b>Reviewing &amp; Discussing the Beyond 2025 Public Feedback – Katie Brownson (USFS, FWG Coordinator)</b></p> <p>Katie will provide an overview of public feedback received on the draft Watershed Agreement, including feedback on the Healthy Forests and Trees outcome and other closely related outcomes.</p>

<p><b>10:15</b> (45 min)</p>	<p><b>Update on the Targets under the new Healthy Forests and Trees Outcome</b> – <i>Katie Brownson (USFS, FWG Coordinator)</i></p> <p>Katie will lead a discussion on potential updates to targets under the Healthy forests and Trees Outcome based on public feedback and discussions with workgroup members. Revisions to the targets will be proposed for the Management Board to consider at their retreat 9/30-10/2.</p> <p><b>Current Draft Outcome Language:</b> Conserve and restore forests and tree cover to maximize benefits for water quality, habitat and people throughout the watershed, with a particular focus on riparian areas and communities.</p> <p><b>Draft Target Language:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Tree Canopy:</b> Reduce the loss of existing canopy, and plant and maintain 35,000 acres of community trees by 2035 to achieve a net gain in canopy over the long-term.</li> <li>● <b>Forest Buffers:</b> Reduce the loss of existing buffers, and plant and maintain 7,500 acres of forest buffers annually to achieve no less than 71% riparian forest cover by 2035 and 75% riparian forest cover over the long-term</li> <li>● <b>Forest Conservation:</b> Achieve a net gain in forests over the long term by reducing the rate of forest loss by conversion to other land uses by 33%, <b>permanently protecting a total of 8.2/8.5 million acres of forested lands,</b> and planting and maintaining 155,000 acres of new forests by 2035</li> </ul> <p><i><b>Please note:</b> The Forest Conservation draft language above is adjusted from the original draft language proposed by the FWG voting members on 8/21 following the 9/2 Protected Lands meeting when it was proposed to move the forest target under the Protected Lands target underneath our Healthy Forests and Trees outcome (the language that was suggested after the 9/2 meeting is highlighted <b>in red</b>)</i></p>
<p><b>11:00</b></p>	<p><b>Adjourn</b></p>