



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

# **Agriculture Workgroup**

## February 2024 Meeting



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# **Vice Chair & At-Large Members**

2024-25 Term



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# Welcome!

- Vice Chair: **Caitlin Grady** – George Washington University
- At-Large Members:
  - **Jeff Hill** – York County Conservation District
  - **Zach Evans** – Mountaire Farms, Inc.
  - **Ken Staver** – University of Maryland
  - **Jenna Schueler** – Chesapeake Bay Foundation
  - **Dave Graybill** – Dairy, Crop, and Honeybee Farmer
  - **Leon Tillman** (alternate – **Sherri Degraphenreed**) - NRCS

# **Remote Sensing: Tillage Practices and Cover Crops**

Context

# Why remote sensing?

- Remote sensing has been/continues to be a focus of the partnership
  - Understandably so: “... the process of detecting and monitoring the physical characteristics of an area by measuring its reflected and emitted radiation at a distance (typically from satellite or aircraft).”
    - Time, cost savings
  - Critical piece of discussions about the future

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# Why remote sensing?

- Remote sensing has been a focus of the AgWG:
  - Remote sensing guidance document (2017), pilot projects, mentioned in BMP expert panel reports
  - More information available on BMP Verification Framework Updates webpage

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# Today (and moving forward):

- Which practices can we verify with remote sensing data?
  - Cannot address all BMPs
- As we listen to these presentations, think: what could the partnership do with these data?
  - Cover crops and remote sensing today to give an idea of what is possible; start of a larger conversation

# **New Business, Announcements & Updates**





# **AMT Updates – Tom Butler**



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# In-Person Meeting Poll

- Many have already completed the poll
  - Reminder today, with internal review of results next **Monday, 2/19**
  - Will begin exploring options for the dates when most are available to meet in-person
- Will seek input along the way – during meetings and via email

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# Agriculture Advisory Committee

- Creation of an Action Team to Research the Creation of an Agriculture Advisory Committee
  - Decision: **The partners agreed to establish an action team to develop recommendations on whether to establish an Agricultural Advisory Committee.** Final recommendations should be ready for PSC consideration in time for the June PSC meeting. The partners also agreed to the action team charging document.

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## Anything else?

- Send to Jackie Pickford  
(Pickford.Jacqueline@epa.gov) for inclusion in  
“Recap” email

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# Thank you!

Any questions?

You can contact me at [email@address.gov](mailto:email@address.gov)



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