



Chesapeake Bay Program
Science. Restoration. Partnership.

October 22, 2026

Engaged Communities Goal Team Introductions

Get To Know Your Goal Team Members!

Julie Lawson



**Engaged Communities Goal Team |
Workforce Workgroup Co-Chair**
DC Department of Energy & Environment

Areas of expertise/interest: environmental education & workforce planning; community-based social marketing; network building; plastic pollution

Favorite Chesapeake Bay watershed place or outdoor activity: Paddling the Anacostia River

Katie Ayers



**Engaged Communities Goal Team Coordinator |
Stewardship Workgroup Coordinator**

EPA, Chesapeake Bay Program Office

Areas of expertise/interest: community-level stewardship programs; partnership building; cost-share programs; forest and wetland restoration; invasive species management

Favorite Chesapeake Bay watershed place or outdoor activity: Hiking in western Maryland!

Daniel Koval



Environmental Management Staffer: Public Access, Protected Lands, and Workforce Workgroups

*Chesapeake Research Consortium,
Chesapeake Bay Program Office*

Areas of expertise/interest: public access; urban planning; outdoor recreation; land conservation; community stewardship; public health

Favorite Chesapeake Bay watershed place or outdoor activity: Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens

Meredith Lemke

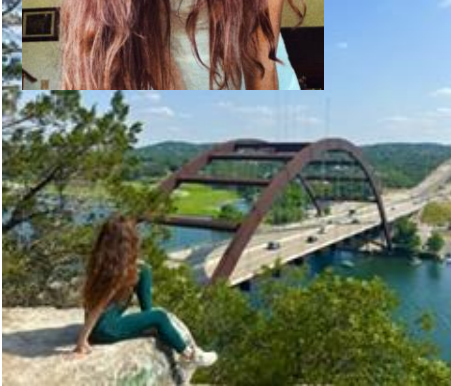


Environmental Management Staffer:
Education, Stewardship, Workforce Workgroups
Chesapeake Research Consortium,
Chesapeake Bay Program Office

Areas of expertise/interest: environmental education, stewardship, international relations, network development/management, coordination

Favorite Chesapeake Bay watershed place or outdoor activity: Hiking, birding, kayaking, Huntley Meadows (Alexandria), Patuxent River Park

Erin Sonnenburg



Environmental Management Staffer: Local Government Leadership Workgroup

*Chesapeake Research Consortium,
Chesapeake Bay Program Office*

Areas of expertise/interest: Regenerative Ag – Soil health, mycology, plant pathology; Sustainable Design – Permaculture, urban planning

Favorite Chesapeake Bay watershed place or outdoor activity: Enjoying waterfall hikes at Shenandoah National Park and going to the beach to unwind and recenter

Holly Walker



Engaged Communities Goal Team Member
*Delaware DNREC, Chesapeake Bay Program
Coordinator*

Areas of expertise/interest: coordinating and organizing programs across agencies and stakeholder initiatives

Favorite Chesapeake Bay watershed place or outdoor activity: Kayaking

Cassie Davis



Chesapeake Bay Watershed Coordinator/Research Scientist

NYS DEC, Division of Water

Areas of expertise/interest: nonpoint source
BMP implementation; data analysis; data
management; GIS

**Favorite Chesapeake Bay watershed place or
outdoor activity:** Unadilla River, kayaking

Jennifer Fetter



Engaged Communities Goal Team Member

Penn State Extension, Water Resources

Areas of expertise/interest: agricultural water resources issues; youth water education & curriculum development; conservation volunteer management; stormwater management; safe drinking water; innovative watershed restoration approaches

Favorite Chesapeake Bay watershed place or outdoor activity: Being in the sun in my own gardens

Kate Beats



Environmental Group Manager

Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection

Areas of expertise/interest: stakeholder/partner engagement and development; partner coordination; communication; facilitation

Favorite Chesapeake Bay watershed place or outdoor activity: Walking my dog along Little Conestoga Creek at Dorwart Park

Lori Schoenwiesner



Engaged Communities Goal Team Signatory Member | Environmental Education Workgroup Member

Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation

Areas of expertise/interest: strategic planning; environmental education; professional development

Favorite Chesapeake Bay watershed place or outdoor activity: Hiking to Camp Hoover and the Rapidan River in Shenandoah National Park

Maura Christian

Alternate Signatory Voting Member - VA



Local Government Leadership Workgroup Chair
Virginia Department of Environmental Quality

Areas of expertise/interest: facilitating regional engagement on Chesapeake Bay efforts; connecting local partners with Bay Program resources; Chesapeake Bay Preservation Act local assistance

Favorite Chesapeake Bay watershed place or outdoor activity: James River Park System in Richmond, VA

Wendy O'Sullivan



**National Park Service Superintendent | Member of
Chesapeake's Federal Office Directors (FOD)**

National Park Service, Chesapeake Gateways

Areas of expertise/interest: building partnerships; community engagement; heritage tourism; visitor experience; outdoor recreation economy; youth employment; grants management; collaborative conservation; philanthropic partnerships; and cause-related marketing.

Favorite Chesapeake Bay watershed place or outdoor activity: Exploring Chesapeake's small towns and main streets with my husband and our dog, Rudder

Shannon Sprague



Education Workgroup Chair

NOAA Chesapeake Bay Office

Areas of expertise/interest: K-12 environmental education, network development/Collective Impact, partnership building, strategic planning

Favorite Chesapeake Bay watershed place or outdoor activity: Fires on our neighborhood beach

Kacey Wetzel



VP of Programs, Outreach and Education
Chesapeake Bay Trust

Areas of expertise/interest: social science for systems change; environmental philanthropy; public-private partnerships

Favorite Chesapeake Bay watershed place or outdoor activity: Hiking

Darran White Tilghman



Director of Community Engagement

ShoreRivers

Areas of expertise/interest: partnerships; environmental justice; capacity building; rising stewards of family farms; green workforce; the lawn revolution; rights of nature; intersections with art

Favorite Chesapeake Bay watershed place or outdoor activity: Mucking and beachcombing on the banks of the Chester

Wuill Urvina



Partnerships and Outreach Specialist

Choose Clean Water Coalition, National Wildlife Federation

Areas of expertise/interest: coalition building; environmental justice & equity; workforce development; strategic communications; climate change resilience; ecology

Favorite Chesapeake Bay watershed place or outdoor activity: Point Lookout, Maryland

Don Phillips



Local Government Leadership Committee

Delaware Representative

Areas of expertise/interest: Town councilperson; clothing business; Nanticoke Memorial Hospital community relations and volunteer programs; shoreline greenway restoration and development projects

Favorite Chesapeake Bay watershed place or outdoor activity: Waterways of Nanticoke River Watershed, St. Michael's Museum, and crabs, crabs, crabs!

Laura Casdorph



**Science Coordinator | Education Workgroup
Vice Chair**

Virginia Department of Education

Areas of expertise/interest: Environmental education

Favorite Chesapeake Bay watershed place or outdoor activity: James River Park System in Richmond, VA

Marissa O'Neill



Stewardship Workgroup Chair

DC Department of Energy and Environment

Areas of expertise/interest: Stewardship, community engagement, events, and environmental education

Favorite Chesapeake Bay watershed place or outdoor activity: Kingman and Heritage Islands

Elise Trelegan



Education Workgroup Coordinator

NOAA Chesapeake Bay Office

Areas of expertise/interest: environmental education; youth engagement/leadership development

Favorite Chesapeake Bay watershed place or outdoor activity: Walking and bird watching!

Lorenzo Cinalli



Public Access Workgroup Chair

*District of Columbia Parks & Recreation –
Community Planner*

Areas of expertise/interest: Urban & community access to greenspaces, forests & tree canopy, partnership & coalition building, public policy

Favorite Chesapeake Bay watershed place or outdoor activity: Biking through public parks!