



STATE OF MARYLAND

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
Wes Moore

September 09, 2024

Honorable Jim Justice
Attn: Scott Settle

State Capitol
1900 Kanawha Boulevard E
Charleston, WV 25305

Dear Governor Justice,

In my capacity as Chair of the Chesapeake Executive Council, I am honored to work across the watershed states to restore and protect the Chesapeake Bay and all of its critical tributaries that connect our communities and our collective environmental, economic, and social responsibilities. The successes we have achieved as a partnership are nothing short of astonishing, a testament to the consensus-based collaboration across local, state, and federal agencies and resources.

While we've met some of our goals, many are still in progress and require heightened attention, renewed strategies, and an optimization of resources. We've learned so much over the years and face new challenges related to climate threats, land use pressures, and ensuring that no people are left behind. It's time that we collectively confront these challenges and set the course for the next phase of this historic effort.

I am writing to thank you for your continued commitment and partnership and to **cordially invite you to the 2024 Chesapeake Executive Council meeting to be held in Annapolis, Maryland, on December 10, 2024, from 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. (exact time to be confirmed).**

I wholeheartedly believe we have the rare opportunity to lead this partnership toward great achievements, but it will take bold steps and an iterative approach. While our past is rooted in pollution reduction to the mainstem of the Bay to improve water quality in the deep trench, our future is guided by a focus on local impacts, shallow water habitat, and the people and animals that populate our vast landscape and waters. Water quality, defined by nutrient and sediment pollution reduction, will always be a key indicator of our success; however, it is imperative we widen our lens to better address impacts on all desired outcomes, including climate resilience, carbon sequestration, local habitat, and environmental justice, among others.

I look forward to sharing time with you on December 10, 2024, to provide our Chesapeake Bay Partnership with the leadership and direction required to move forward and ensure a restored and protected Bay and all its tributaries for now and future generations. **Please RSVP to Connor.Shinn@Maryland.gov or use the RSVP link [HERE](https://forms.gle/eJorxp81t5E5JnUK7) (https://forms.gle/eJorxp81t5E5JnUK7) at your earliest convenience.**

With admiration,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Wes Moore', with a stylized, flowing script.

Governor Wes Moore