

Local Government Advisory Committee Actions and Discussion June 1-2, 2023

Call to Order: Greetings and Introductions	LGAC Chair Daniel Chao	Meeting called to order at 10:05 am
Jurisdiction Meeting Report-Outs and Member Updates	 DC Report-Out: Brianne Nadeau DE Report-Out: Don Phillips MD Report-Out: Mark Dobbins PA Report-Out: Michael Helfrich VA Report-Out: Richard Baugh WV Report-Out: Megan Diehl in lieu of James Barnhart 	DC is working with federal partners on tree canopy in urban settings as well as flood mitigation efforts. DE proposes a standard template for annual recommendations under action areas of funding projects and grants, long-term relationships with municipal leaders and governments, and provision of tools and professional support to municipal leaders and governments. DE supports a Delmarva agriculture-themed Peer to Peer. MD proposes an EC recommendation around the support of shallow waters efforts. Also, failing septic systems are a challenge and need to be connected to wastewater facilities. Other challenges include invasive species, PFAs and ghost forests. Members are using the watershed education modules. PA discussed how to engage with state local elected officials and proposed meeting with the Chesapeake Bay Commission representatives. Members proposed a focus on LGAC's Strategic Plan and bringing that more to the forefront of efforts. Workforce and capacity development and sharing of resources was discussed. VA is facing a high percentage of incoming local elected officials and members propose efforts to bring them up to speed on watershed restoration endeavors. Also discussed expanding prior efforts around circuit riders and the role of planning district commissions as local trusted resources. WW shared the plan for a June 30th Peer to Peer walking tour of green infrastructure projects in Berkeley Springs. Also a pilot effort in Berkeley County on workforce development.
Business Meeting		Action: Staff will add the LGAC Strategic Plan to each Quarterly Meeting agenda.

• Executive Committee Report (Chair) LGAC Chair shared participation in the May Coordinator's Report Biennial Strategic Review System two-day (Coordinator) meeting in Charlotteville on behalf of LGAC. Local Leadership Workgroup Report (LLWG) LGAC Coordinator updated members on recent (Coordinator) and upcoming local government engagement activities, discussed potential topics for the 2023 Local Government Forum, and shared some suggestions for the 2023 annual recommendations to the Executive Council. LLWG Coordinator shared the new Local Leadership Logic and Action Plan for 2023 -2024, updated members on recent and upcoming local government engagement efforts, and announced the launch of a new website to house the Local Government Guide to the Chesapeake Bay Modules coming later this year. **Action:** LGAC Coordinator to send out google forms to get Members' ideas for the 2023 annual recommendations to the Chesapeake Executive Council and input for the Local Government Forum topics. **Achieving Water Quality Goals in** Kurt Stephenson, Professor, K. Stephenson discussed the implications for the Chesapeake Bay: A **Environmental and Natural** water quality goals and living resources in the **Comprehensive Evaluation of** Resource Economics, Chesapeake Bay derived from the CESR Report, **System Response (CESR) Report** Department of Agricultural and shared opportunities to improve nonpoint and Applied Economics, source program effectiveness through Virginia Tech programmatic change. **Action:** K. Stephenson shared the CESR Report and the **Sandboxing Process** that can be used to improve nonpoint source program effectiveness. **Chesapeake Bay Program Efforts** Jim Thompson: Maryland DNR, J. Thompson presented on the Chesapeake Bay on Aquatic Invasive Species, Fish Chair, CBP Fish Passage Agreement's commitment to fish passage **Passage and Culverts** Workgroup. Contact: prioritization, methods to facilitate fish jim.thompson@maryland.gov; migration, the importance of the American eel 410-260-8269 and freshwater mussels to Bay health, and the increasing abundance of aquatic invasive species in recent years. **Action:** Staff to share some **Snakehead recipes** to aid in species removal, and a federal funding opportunity around fish passage.

Healthy Local Watersheds: Living Resources in the Susquehanna River Basin	Jamie Shallenberger, Manager, Monitoring & Protection, Susquehanna River Basin Commission. Contact: ishallenberger@srbc.net; 717-238-0423 X 1115	J. Shallenberger presented on types of aquatic living resources, how humans have reshaped the landscape and the Susquehanna River Basin, and different impediments to aquatic life.
Lower Eastern Shore PRISM (Partnership for Regional Invasive Species Management)	Victoria Spice, Agricultural Inspector, Plant Protection & Weed Management, Maryland Department of Agriculture. Contact: Victoria.spice@maryland.gov	V. Spice discussed invasive plant species and their implications for the environment and public safety, and presented on the evolution of the Lower Eastern Shore – Partnership for Regional Invasive Species Management (LES-PRISM) program, its purpose, and the services it provides.
Susquehanna Flats: a Submerged Aquatic Vegetation Resilience Story	J. Brooke Landry, Natural Resource Biologist, Maryland DNR. Contact: brooke.landry@maryland.gov	B. Landry presented on the habitat requirements and benefits of submerged aquatic vegetation (SAV) in the Chesapeake Bay, discussed the Chesapeake Bay Program's SAV goal and current progress, and shared the successful resilience of the Susquehanna Flats.
Living Resources and Local Government's Role with Watershed Improvement	Breck Sullivan, Scientific, Technical Assessment, & Reporting Coordinator, USGS. Contact: bsullivan@chesapeakebay.net	B. Sullivan discussed the importance of living resources in the Bay and shared new Chesapeake Bay Program (CBP) tools for understanding land use, protecting watershed health, and accessing CBP data and resources. B. Sullivan also solicited feedback from LGAC members on how the CBP can better engage local communities and support local decision-making.
Final Thoughts/Actions from this Meeting		Staff shared action items from the meeting. LGAC will hold its next quarterly meeting on September 28 - 29 in Leola, PA.
Tour: Conowingo Dam and Fish Lift	Amir Hammad, Plant Manager & Andrea Danucalov, Senior Manager	Action: Staff to share <u>results of Conowingo Dam</u> dredging project and sediment sampling.

LGAC Members Present: Richard Baugh, Emeritus Member Phil Briddell, Daniel Chao, Mark Dobbins, Amy Dubois, Penny Gross, Josh Hastings, Michael Helfrich, Donna Iannone, Leo Lutz, Andria McClellan, Brianne Nadeau, Don Phillips, Lisa Schaefer, John Thomas, and Emeritus Member Bruce Williams.

LGAC Staff: Kayli Ottomanelli and Jennifer Starr.

LLWG Staff: Laura Cattell Noll.

Speaker/Guests Present: Meg Cole (CRC STAC), Nicole Christ, Megan Diehl (WV Region 9), Carrie Decker (MD DNR), Kate Fritz (Alliance), Amy Handen (EPA), J. Brooke Landry (MD DNR), Jeff Lerner (EPA CBPO), Tou Matthews (CRC STAC), Will Parson (CBP), Erin Penzelik (PA DEP), Matt Robinson, Marielle Scott (CBP), Jamie Shallenberger (SRBC), Victoria Spice (MDA), Phillip Stafford (MD DNR), Kathy Stecker (MDE), Kurt Stephenson (VT), Breck Sullivan (USGS), James Sullivan (DNREC), Jim Thompson (MD DNR), Tree Zuzzio (PA DCED)