



Chesapeake Bay Program
Science. Restoration. Partnership.

December 5, 2025

Local Government Leadership Report

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Maura Christian, VA DEQ, LGLW Vice Chair

October Quarterly Meeting

Theme: *Collaborating on PFAS to Support Local Governments*

The screenshot shows the 'Protect Local Waterways' website. The header includes a logo, navigation links (HOME, LEARNING LIBRARY, GLOSSARY, CONTACT US), and a search bar. The main content area features a module titled 'Your Health and the Environment' with a video player and a 'Play Video' button. Below the video, there are three numbered points under the heading 'IN THIS TOPIC YOU WILL LEARN'. At the bottom, there are sections for 'Highlights' and 'LEARNING LIBRARY'.

Protect Local Waterways

HOME LEARNING LIBRARY GLOSSARY CONTACT US

← Back to library

Your Health and the Environment

Environmental health affects human health. As a local elected official, it's important to know about environmental risks and the potential harm poor environmental health has on residents of your communities. This module explains how you can take action to protect your constituents from environmental risks and spur change for your community.

[Read the video transcript →](#)

[Preview](#)

[Play Video](#)

IN THIS TOPIC YOU WILL LEARN

- 1 What exposures in our environment pose risks?
- 2 How does poor environmental health impact my community?
- 3 What are the benefits of increasing environmental protections?

DOWNLOADS [Presentations and Fact Sheets](#) [Presentation Assets](#)

Highlights

- Education**
Pregnant women exposed to particulate matter during the third trimester are at higher risk of their child developing autism and other developmental issues. There are costs associated with providing classroom support to students with different capabilities or needs.
- Economic Development**
Nationwide, trees, forests and the ecosystem services they provide are valued at \$6.8 billion. These services include removing particulate matter from the air and benefiting human health.
- Public Health and Safety**
There are multiple contaminants in our wastewater, stormwater runoff, solid waste and more that put our health at risk each day. One emerging issue is PFAS, sometimes called "forever chemicals" because they resist breaking down in nature.

LEARNING LIBRARY

- [How Your Watershed Works](#)
- [Foundations of Clean Water](#)
- [Clean Water for the Economy](#)
- [Capitalizing on the Benefits of Trees](#)
- [Preserving Local Character and Landscapes](#)
- [Protecting Your Infrastructure Through](#)

Key Challenges and Opportunities for Collaboration by Jurisdiction

Exploring Pennsylvania's Waterways #2

Theme: *Intermunicipal Collaboration for Clean Water*



Exploring Maryland's Waterways

Theme: *Stormwater Stormwater Infrastructure that Prepares, Protects, and Pays Off*



Thanks!

Andria, Jasmine, Sheila, Marty, Elizabeth, Michael, Phil, Leo, and Kelly for serving as P2P hosts!

Phil and **Amy** for serving on the Technical Assistance Inventory and Gap Analysis steering committee

Elizabeth for serving on the Network Science Technical Assistance cohort

Penny and **Marty** for their Beyond 2025 presentations to VACo and CCAP

All of LGAC for making sure that local government voices were heard and recognized throughout the Watershed Agreement revision process

By the Numbers - P2P

4
P2Ps

90
Local Govt
Leaders

64
Jurisdictions

6
State Decision
Makers

18
TA Providers

19
Sites

By the Numbers - Protect Local Waterways

1,700
Visits

158
Downloads

2
New Case
Studies

1
Future Module
Update

By the Numbers - Publications



New Name, Same Great Work

Local Government Leadership Workgroup (*LGLW*)

Outcome: Increase the knowledge and support the capacity of local government leaders in decision-making, such as land use planning, to implement local actions that advance the Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement.

Target 1: Engage directly (e.g., roundtable discussions) with at least 400 local government leaders annually.

Target 2: Engage indirectly (e.g., newsletters) with at least 4,000 local government leaders annually.

Next Vice-Chair

Caitlin Bolton

Metropolitan Washington
Council of Governments





Questions?