

Looking Back to Move Forward

What strategies have the LLWG used over the years to increase the knowledge and capacity of local officials?

Panelists:

- Heidi Bonnaffon, Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments
- Michelle Edwards, Rappahannock-Rapidan Regional Commission
- Andy Fellows, University of Maryland, College of Information
- Matt Pennington, Downstream Strategies
- Shannon Moore, Frederick County Maryland

Facilitator: Laura Cattell Noll, LGAC Coordinator

Andy Fellows

2015-2018

- Launching the Workgroup
- Developing the first Management Strategy
- Foundational Reports
 - Chesapeake Watershed Local Leadership Development Programs (2015)
 - Strategic Outreach Education Program for Local Elected Officials in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed (2017)



CHESAPEAKE WATERSHED LOCAL LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS



9/2/2015

By Environmental Leadership Strategies (ELS)

ELS **researches** the Chesapeake Watershed's current leadership development needs and capacity then **recommends** how to support local officials to advance the Watershed Agreement's Local Leadership Outcome.



STRATEGIC OUTREACH EDUCATION PROGRAM FOR LOCAL ELECTED OFFICIALS IN THE CHESAPEAKE BAY WATERSHED



August 2017

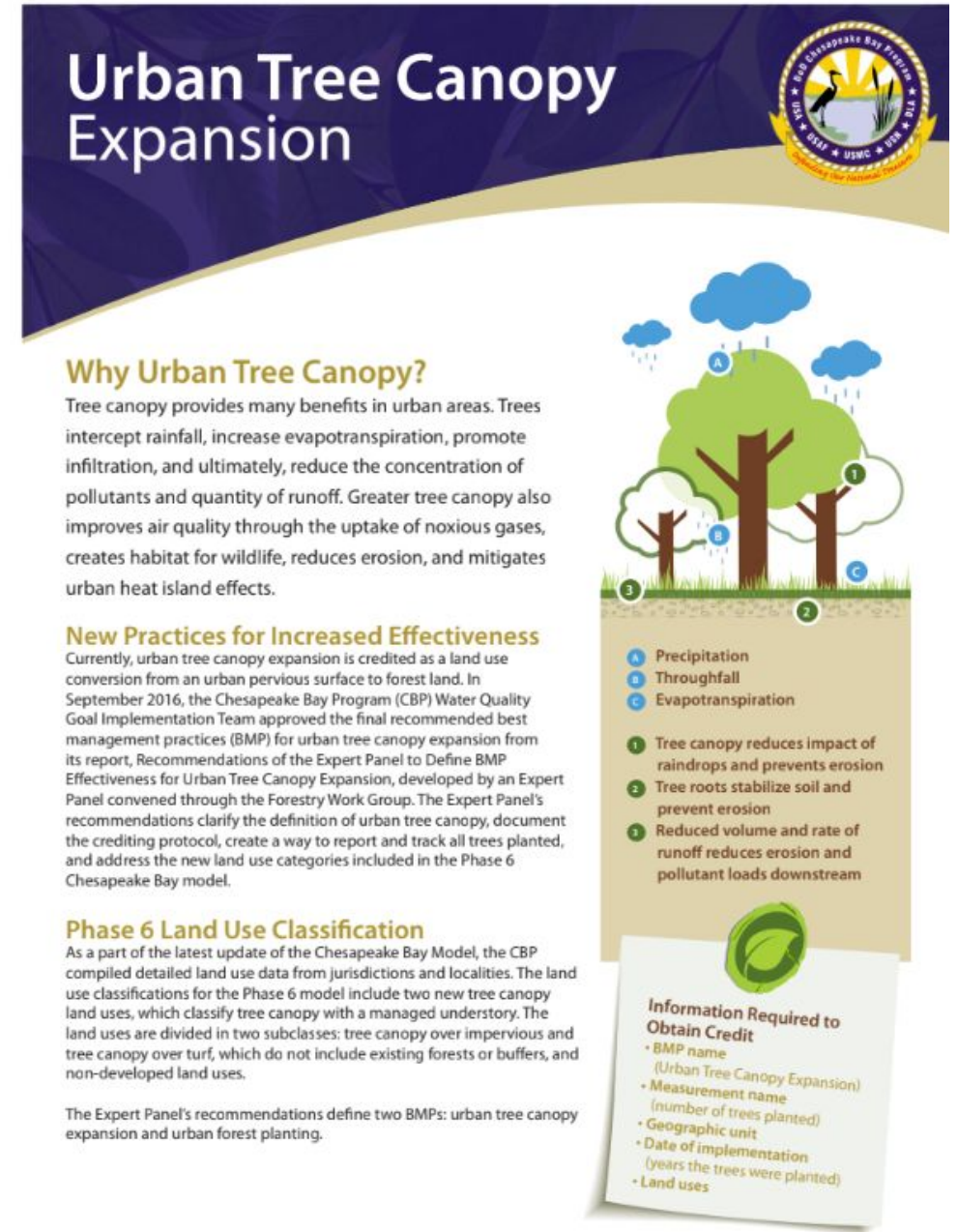
By EcoLogix Group

To encourage local elected officials to take actions contributing to Chesapeake Bay restoration, connect the message to local priorities.

Matt Pennington


2019-2021 Highlights

- Building the foundations of the LLWG
- Identifying key themes:
 - Understand the Needs
 - Identify Resources
 - Deliver through Trusted Sources
 - Celebrate Successes
- Watershed Booklet
- Tree Canopy Pilot
- Role of the Alliance



The infographic features a dark blue header with the title 'Urban Tree Canopy Expansion' and the Chesapeake Bay Program logo. The main content is on a light tan background with a tree illustration. The tree has three main parts labeled A, B, and C, and three numbered benefits labeled 1, 2, and 3. A legend on the right explains these labels. A callout box at the bottom right lists the information required to obtain credit for the BMP.

Urban Tree Canopy Expansion



Why Urban Tree Canopy?

Tree canopy provides many benefits in urban areas. Trees intercept rainfall, increase evapotranspiration, promote infiltration, and ultimately, reduce the concentration of pollutants and quantity of runoff. Greater tree canopy also improves air quality through the uptake of noxious gases, creates habitat for wildlife, reduces erosion, and mitigates urban heat island effects.


New Practices for Increased Effectiveness

Currently, urban tree canopy expansion is credited as a land use conversion from an urban pervious surface to forest land. In September 2016, the Chesapeake Bay Program (CBP) Water Quality Goal Implementation Team approved the final recommended best management practices (BMP) for urban tree canopy expansion from its report, Recommendations of the Expert Panel to Define BMP Effectiveness for Urban Tree Canopy Expansion, developed by an Expert Panel convened through the Forestry Work Group. The Expert Panel's recommendations clarify the definition of urban tree canopy, document the crediting protocol, create a way to report and track all trees planted, and address the new land use categories included in the Phase 6 Chesapeake Bay model.

Phase 6 Land Use Classification

As a part of the latest update of the Chesapeake Bay Model, the CBP compiled detailed land use data from jurisdictions and localities. The land use classifications for the Phase 6 model include two new tree canopy land uses, which classify tree canopy with a managed understory. The land uses are divided in two subclasses: tree canopy over impervious and tree canopy over turf, which do not include existing forests or buffers, and non-developed land uses.

The Expert Panel's recommendations define two BMPs: urban tree canopy expansion and urban forest planting.



The diagram shows a tree with three main parts labeled A, B, and C. A is the canopy, B is the trunk, and C is the roots. Three numbered benefits are shown: 1. Tree canopy reduces impact of raindrops and prevents erosion. 2. Tree roots stabilize soil and prevent erosion. 3. Reduced volume and rate of runoff reduces erosion and pollutant loads downstream.

- A Precipitation
- B Throughfall
- C Evapotranspiration

- 1 Tree canopy reduces impact of raindrops and prevents erosion
- 2 Tree roots stabilize soil and prevent erosion
- 3 Reduced volume and rate of runoff reduces erosion and pollutant loads downstream

Information Required to Obtain Credit


- BMP name (Urban Tree Canopy Expansion)
- Measurement name (number of trees planted)
- Geographic unit
- Date of implementation (years the trees were planted)
- Land uses

Shannon Moore

2021 Highlights

- Local Government Guide to the Chesapeake Bay
 - 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 Stormwater Resilience
 - Building the Workforce of Today and Tomorrow

- Centering climate and DEIJ







A Local Government Guide to the Chesapeake Bay EDUCATIONAL MODULES OVERVIEW

A Local Government Guide to the Chesapeake Bay is a seven-module series created to support decision making by local officials. As a local leader, your decisions set the course for your community. Your actions determine the health and vitality of your jurisdiction, as well as that of your local waterways and the Chesapeake Bay, which spans more than 64,000 mi² and includes seven jurisdictions. You can achieve mutually beneficial outcomes by prioritizing local economic development, infrastructure resiliency, public health, and education, while also protecting your environment.

ABOUT THE MODULES

Each module is a self-guided PowerPoint presentation, designed to be easily customized and shared. The icons below represent key local government priorities and are used throughout the modules to help you better understand how the information in the modules aligns with your specific priorities and interests.

-  Economic Development
-  Public Health & Safety
-  Infrastructure Maintenance & Finance
-  Education

HOW TO USE THE MODULES

All modules contain the slides listed below to identify learning objectives, local case studies, and resources for local implementation.

- *What You'll Learn* provides learning objectives and questions that will be answered throughout the module.
- *What You Can Do* identifies actionable items to engage your community and where applicable, financial assistance to support local actions.
- *To Learn More* provides additional resources for further learning about each of the module topics.

Each module references a variety of statistics and data to support its learning objectives. Sources for any referenced statistics, data, and photos can be found within the notes for each of the individual slides. A glossary defining keywords can also be found at the end of each module.

Please visit [Chesapeake Bay Program website](#) for more information.

2021

Heidi Bonnaffon

2022 Highlights

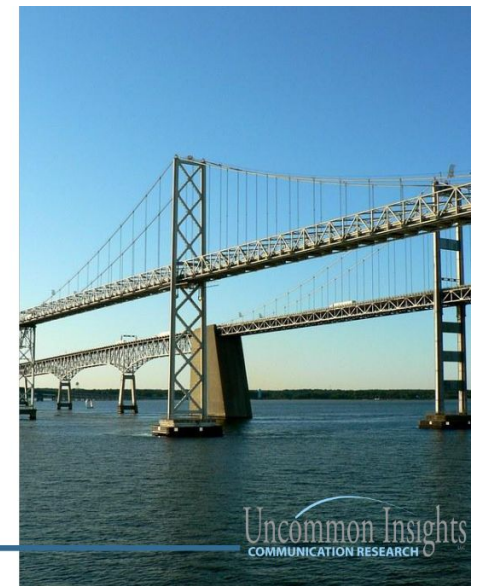
- Local Leadership Survey
- Peer to peer tours in MD, VA, PA and DE



Overview

Baseline survey to measure understanding of local official's knowledge and capacity. Survey consists of:

- Qualifying questions (q's 1, 2, 3, 4, 5)
- Attitude questions (q's 6, 7, 8)
- Informational questions (q's 9, 10, 11, 16)
- Behavioral questions (q's 12, 17)
- Knowledge questions (q's 13, 14, 18)
- Capacity question (q 15)
- Demographic questions (q's 19, 20, 21)



MD - Spring 22

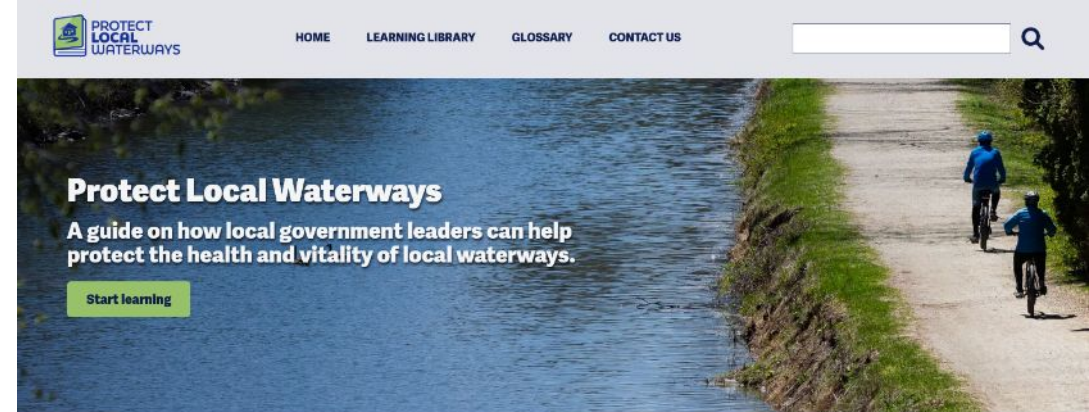


DE - Fall 22

Michelle Edwards

2023 Highlights

- Launched ProtectLocalWaterways.org!
- Local Government Guide to the Chesapeake Bay train-the trainer
- 4 new Local Government Guide modules:
 - Flooding/resiliency
 - Agriculture
 - Outreach/community engagement
 - Environmental Health
- Planning for Clean Water webinar series
- Wandering Waterways expands to WVA & NY



Set the Course for Your Community

Local government leaders are key decision makers in creating healthy, vibrant communities. When you take action to protect local landscapes and waterways, you're taking action to help your communities thrive.

