



**Chesapeake Bay Program**  
*Science. Restoration. Partnership.*

# **PLANNING FOR CLEAN WATER: Local Government Workshops**

**FINAL REPORT**



Left to right: Standing – Rebekah Cazares (PlanRVA), Sarah Stewart (PlanRVA), Mike Foreman (IEN),  
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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Over a two-and-a-half-year period, *Planning for Clean Water: Local Government Workshops*, built collaboration between local government planners and the Chesapeake Bay Program. The result is a robust, active partnership with planners around the Chesapeake Bay region. This partnership will serve the Chesapeake Bay Program well. Future work can further establish education and understanding with this influential profession, furthering the Bay Program's outcomes.

## INTRODUCTION

Local government planners play an essential role in land use, sustainable development, land preservation, stormwater management, water resource management, resilience planning and more. Achieving the outcomes of the Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement requires significant support from the local government planning community. This project, titled *Planning for Clean Water: Local Government Workshops*, sought to build collaboration between local government planners and the Chesapeake Bay Program. There were three key phases of this project:

### Phase 1: Identify local planner's needs.

ERG, the lead contractor on this project, interviewed 30+ representatives from local government planning networks (e.g. state chapters of the American Planning Association) and asked about their challenges, priorities, and needs. The resulting report, *Planning for Clean Water: Stakeholder Assessment*, (included in appendix) gives an overview of what local planners care about and some recommendations on how to engage with them.

### Phase 2: Convene workshops for local government planners.

This project originally conceived there would be large, in-person workshops. Due to the pandemic and the recommendations of the stakeholder assessment, this phase was re-defined into two key components:

- Watershed-wide webinars.
- Development of three panels or workshops to be held concurrently with State American Planning Association (APA) conferences.

### Phase 3: Share the results of the workshops within the broader planning community.

Based on the best practices and resources shared during phase 2, ERG summarized lessons learned, challenges and opportunities, and worked with APA state chapter representatives of the [Mid-Atlantic Planning Collaboration \(MAPC\)](#) and the project coordinators to complete two components:

- Propose sessions for the National American Planning Association Conference (NPC), held in Philadelphia in April, 2023.
- Provide a stand-alone booth to be displayed at the American Planning Association National Planning Conference (NPC) and at three State chapter conferences throughout the Mid-Atlantic over the course of 2023.

This final report summarizes all three phases of the project, provides lessons learned, and recommendations for next steps.



## OVERVIEW

Commencement of this project coincided with an interesting time-- late March of 2021. The project originated from workshops held in 2018 and 2019 that paired Bay scientists with the Maryland planning community, resulting in closer ties. Local planners had a new resource to use when formulating recommendations to local elected and appointed officials. Bay program staff recognized the influence local planners could have on land use decision-making and their need for local planner input and feedback on CBP activities, such as development of datasets and tools. This effort was a continuation of those first two successful workshops. This time, the effort was Bay-wide. The overall goal was to plan, design, execute, and follow-up on a set of workshops to equip local planners in the Chesapeake watershed with the knowledge and skills to more effectively plan in ways that support Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement goals and outcomes. Originally envisioned as a series of workshops, the global pandemic necessitated a pivot. The result led to a better outcome; greater reach, more involvement, and a successful launch of an ongoing partnership.



Doug Smith, Chief Planner for the City of Lancaster, co-leads a tour with Kate Austin at the PA APA State Chapter meeting in October, 2022. Photo credit: Laura Bachle, AICP

## PHASE 1: IDENTIFY LOCAL PLANNER’S NEEDS.

ERG conducted a stakeholder assessment and outreach to planners throughout the watershed at the local, regional, and state levels. The purpose of the assessment was to hear directly from planners and planning organizations to ascertain what was on their minds, not only regarding the Bay watershed, but also what were the most pressing planning-related challenges they were facing. Over 30 people were interviewed, including the PA, DE, VA, National Capital, and MD APA chapters, individual planning directors, Councils of Governments, Planning District Commissions, floodplain managers, and associations that support planners and local government. Ten major themes emerged from these interviews (See Appendix Table 1).

Overall recommendations included peer-led trainings from planners across the Bay watershed. Coincidentally, there was a group of planning professionals coordinating across the Mid-Atlantic to provide continuing education to planners. [The Mid-Atlantic Planning Collaboration \(MAPC\)](#) formed in late 2020 to help bring planners together who were facing similar issues providing education to professional planners. The original members included the state chapters of the American Planning Association in the Bay watershed, as well as affiliated organizations who provided education to planners and planning commissioners. A decision was made to join forces with this group to reach a wider audience.

### Assessment Report Recommendations

1. Use existing venues.
2. Offer Certified Floodplain Manager (CFM) educational credits in addition to American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP) credits.
3. Put the local planners first in content delivery.
4. Develop a curriculum.
5. Pick the key messaging.
6. Provide a “plug-and-play” rubric to develop the webinar content.
7. Start with less controversial topics.
8. Consider dove-tailing a longer workshop with an APA scheduled conference.
9. Just start.



Back row: Hannah Cockburn, Sean O’Neil, John Harbin, Scott Duncanson, Front Row; Laura Bachle, Breck Sullivan, Helen Golimowski, Sophie Waterman, Alan Feinberg, Photo credit: American Planning Association

## PHASE 2: CONVENE WORKSHOPS FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT PLANNERS.

### Webinars and Workshops for Local Planners

Based on the recommendations from Phase 1, this phase of the project had two key components: watershed-wide webinars, and state workshops. There have been 8 webinars with Bay content to date and 5 workshops. Both the webinars and the workshops provided continuing education credits through the American Planning Association (APA). APA uses an evaluation form to certify participation and provide credit for webinar and in-person learning. As a benchmark, all APA-sponsored activities for continuing education credits are evaluated by the participants on a scale from one to five. The Virginia Chapter of APA has an overall rating of 3.93 for their events, which currently number 1,362 over a three-year reporting period. As of this report, there have been 28 educational offerings from the Mid-Atlantic Planning Collaboration, with 4,826 views so far.

#### *Watershed-wide Webinars*

The steering committee worked with the MAPC to host a series of six webinars from January to June of 2022 that were focused on topics raised as part of the assessment. All webinars offered 1.5 AICP Certification Maintenance credits and 1.0 Certified Floodplain Manager Continuing Education Credits. Each webinar was hosted by a State APA chapter in the Bay watershed, which assisted in outreach. Virginia APA hosted the webinars on the MAPC website. All webinars are available for viewing (and credit) on the VA APA Chapter's [YouTube page](#). Demographics during the webinars indicated good representation from the entire geography of the Bay watershed, the majority of whom were local government planners- the target demographic. There were also a surprising number of attendees from outside the Bay watershed.

“Bonus Rounds.”

After the initial 6 Bay-focused webinars, two more were offered directly from the Chesapeake Bay Program partners and supported by the MAPC partnership. A complete list of the webinars along with their scores is in the Appendix, Table 2.

#### *State Workshops*

In cooperation with the MAPC, the Chesapeake Bay Program participated in presentations and workshops as part of APA state chapter conferences in Pennsylvania (2), Delaware, and Virginia (2) in the Summer and Fall of 2022 and 2023. A complete list of conference workshops is available in the Appendix, Table 3. Like the webinars, the overall evaluations were very favorable, with good attendance and high scores.



## PHASE 3: SHARE THE RESULTS OF THE WORKSHOPS WITHIN THE BROADER PLANNING COMMUNITY.

With all the leveraged equity the new partnership provided, the scope of the project could now be extended even further. The location of the National Planning Conference in Philadelphia in April of 2023 offered an opportunity to the MAPC to showcase their partnership. An exhibit was designed that could not only be used at the National Planning Conference but could “ride circuit” throughout the Mid-Atlantic to chapter conferences and workshops. Although the session proposals were not accepted, the MAPC obtained booth space in Philadelphia. Members of the MAPC and the Chesapeake Bay Program partners staffed the three-day event, offering information on the educational webinars and tutorials on tools available through the Bay program. Hundreds of conference attendees stopped by the booth. From there, the exhibit traveled to Roanoke, VA; Durham, NC; Scranton, PA; and Kent Island, MD. The display is already bespoken for upcoming conferences in 2024 (see Table 4- Tabling Events).

### Lessons Learned

#### *Outreach effectiveness*

No doubt the success of this project was a direct result of partnering with the MAPC. Their outreach to members drove interest in the training, both webinars and in-person offerings. By overall volume, the number of planners that tuned into the webinars far exceeded the numbers obtained for the in-person offerings. Audience participation was hard to track for the webinars, but polling indicated high participation. The comments on the APA evaluations were positive, with many commenting on the applicability of the content to their work. Several attendees indicated that the polling was appreciated and added to their participation. Also the fact that planners can watch, or re-watch the webinars is an advantage. However, the in-person mobile workshops are the most successful in terms of engagement. Mobile workshops are among the most popular offerings at in-person conferences. They provide “hands-on” experiences that planners can immediately take back to their jurisdictions.

#### *Content relevance*

Both the webinars and the in-person events were planner-led, which followed the recommendation made in the assessment report. This approach worked well overall. Pairing Bay staffers with local planners put the content the Bay Program offers within the context of the challenges faced by the jurisdiction. A bonus was the participation of many steering committee members for this project in the webinars. It also field-tested the Bay tools to explore their relevance. There is a great amount of water quality and living resource-relevant implementation success among the local planning community, as demonstrated by the content of the webinars.

#### *Relationship-building*

A fundamental objective of this effort was to build closer ties between the Chesapeake Bay Program and local planners. Partnership with the Mid-Atlantic Planning Collaboration is a successful outcome that cannot be understated. A webinar series has been held. Workshops were accepted and provided. From the webinars alone, 27 planners not directly affiliated with the Bay program offered presentations, donating significant time to the effort. The MAPC and the Virginia Chapter in particular, has donated time and resources to the partnership. The Chesapeake Bay Program is building a reputation with the planning community as a reliable partner in providing excellent educational content and expertise. What remains to be seen is how this relationship benefits Bay outcomes.



Pennsylvania Planning Association- Central Section members tour agricultural best management practices at a farm in Lancaster County, PA. Photo credit: Laura Cattell-Noll

## Recommendations

### *Maintain the relationship with the MAPC.*

This platform is the best one available for reaching land use planners across the watershed. The CBP should continue to offer education and training on key topics of mutual importance. Routine participation in the monthly MAPC planning calls; offering to help out on trainings, such as the current effort to hold a series on Resilience; and proposing topics and speakers for webinars are all useful. The relationship is well-established and relatively low effort at this point. Just showing up is enough to keep the relationship going.

### *More hands-on, in-person interaction.*

Webinars have a significant place in raising awareness about tools and topics. However, Bay personnel need to make more interpersonal connections with land use planners. Such interaction will cement the relationship that has been started and provide the two-way feedback that's needed to raise the possibility of local land use decision-making keyed into Bay outcomes. Moreover, tools developed by the Bay Program need to be piloted. Planners are very often willing partners to opt into proof-of-concept projects.

Perhaps the best combination includes all three elements of engagement: webinar, mobile workshop, and in-person presentations. The VA APA offering in the Summer of 2023 on open space tied an outing to McAfee Knob to the in-person presentations at the conference. If a webinar offering had been added either before or after the other two events, that may have provided the most lasting impact.

### *Tell the stories.*

There is a mountain of excellent projects and content that has been generated by this partnership so far. Jurisdictions have been successful in managing growth and conserving natural resources over time, as demonstrated so aptly by this work to date. There is innovation going on at the local level that benefits the Bay. Many of these efforts may be at too granular a level for the Bay program to track, or they may go unnoticed because they are tied to something not immediately obviously relevant--- such as innovative financing for hazard mitigation in the Middle Peninsula. Mine the content for these successes. Find some way to amplify these stories so that planners and Bay partners can see that it is possible to achieve these outcomes.



### *Consider targeted outreach to priority regions.*

Planners are found in all areas of the Bay, both urban and rural. For example, there is a strong interest among planners in preserving agricultural land. The Bay program has a strong interest in reaching rural landowners and local rural jurisdictions. Targeted education for planners in rural areas is welcome. The MAPC has sponsored a few such topics already, such as a webinar on zoning for small and rural jurisdictions. The Bay program wants to reach diversity, equity, inclusion and justice (DEIJ) partners. There are planners working directly with EJ communities all over the watershed. One featured project was watershed planning with a newly federally recognized Tribe. Look for opportunities to integrate Bay tools and programs into these targeted areas.

### *Continue staffing the booth exhibit at planning conferences.*

The MAPC exhibit provides access to the Bay Program to all the planning conferences that are held in the watershed. In addition to the annual state conferences, it also includes key groups, such as planning commissioners, that may be harder for the Program to reach without the MAPC. The MAPC is seeking to continue. The CBP partnership was critical to getting the collaboration off the ground. The door is open for the CBP to continue showing up. Consider refining the exhibit and the staffing to include the opportunity for attendees to “make appointments” with Bay staff; providing QR codes with links (successfully done for the National Planning Conference); and tailoring the booth content to highlight a particular subject.

### *Consider a Symposium/Summit*

The MAPC is interested in exploring a regional conference. Especially now when the Bay partnership is looking beyond 2025, it would be beneficial to learn about the entire landscape of issues that affect land use decisions. Housing, climate, equity, economic development, historic preservation, natural hazards, etc., there are many issues top-of-mind at the local planning level that will impact the Bay. Although the focus would be broader than the topics typically of interest to the Bay, it’s important for the program partners to understand the full context. Such interaction could help answer what’s next. Similarly, the Bay program and partners could use the venue to demonstrate and fine-tune the tools they would like jurisdictions to use as they consider their land use decisions.

### *Engage More with Planning Schools*

The Mid-Atlantic is blessed with great post-secondary and graduate programs in city and regional planning. Many of these are HBCUs situated in locations critical to the watershed with graduates who go on to affect Bay outcomes. One of the early recommendations for this project was developing a relationship with the planning schools, possibly working on curriculum, internships, or other learning opportunities. Members of the Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning (ACSP) are open to working with organizations who will provide “real world” experience to students. There are [accredited programs](#) in every state except West Virginia (but WVA’s planning program, although not a ACSP member, is already represented on the MAPC). This is an obvious next step to take, especially with equity as a goal likely to be a cross-cutter for all Bay outcomes.

### *Use the MAPC as a focus group.*

Continue using the MAPC as a sounding board. Land use and conservation goals are only going to get more challenging. Having a relationship with individuals who are on the front lines of land use decision-making can help guide what realistically might be achievable and how it may be implemented. This relationship is now firmly in place. It’s mutually beneficial. Ask for their feedback; listen to what they have to say, particularly when it comes to regulation and voluntary compliance. They know what will work in their jurisdiction.

## CONCLUSION

This 2+year effort has established closer ties between the Bay program partners and the local planning community. The relationship has been made and the benefits will grow. Critically now, as the Bay program contemplates what's next, it's important to value and nurture this relationship. This result is now a robust, active partnership with planners around the Chesapeake Bay region that far exceeds the expectations of the original scope. The partnership with the MAPC was the key to achieving these goals. The leverage they give will serve the Chesapeake Bay Program well. Future work can further establish education and understanding with this influential profession, furthering the Bay Program's outcomes.



Planners at the Virginia APA conference prepare to hike Sawtooth Ridge. Photo courtesy: Megan G. Cronise, AICP, Assistant Director of Planning, County of Roanoke

## LIST OF APPENDICES

- A. Situation Assessment- Steering Committee Report
- B. Planning for Clean Water Flyer

### Tables

- 1. Findings: Ten Major Themes
- 2. Webinars
- 3. Workshops
- 4. Tabling Events

## A. Situation Assessment- Steering Committee Report



### **Planning for Clean Water: Stakeholder Assessment**

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## **Introduction**

ERG conducted a stakeholder assessment and outreach to planners throughout the watershed at the local, regional, and state levels. The purpose of the assessment was to hear directly from planners and planning organizations to ascertain what was on their minds, not only regarding the Bay watershed, but also what were the most pressing planning-related challenges they were facing. By doing so, it's hoped that we can formulate content in trainings and workshops that will address both the concerns of planners and foster the goals of the Chesapeake Bay partnership.

## **Background**

In 2018 and 2019, the Maryland Chapter of the American Planning Association held two successful workshops with the Chesapeake Bay Program. The workshops, "How's that Habitat Working for You?" and another one about sea level rise (SLR) and climate adaptation, drew on Bay scientists and scientific studies. Both had follow-up activities. The SLR workshop led to some further study at Salisbury State on the monetary loss connected to SLR and habitat effects. The premise for the workshops was trying to make the connection between science and long-range planning. Recommendations made in comprehensive plan documents need to be backed up by fact-finding, including the latest science. The Bay program provides a lot of scientific study that can inform land-use decisions at the local level.

One other result of these workshops was a closer tie created between the planners who attended and the Bay program. Local planners had a new resource to use when formulating recommendations to local elected and appointed officials. Bay program staff recognized the influence local planners could have on land use decision-making. Both saw a benefit in forging closer ties. This current effort is a continuation of those first two successful workshops. This time, the effort is Bay-wide. The overall goal of this effort is to plan, design, execute, and follow-up on a set of workshops to equip local planners in the Chesapeake watershed with the knowledge and skills to more effectively plan in ways that support Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement goals and outcomes. The first step in planning is to conduct a stakeholder assessment. This document conveys the results of that assessment.

## **Purpose**

A stakeholder assessment is conducted to get a snapshot of the concerns stakeholders may hold about a certain topic. Using one-on-one or group interviews, the facilitator can formulate recommendations on how to best engage with the stakeholder group. In this case, the goal is to formulate learning opportunities so that they provide the best opportunity for the Bay program partners and planners to mutually educate one another and establish closer ties. The ultimate goal is achievement of the Bay outcomes via collaboration with local planners and state agencies.

## **Outreach**

Local government planners in every state in the watershed were contacted and at least two interviews conducted. Outreach was prioritized with direction from the steering committee. After initial rounds of outreach, a second round was generated based on recommendations from the first round. A series of prompting questions were used as a guide, but weren't prescriptive (see Attachment A). They were just designed to get a conversation going. The facilitator took notes and shared these notes in draft form with the contact to ensure that the conversation was captured accurately. Over 30 people were interviewed, including the PA, DE, VA, National Capital, and MD APA chapters, individual planning

directors, Councils of Governments, Planning District Commissions, floodplain managers, and associations that support planners and local government (please see Attachment B- List of Interviewees). Most interviews were one-on-one; however, there were group interviews with the Mid-Atlantic Planning Council, which is a consortium of all the APA chapters and universities offering degrees in planning in the mid-Atlantic region; the Virginia APA Chapter; and the West Virginia hazard mitigation and floodplain managers. New York proved the most challenging. Two interviews have been held to date in New York.

### **Findings**

Ten major themes emerged from the interviews. Although these don't capture every topic raised by every individual, they do capture the topics that resonated across more than one group. Themes appear below with quotes from interviews to provide some context. For more details on each theme, please refer to Attachment C, Key Themes from Interviews.

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#### **1. Water quality and hazard mitigation co-benefits**

*"What is the link between the increase in natural hazards such as flooding and Bay water quality?"*

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#### **2. Plan integration for resilience**

*"We need to look at climate impacts and equity in the Bay watershed. There's a need to ID vulnerable communities and be able to "bake in" how to address inequities into all planning documents."*

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#### **3. Leveraging infrastructure funding to maximize environmental benefits**

*"We're getting a big boost in funding to upgrade public works like WWTPs. Now how do we find the leverage to fund those other projects we know are just as important, like stream restoration?"*

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#### **4. How Bay science might inform long-range planning**

*"So, say we met the 2025 reduction goal: Now what? Comprehensive plans can go way beyond the target year. And we have more people moving here. So how do we live under the cap? What can planners do to allow for continued growth and economic activity and yet not increase pollutant loads?"*

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#### **5. Bay-wide recreation and open space preservation**

*"The idea of a Chesapeake Bay NRA has been surfaced. What could that look like? How far are we to that goal already? Is it a policy that could help achieve more open space? Are there others?"*

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#### **6. What do small towns need to know about the Bay program?**

*"The smaller and more rural jurisdictions have budget issues and staffing shortages. They need to maximize the value added of everything they need to work on."*

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### **7. Planners' talking points about the Bay**

*"One potential topic for a workshop would be providing planners with what they need to educate homeowners on the Bay....some basic materials planners could use to communicate about the program and why it's important."*

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### **8. Stormwater and wastewater management**

*"Septic systems are a problem and getting worse. There's a general lack of concern about growth on septics."*

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### **9. Smart Growth and the Bay**

*"We need to get back to the basics of planning and the hard choices that need to be made about where growth goes and where it doesn't. We can't answer these equity questions without addressing this. If land use is sprawled, then so are the resources, to everyone's detriment."*

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### **10. The OneWater approach and how it benefits the Bay**

*"The OneWater approach is a good concept to highlight in regard to connections the Chesapeake Bay outcomes. We've (PA) pushed the concept as far as we can. Currently that's through the state water plan."*

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Another theme that resonated among rural planners concerned agriculture, in particular, approaches to promoting farmland preservation. Promotion and preservation of agriculture as an economic driver is a shared concern, as is promotion of agricultural BMPs with co-benefits for hazard reduction. Application of different agricultural BMPs is varied across the watershed. One topic of interest may be "ground-truthing" BMP practices to help refine Bay modeling.

Regarding venues, there is already a robust network of training available to planners in the watershed. All the State APA chapters, as well as several consortia of APA, offer training. A list of possible venues including monthly webinars, annual meetings, and bi-annual workshops is provided in Attachment D-Venue Chart. Peer learning was mentioned as an ideal several times, and is the common approach used for nearly all training offered to planners. Planners learn best listening to each other.

One overarching concern raised by planners in all jurisdictions and levels of government is the perceived burden the Bay Program places on them, and all the competing priorities at the local level. "Tell me how you can make my job easier, not harder..." has been a common comment. There are many demands placed on local planners. Planning cycles for various programs rarely align. Regulatory compliance is a high priority, but the various regulations and other high priority initiatives are sometimes perceived as conflicting with one another. For example, there is an effort to promote solar power as an alternative in Virginia. Planners are reporting that this appears to be occurring in productive farmland and forested areas, which is arguably contrary to preservation efforts, among other issues. A related issue concerns MS4 permitting. Towns experiencing growth struggle to comply with the permitting requirements. They often don't have any capacity to absorb the additional work. "Tell me how you can make my job easier..." is a perception worth keeping in mind as a framework for all communication and training.

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## Recommendations

**Use existing venues.** We recommend that training be offered through the existing network of webinars and workshops, since this is the source that planners turn to already. It's often very difficult for local planners to get away for training. Some are also prohibited from traveling out of state. However, planners are used to attending the annual state chapter meeting, or attending weekly or monthly webinars sponsored by their chapter. Setting up entirely separate workshops may make access more difficult. The APA State chapters are ready and interested in working with the Bay Program to co-sponsor training.

**Offer CFM Credits in addition to AICP-CE.** There is also the possibility of working with the State chapters of the Association of State Floodplain Managers (ASFPM). Especially in rural and smaller communities, the planner is also the floodplain manager. Certified Floodplain Management (CFM) accreditation is arguably a higher priority for many rural and small-town planners than AICP continuing education. Also, offering CFM credits will heighten the possibility of outreach to the more rural and upstream portions of the Bay watershed. ASFPM and APA have frequently cooperated in offering joint credits, especially in topics related to hazard mitigation and climate readiness.

**Put the local planners first in content delivery.** "How did they do that...? How can I do that...?" are the most pressing questions asked when presentations are made to local planners. Peer learning as a preferred approach was raised many times by the interviewees. Each major theme should be developed with planners providing most of the content. Plan implementation, which planners often refer to as planner's "tools," are key. If a jurisdiction has managed to use a model code to remove impervious surfaces or has retrofitted their main street using Green Infrastructure that also revitalized an area, the step-by-step of how that was done is what they want to hear about.

Putting the planners first will optimize peer exchange among the group. For example, the topic of plan integration for resilience can feature projects featuring SLR buy-outs and coastal restoration in the Middle Peninsula in VA, along with flood hazard reduction through stream restoration in WVA. Connections to the Bay program outcomes can be made, as well as any particular resources Bay program partners may want to feature.

A suggested format may include:

- Two presentations from planners in the Bay area, ideally from different jurisdictions.
- A State representative or sponsor of the practice.
- A Chesapeake Bay representative to present resources available.

**Develop a curriculum.** Most webinar offerings sponsored by APA Chapters run about 1.5 hours. Starting with the themes above, we can work with the Mid-Atlantic Planning Council to develop a webinar run-of-show agenda on each topic. To maximize peer exchange and minimize presentations, we could consider pre-recorded presentations, and recording of all webinar offerings with links cross-posted to the participating APA chapters and Divisions. All the webinar recordings could be collated to create a "Highlights Reel" for use at the National Planning Conference, or featured on APA's accreditation website. For Bay content, we can build on the framework already provided in *A Local Government Guide to the Chesapeake Bay*. ERG/PG also already has a robust set of training modules on hazard mitigation and water quality that was developed with EPA and FEMA Region 3.

**Pick the key messaging.** As part of the curriculum, consider developing a 3-minute introduction that serves as a leitmotif for each webinar offering. The “info-mercial” could include basic facts about the Bay, the Bay Program, and why it’s important for planners to be engaged. Ideally, this introduction would be developed with a few key planners to ensure the content hits on the “why” for engagement, and the offer to partner. Explain the co-benefits of incorporating the Chesapeake Bay resources into all required plans. How can we make their job easier? How can we help planners with the day-to-day details of working with property owners, developing ordinances, drafting comprehensive plans, complying with MS4 permitting, and working with local political leaders?

**Provide a plug-and-play rubric to develop the webinar content.** Planners will be encouraged to present if there is a simple format for them to follow when developing content. Instructions on what should be included in a presentation, how to pre-record a presentation or provide video, and holding a practice session with the facilitator will help ensure there is reassurance of support for the presenters.

**Start with less controversial topics.** Some topics raised by planners may be contentious, or may carry an extra amount of political overtone. The suggested format is designed to maximize cross-collaboration to avoid politics, to the extent possible. We also recommend that we start with topics that don’t have much prima-facie controversy and work up to those that may. For example, how Bay science might inform long-range planning is a logical extension of the successful planning workshops already held.

**Consider dove-tailing a longer workshop with an APA scheduled conference.** Trust-building and co-learning can happen with webinars, but an in-person format is better at addressing the meatier topics that planners have brought up. Consider working with a Chapter or Division of APA to append a workshop to a scheduled meeting in order to dig into a topic. Topics such as “What Happens after 2025?” can’t be answered in a webinar format. Dialogue is needed to understand the topic fully and collaboratively search for some answers. Starting now, it may be possible to build in a Chesapeake Bay workshop for the National Planning Conference (NPC) in the Spring of 2022 to occur before or after the conference. A Run-of-Show agenda can be developed for use as a pre- or post- workshop half-day event. Certainly, a presentation of Planning for Clean Water “highlights” should be submitted to NPC with the State APA Chapters as co-sponsors.

**Just start.** With all the opportunities to provide co-learning available, it might be best to just schedule the first few webinars now, instead of waiting for the next in-person event. The logical group to work with first appears to be the Mid-Atlantic Planning Council. Depending on the topic, it would also be beneficial to engage ASFPM chapters and APA Divisions (such as Hazard Mitigation, Rural, Environmental, etc.).

### Next Steps

**Develop 3-minute “Info-mercial.”** Provide the basic facts about the Bay, the Bay Program, why it’s important for planners to be engaged, and how it will make their jobs easier.

**Draft Run-of Show Agendas.** Mock up agendas for a 1.5 hour webinar, a hybrid workshop, an in-person workshop, and shorter “water cooler” webinars on selected Bay resources of interest to planners.

**Cross-walk Bay Agreement Outcomes with Assessment Findings.** This will help to ID Bay expertise to tap in creating webinar content, and illustrate what outcomes resonate the most with local planners.

**Contact the Mid-Atlantic Planning Council to schedule webinars and develop a curriculum.** Provide a briefing on this stakeholder assessment to the Council to elicit their feedback. Starting with the water-cooler topics such as “what’s happening at the Bay program” scientific information planners can use, or a “peek under the hood” of Bay land use modeling may be a preferred approach to ensuring all participants have the same level of education. Build out a schedule for 1.5 hour-long webinars to be sponsored by the Council.

**ID and partner with an APA State Chapter or other Planning Conference to offer Half-Day “Deep Dives.”** Webinars could build up to a longer event to provide an opportunity for more directed dialogue around a particular topic. The half-day in-person or hybrid agendas would be used to deliver this content. Another alternative may be partnering with an APA Division, such as the Small Town and Rural Planning Division, to offer specific content for these stakeholders.



## **Attachment A**

### **Stakeholder Discussion Questions**

#### **Introduction**

The Chesapeake Bay Program is interested in fostering closer ties with the planning community. We're (ERG on behalf of the Bay program) conducting a stakeholder assessment and outreach in order to formulate a series of workshops to engage planners and the Bay Program to exchange information and better understand our mutual priorities. We'd like to develop content that is relevant to planners while fostering the goals of the Chesapeake Bay watershed. We are contacting you because of your role in planning (statewide, as relevant) to get your perspective. I'll be asking you some prompting questions. These aren't prescriptive; just designed to get a conversation going. I'll take some notes and after our conversation, I'll share those notes with you to ensure I've captured your advice accurately. We really want to foster closer ties between the planning community and the goals of the Bay Program now and for years to come.

We will be speaking with other planners throughout the watershed. After we've finished these discussions, we will draft some recommendations on how to formulate workshops so that they provide the best opportunity for the Bay program partners and planners to mutually educate and establish closer ties.

#### **Questions**

Please share the reach of your organization's membership.

What is your organization's top two highest planning priorities?

In the past year, what have been the top three sources of information you use to help you with your work?

How frequently does your organization meet? Conferences? Regional workshops? And do you have topic specific sessions during these gatherings that have a watershed focus?

How much of your work has a watershed focus? Ex. stormwater, land use, climate, flooding, green infrastructure.

Have you worked with the Chesapeake Bay Program or with your jurisdiction's DEP, DNR, DEQ etc.? If yes, what has that experience been like? How does it support your work? Are you familiar with your State's Watershed Implementation Plan?

What tools do you use to make your land use decisions? Are there tools you wish you had? Are you familiar with the Chesapeake Assessment Scenario Tool (CAST)?

How do you access information and resources that help you achieve your priorities? (Relationships / technical assistance from staff, experts, professional associations, conferences/workshops, documents/manuals, etc.)

Does your jurisdiction have a Green Infrastructure Plan? Any GI/LID incorporated into zoning, subdivision, or land development ordinances? Any other plans that may relate to water quality, like Watershed Plans on MS4 permitting plans?

We plan on offering AICP continuing education credits as part of the workshops. Based on our conversation, what content within what we have touched on would fit well for CE?

Who else would you recommend we talk with and why?

## Planning for Clean Water

### Attachment B: Interview List

<b>Affiliation</b>	<b>Notes</b>	<b>Interview held</b>
DE APA	President Elect	9-Jul-21
New Castle County, DE	Planning Director	24-Jun-21
NCAC-APA	Professional Development Officer for NCAC	15-Jul-21
MWCOG	Steering committee member	19-May-21
MWCOG	MWCOG Coordinator for Planning Directors	24-Jun-21
MD Planning	Local Assistance and Training Manager	6-Jun-21
MD APA	Chapter President for MD, Steering committee member	25-May-21
MACo	Local Leadership WG member	6-Jun-21
MD Planning	Resource and Conservation Manager	9-Jul-21
VA APA	Professional Development Officer for VA	10-Jun-21
VA APA-President Elect	Planning Director- Town of Culpeper	10-Jun-21
VA APA	Chapter Consultant- Environmental Programs	10-Jun-21
VA APA	Community Planning Assistance Program	10-Jun-21
VA APA	Planner, City of Portsmouth	10-Jun-21
VAPDC Executive Director	VA Association of Planning District Commissions	10-Jun-21
Thomas Jefferson PDC	Technical assistance lead for Chesapeake Bay WIP Development	10-Jun-21
Rappahannock Rapidan PDC	Steering committee member	2-Jun-21
VA Municipal League	Local Leadership WG member	29-Jun-21
Hampton Roads PDC	Referral from Renee Thompson	22-Jul-21
Richmond Regional Commission	Executive Director	7-Jul-21
Richmond Regional Commission	Planning Manager- Environmental Programs	21-Jun-21
PA APA	Professional Development Officer for PA	26-Jul-21
Chief, Long Range Planning, York Co PA	Steering committee member	5-May-21
PA County Planning Directors Assn	Planning Director-Lycoming County	15-Jun-21
PA State Assoc of Boroughs	Sr. Director Education Sustainability- on LLWG	8-Jun-21
Steering Committee- WVA	Eastern Panhandle Regional Planning and Development Council	21-May-21
WVA University	Land Use and Sustainable Development Law Clinic	8-Aug-21
SHMO for WVA	State of WVA	20-Jul-21
Chief of Haz Mit and Recovery	State of WVA	20-Jul-21
Director, Flood Ins. Program	State of WVA	20-Jul-21
Planner, Otsego County, NY	Otsego County Conservation Assoc	3-Aug-21
Upper Susquehanna Coalition	PA and NY Conservation Districts	12-Jul-21





## **Planning for Clean Water**

### **Attachment C: Key Themes from Interviews**

#### **Water quality and hazard mitigation co-benefits.**

Excerpts from interviews:

- What is the link between the increase in natural hazards such as flooding and Bay water quality? What are the connections between Bay crediting for SWM and hazard reduction? How do you fund flood mitigation and also get some crediting for water quality improvements?
- TJPDC has incorporated their WIP into the HMP for this planning area. [Hazard Mitigation - Thomas Jefferson Planning District Commission \(tjpd.org\)](https://www.tjpd.org/Hazard-Mitigation-Thomas-Jefferson-Planning-District-Commission)
- For flood hazards and resilience, the PDCs that touch the Bay shoreline are working with Rear Admiral Anne Phillips (Special Assistant to the Governor) on a master plan for resiliency.
- Louis Lawrence, with the Middle Peninsula PDC may be a good person to talk to about their efforts moving housing out of a flood hazard area.
- Many boroughs have some sort of flooding issue because they are historically located on a stream. We talked about the Muncy Resiliency Project: <https://muncyboro.org/resiliency-project/>. This could possibly be an example to share with other planners.

#### **Plan integration for resilience.**

Excerpts from interviews:

- We need to look at climate impacts and equity in the Bay watershed. There's a need to identify vulnerable communities and be able to "bake in" how to address inequities into all planning documents.
- There are so many different mandatory plan requirements. Why not consider co-benefits? For example, Program Open Space plans, the MD ag program, and comp plans. There is a project underway now to look at compatible land uses around military reservations. Possibly there is some plan integration and co-benefits, such as forest preservation, etc. There are Community Action Plans that look at infill and revitalization that are also supportive of smart growth objectives, (which helps the Bay).
- What do we need to change about our zoning ordinances and codes to ensure resilience and equity? The codes can be too prescriptive to pivot quickly.

#### **How Bay science might inform long-range planning.**

Excerpts from interviews:

- There are counties facing development pressure, and not all are on equal footing when it comes to having expertise to do comp plan updates.
- Many of the MD jurisdictions will be taking on their 10-year comprehensive planning as soon as the new demographic data is available from the census, so how Bay science may inform long-range planning may be useful, especially if it can be easy to apply to comp planning.
- What do comprehensive planners need to know about Bay science, and what tools do they need to make decisions?

- So, say we met the 2025 reduction goal: Now what? Comp plans can go way beyond the target year. And we have more people moving here. So how do we live under the cap? What can planners do to allow for continued growth and economic activity and yet not increase pollutant loads?

**How to target and leverage the funding to maximize environmental and other benefits (The American Rescue Plan funding).**

Excerpts from interviews:

- We're getting a big boost in funding to upgrade public works like WWTPs. Now how do we find the leverage to fund those other projects we know are just as important, like stream restoration?
- Infrastructure is planned to span fifty years or more. How do we make the investment choices that will carry water quality benefits as well as long-term infrastructure needs?
- Continuing to grow commerce and economic development will be the chief investment concern among municipalities. How do we demonstrate the link between good water quality and economic development? How do we make the argument against sprawl?
- How are the smaller, less-resourced jurisdictions going to equitably participate in investment decisions?

**Bay-wide recreation and open space preservation- what's available to implement conservation goals?**

Excerpts from interviews:

- The idea of a Chesapeake Bay NRA has been surfaced. What could that look like? How far are we to that goal already? Is it a policy that could help achieve more open space? Are there others?
- What tools exist to integrate into planning documents to enhance conservation and recreation?
- Urban and town green spaces are important for reducing the heat island effect. Aren't there policies within the Bay program that encourage urban forestry?

**What do small towns and boroughs need to know about the Bay program, and how can it help them?**

Excerpts from interviews:

- The smaller and more rural jurisdictions have budget issues and staffing shortages. They need to maximize the value added of everything they need to work on. Flooding, recreation for economic development, green jobs, community beautification, educational tie-ins for schools, land use and long-range planning, forest and farm/working lands preservation, Healthy Watersheds, hazard mitigation and water quality/quantity- all related to the WIP, coastal resiliency, SLR, and saltwater intrusion... all these topics are of interest.
- Main Street example in Lancaster, PA, at a restaurant beer garden—it combined GI, economic development, and street beautification. Partners came together to complete this project.
- Middle Peninsula PDC where they organized a project to buy homes threatened by flooding and put it into open space.

**Planner's talking points about the Bay.**

Excerpts from interviews:

- One potential topic for a workshop would be providing planners with what they need to educate homeowners on the Bay. Some basic materials planners could use to communicate about the program and why it's important. This could be talking points they use with HOA's. Something that addresses the benefits of GI and water quality, retaining mature trees, leaving buffers intact, etc.
- It would be helpful to have more data and evidence on the economic benefits of clean water with electeds and appointeds.

#### **Stormwater and wastewater management.**

Excerpts from interviews:

- Failing septics are a priority issue. There's implementation offered through the VA SWCD in which they are trying to coordinate rural locations to track and map the systems. There's little data now. Just having access to septic data would be a huge help in getting to go out and check the systems.
- MD started a dialogue and study on where there were septic systems (basically by looking at where water/sewer was not) for code enforcement, etc. back when WWTP requirements were made more stringent. Is there anything like that available for the rest of the States?
- Septics are a problem and getting worse. There's a general lack of concern about growth on septics.
- [In developing areas and towns], complying with MS4 permits is a concern, especially new jurisdictions that are just coming under regulation. There's a need to build capacity so they can comply.

#### **Smart Growth and the Bay.**

Excerpts from interviews:

- Solar farms on productive farmland, big box retail and fulfillment centers, subdivisions developing extra-jurisdictionally- all these land conversions are going on unchecked.
- We need to get back to the basics of planning and the hard choices that need to be made about where growth goes and where it doesn't. We can't answer these equity questions without addressing this. If land use is sprawled, then so are the resources, to everyone's detriment.

#### **The One Water Approach and how it benefits the Bay.**

Excerpts from interviews:

- The One Water approach is a good concept to highlight regarding connections the Chesapeake Bay outcomes. PA has pushed the concept as far as we can. Currently that's through the PA state water plan.
- We message about "our water quality" when we talk to people in the community. In PA, it doesn't matter what people are doing outside of PA, or even outside of their county. What resonates is what places just like them are doing.
- It's important to make that connection to drinking water, source water protection and some focus on quality-of-life aspects of water.

### Planning for Clean Water- Sponsor Venue List

#### Attachment D

Timeframe	Organization	Contact	Audience	Notes
Aug. 18-21	MACo	Alex Butler	Elected and appointed officials with planning staff	Re-occurring workshop in August
October	VA Municipal League	Michelle Gowdy	Electeds and appointed officials with planning staff	Re-occurring workshop in October
Oct. 2021	MD and NCAC APA	Joe Griffiths	Planners from DC and MD chapters	Re-occurring workshop in October. CE credits
Oct. 2021	Joint APA/NYPF Annual conference	Danny Lapin	NY Upstate APA and NY Planning Federation	Virtual and re-occurring webinar series
Dec. 1-2	DE APA Annual Conference	Sean O'Neill	DE Planners	Re-occurring annually
Dec/Jan 2021	MACo	Alex Butler	Elected and appointed officials with planning staff	Re-occurring
Ongoing	MWCOG Planning Roundtable	Paul DesJardin	Planning directors in the Wash COG system	Monthly meeting
Ongoing	Webinar Wednesdays- PA APA	Alexis Williams	Planners in PA	Re-occurring CE Credits
Ongoing	Smart Growth Series	Joe Griffiths	Nationwide- sponsored by EPA	Re-occurring CE Credits
Ongoing	VA WIP PDC's Working Group	Dominique Lavorata	25 planners from 15 PDCs	Meets monthly- October or early November ideal
Ongoing	Virtual Watershed Wednesdays	Wendy Walsh	webinars sponsored by the Upper Susquehanna Coalition	<a href="http://www.upperSusquehanna.org/usc/watershed-wednesdays">www.upperSusquehanna.org/usc/watershed-wednesdays</a>
Ongoing	VA APA webinar series	John Harbin	VA Planners	Re-occurring monthly CE credits
Spring 2022	Mid-Atlantic Regional COGs	Paul DesJardin	Planning directors in the Mid-Atlantic	Re-occurring biannually
May 2022	Mountain State Planning Academy	Jesse Richardson	Annual workshop at Land Use and Sustainable Development Law Clinic, WVA	
TBD	Mid-Atlantic Planning Collaborative	Jesse Richardson	All planners in the Mid-Atlantic	Possibly monthly webinars CE Credits
May	National Planning Conference		All APA	Yearly- CE credits



## B. Planning for Clean Water Flyer



# SAVE THE DATES

## Planning for Clean Water Webinar Series

The Mid-Atlantic Planning Collaboration is pleased to announce this webinar series exploring the vital connections and partnerships between planners and the health of our water resources and the Chesapeake Bay Watershed.

Each webinar will feature local planners who are engaged in initiatives that serve their community and further water quality and living resource goals. Each will also include resources available to planners that may be relevant or helpful. AICP certificate maintenance credits will be available. All webinars will be recorded and posted to the Mid-Atlantic Planning Collaboration's [YouTube page](#). Look [here](#) for updated information on the series.

Third Thursdays of each Month | 12- 1:30 pm.

Details and Registration below!

### January 20, 2022: A Planner's Guide to the

**Chesapeake Bay-** This webinar will provide an orientation to the Bay, including geography, population, the Bay Program, why it's important for planners to know about the Bay and how local decision-making impacts water resources.

[REGISTER NOW](#)

### February 17, 2022: Plan Integration for Resilience

**AND Equity-** Planners have a number of plans for which they are responsible. Two factors, climate resilience and equity, are top-of-mind as we try and integrate planning strategies to provide multiple benefits. The webinar would explore examples of successful plan integration and their relation to building in more resilient approaches to local decision-making.

[REGISTER NOW](#)

### March 17, 2022: Leveraging Hazard Mitigation for

**Water Quality Benefits-** Efforts to reduce water pollution can also achieve hazard mitigation plan goals. This webinar will provide examples of how local planners have integrated water quality considerations, such as Green Infrastructure and Low Impact Development, into their Hazard Mitigation Plans.

[REGISTER NOW](#)

### April 21, 2022: How to Leverage Conservation, Open Space and Parks Funding to Maximize

**Multiple Benefits-** How are localities leveraging conservation, open space and parks funding to maximize economic development, environmental stewardship, and quality of life? This webinar will explore the policies and opportunities that support conservation, recreation and open space at the local level.

[REGISTER NOW](#)

### May 19, 2022: The One Water Approach and How It Benefits the Bay-

Integrated Water Resource Management (IWRM), aka. the "One Water" approach, has been embraced by APA as a best practice. Clean water goals have a strong connection to the One Water approach. This webinar will present local planning jurisdictions that have taken a One Water approach in ways that minimize environmental impacts and maximize achievement of social and economic goals.

[REGISTER NOW](#)

### June 16, 2022: Smart Growth Tools for Protecting

**Water Resources-** Water quality outcomes are directly tied to land use decisions made by local jurisdictions. This webinar would explore local land use scenarios that lead to triple-bottom-line (economic, social, environmental) results and pose questions on current land use trends watershed-wide that may threaten progress.

[REGISTER NOW](#)



Have a good story to tell other mid-Atlantic planners about clean water? Let us know about it!

Contact Laura Bachle, AICP at [laura.bachle@erg.com](mailto:laura.bachle@erg.com)

## TABLES

### 1. Findings: Ten Major Themes

1. <b>Water quality and hazard mitigation co-benefits</b>	“What is the link between the increase in natural hazards such as flooding and Bay water quality?”
2. <b>Plan integration for resilience</b>	“We need to look at climate impacts and equity in the Bay watershed. There’s a need to ID vulnerable communities and be able to “bake in” how to address inequities into all planning documents.”
3. <b>Leveraging infrastructure funding to maximize environmental benefits</b>	“We’re getting a big boost in funding to upgrade public works like WWTPs. Now how do we find the leverage to fund those other projects we know are just as important, like stream restoration?”
4. <b>How Bay science might inform long-range planning</b>	“So, say we met the 2025 reduction goal: Now what? Comprehensive plans can go way beyond the target year. And we have more people moving here. So how do we live under the cap? What can planners do to allow for continued growth and economic activity and yet not increase pollutant loads?”
5. <b>Bay-wide recreation and open space preservation</b>	“The idea of a Chesapeake Bay NRA has been surfaced. What could that look like? How far are we to that goal already? Is it a policy that could help achieve more open space? Are there others?”
6. <b>What do small towns need to know about the Bay program?</b>	“The smaller and more rural jurisdictions have budget issues and staffing shortages. They need to maximize the value added of everything they need to work on.”
7. <b>Planners’ talking points about the Bay</b>	“One potential topic for a workshop would be providing planners with what they need to educate homeowners on the Bay....some basic materials planners could use to communicate about the program and why it’s important”
8. <b>Stormwater and wastewater management</b>	“Septic systems are a problem and getting worse. There’s a general lack of concern about growth on septic.”
9. <b>Smart Growth and the Bay</b>	“We need to get back to the basics of planning and the hard choices that need to be made about where growth goes and where it doesn’t. We can’t answer these equity questions without addressing this. If land use is sprawled, then so are the resources, to everyone’s detriment.”
10. <b>The One Water approach and how it benefits the Bay</b>	“The One Water approach is a good concept to highlight in regard to connections the Chesapeake Bay outcomes. We’ve (PA) pushed the concept as far as we can. Currently that’s through the state water plan.”

## 2. Webinars

Title	Description	Host	# of Registrants	# of Attendees	# of views	Overall rating
<b>January 20, 2022:</b> A Planner's Guide to the Chesapeake Bay	Provided an orientation to the Bay, including geography, population, the Bay Program, why it's important for planners to know about the Bay and how local decision-making impacts water resources.	Maryland APA	404	295	133	3.67
<b>February 17, 2022:</b> Plan Integration for Resilience AND Equity	Focused on two factors, climate resilience and equity, that are top-of-mind for planners as they try to integrate planning strategies to provide multiple benefits. Explored examples of successful plan integration and their relation to building in more resilient approaches to local decision-making.	Virginia APA	276	141	70	4.0
<b>March 17, 2022:</b> Leveraging Hazard Mitigation for Water Quality Benefits	Focused on the link between Hazard Mitigation Plans and water quality, providing examples of how local planners have integrated water quality considerations, such as Green Infrastructure and open space protection, into their Hazard Mitigation Plans.	West Virginia APA	221	108	37	3.96
<b>April 21, 2022:</b> How to Leverage Conservation, Open Space and Parks Funding to Maximize Multiple Benefits	Leaned into the discussion about designating the Bay watershed as a national recreation area, looking at how jurisdictions are doing overall in the conservation goals set, and exploring the policies and opportunities that support conservation, recreation and open space at the local level.	NCAC-APA	263	167	96	3.91
<b>May 19, 2022:</b> The One Water Approach and How It Benefits the Bay	Presented local planning jurisdictions that have taken a One Water approach in ways that minimize environmental impacts and maximize achievement of social and economic goals.	PA APA	220	97	40	3.94
<b>June 16, 2022:</b> Smart Growth Tools for Protecting Water Resources	Explored local land use scenarios that lead to triple-bottom-line (economic, social, environmental) results and pose questions on current land use trends watershed-wide that may threaten progress.	DE APA	221	96	32	3.9

Title	Description	Host	# of Registrants	# of Attendees	# of views	Overall rating
<b>Bonus Rounds</b>						
<b>May 31, 2023: Chesapeake Bay Tributary Summaries and Data Dashboard</b>	Chesapeake Bay tools for accessing synthesis information for non-tidal and tidal water quality, restoration targeting, management practice implementation and planning for change in the Chesapeake Bay and its watershed.	CBP	120	90	101	3.77
<b>November 9, 2023: High Resolution Land Use/Land Cover and its Applications to Land Use Planning</b>	Explored the 1-meter resolution Land Use/Land Cover (LULC) data and how it can be used by local land use planners.	CBP	~241	149	99	Not available



### 3. Workshops

Date	Location	Title	Presenters	Short Description	Overall Rating
July 18, 2022	Virginia APA Chapter Conference, Richmond, VA.	“Deep Dive: Equity is ....Clean Water for All!”	<p>Briana Yancey, coordinator of the CBP Diversity Workgroup, moderated the session</p> <p>Sarah Stewart, AICP, Planning Manager for Environmental Programs at PlanRVA, led a discussion on their efforts in the Lower Chickahominy watershed.</p> <p>Mike Foreman, Institute for Engagement and Negotiation, UVA; Rhonda Russell, Charles City County, and Shaliegh Howells, Pawmunkey Indian Tribe.</p>	<p>Provided an overview of CBP’s efforts to date on diversity, equity, inclusion and environmental justice (DEIJ.)</p> <p>The session addressed the questions surrounding what planning with an equity lens looks like in natural resource conservation and water quality. Attendees learned how the Chesapeake Bay Program is supporting DEIJ across all the Bay programs and partners. The deep-dive into the partnership forged with the Chickahominy and Pamunkey tribes in the Lower Chickahominy River Watershed covered many lessons learned about working with tribes on watershed planning.</p>	3.39
October 2, 2022	PA APA Chapter Conference, Lancaster, PA	“Lancaster City Green infrastructure”	Kathryn Austin, CBLP-D, CBLP-I, City of Lancaster Green Infrastructure Coordinator, and Douglas Smith, Chief Planner, Community Planning and Economic Development.	Led a walking tour with 22 participants. The City of Lancaster is transforming its streets, parks, commercial and private properties to capture stormwater while making the City more livable for everyone.	4.38
October 6, 2022	DE APA Fall Conference, Virtual.	“The Role of Land Use Mapping and Modeling in Urban Planning and Effects on Water Quality”	Sarah McDonald and Labeeb Ahmed, Geographers for the USGS Chesapeake Bay Program, were the presenters for this one-hour webinar.	Provided overall land use trends within Delaware and the watershed as detected by the 1-meter resolution Land Use/Land Cover (LULC) and LULC change data developed by the Chesapeake Bay Program in collaboration with Chesapeake Conservancy, U.S. Geological Survey, and University of Vermont	3.90

Date	Location	Title	Presenters	Short Description	Overall Rating
June 16, 2023	PA APA Central Section.	Clean Water Planning & BMP Tour: Takeaways from Lancaster and York Counties That Can Be Applied in Your Community	Lancaster Clean Water Partners	Lancaster and York Counties are leaders in integrated water resources planning and collaborative watershed restoration. Planners and municipal employees from Central Pennsylvania got to hop on a bus to tour key best management practices in Lancaster County. The tour was valued at 5.5 AICP credits. Twenty-three people attended the tour.	Not available
July 18, 2023	Virginia APA Chapter Conference, Roanoke, VA.	"From the Mountains to the Sea...a Deep Dive into Conservation in Virginia."	<p>Roanoke County, the National Park Service, and the Appalachian Trail Commission.</p> <p>Andrew Szwak, Land Trust Alliance; Andrew Downs, Appalachian Trail Commission; Megan Cronise, Roanoke County; Elizabeth Friel, Coastal Virginia Conservancy (cancelled) and Renee Thompson, US Geological Survey- Chesapeake Bay Program, were the speakers.</p>	<p>Hosted a mobile tour on July 16 to the MacAfee Knob trailhead, which helped contextualize this session during the conference. There were 23 attendees during the session.</p> <p>Participants learned about the 30X30 initiative, partnerships to leverage acquisition and use of open space, tools available to planners to target acquisition, and conservation challenges and successes.</p>	3.86

## 4. Tabling Events

Date	Location
April 31–May 4, 2023	American Planning Association (APA) National Planning Conference. Philadelphia, VA
July 15–19, 2023	VA APA State Conference. Roanoke, VA
Oct. 11–13, 2023	NC APA State Conference. Durham, NC
Oct. 15–17, 2023	PA APA State Conference. Scranton, PA
Oct. 24–26, 2023	MD Planning Commissioners Association Conference. Kent Island, MD



**WVU**LAW

Land Use and Sustainable Development Law Clinic