



# Coordinator Updates

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March 23, 2026

An osprey carries a menhaden to its nest in Talbot County, Md., April 2023

Photo by Will Parson, Chesapeake Bay Program



# Agenda at a glance

- Welcome & Intro
- Business, Workgroup & Phase 7 Updates
- Clean Water Goal Team, Planning Horizon
- Phase 7 Timeline
- Reference Curves and Interpolator Primer
- BREAK
- Main Bay Model (MBM) and Multiple Tributary Models (MTMs) Primer
- Hydrologic Period Update
- E3 Scenario Development Update
- Wrap-Up & Adjourn

## Business, News & Reminders

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Bay Program released the [annual Bay Barometer](#); shares progress for final time on outcomes of 2014 Agreement ([press release](#))

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CBP is collecting information about [users' experience with ChesapeakeProgress through April 10](#)

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NFWF still soliciting proposals: Chesapeake WILD proposals by April 9<sup>th</sup>; SWG proposals by April 12<sup>th</sup>

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Pennvest Clean Water Procurement Program [accepting proposals until April 22](#)

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CBC released their [2025 annual report](#)

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ICYMI – CRC Roundtable on Leveraging AI, recording [available online](#)

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Chesapeake Stormwater Network upcoming webinar on March 26

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Reminder to check agenda for more announcements or reminders you may not want to miss!

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Management Board extends its April 16<sup>th</sup> meeting to discuss governance and management framework and management strategy template

**Other news**

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Agriculture and Watershed Technical workgroups approved new leadership

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Congrats to the new Conowingo WIP Steering Committee Co-Chairs, Ashley Hullinger (PA DEP) and Christina Lyerly (MDE)

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**Mark your  
calendars:  
Monday June 22  
& Tue June 23**

WQGIT/CWGT hybrid  
meeting @ MDE in  
Baltimore

More details coming ASAP

# Phase 7 Decision Tracker Updates

- Wastewater Treatment Workgroup (WwTWG) from Feb 26<sup>th</sup>
  - Finalized four aspects of the optional inputs for the Sanitary Sewer Exfiltration estimation method
- Decisions from late February and early March from decisions tracker (Mar 19 version)
  - Agriculture Modeling Team (AMT) on Friday (2/27)
    - Broiler population, litter generation and concentrations\* (update to relevant broiler data for Delmarva)
    - Inorganic fertilizer
    - Supplemental NM practices on pasture and hay
  - Watershed Technical Workgroup (WTWG) on Thursday (3/5)
    - NEIEN appendix (Phase 6 for historical reporting & Phase 7)
    - Decision via email by 2/19: Methods for reporting ag NM on pasture/hay (no stops or holds received as of 2/19)

More information on next slide and: <https://www.chesapeakebay.net/projects/phase-7-model-development>

# P7 Decision Tracker Updates (final, Mar 19 version)

## summary of recent updates

Topic	Feb/Mar dates	Notes
Broiler Population, Litter Generation, and Litter Concentrations	AMT (2/13); <b>AMT (2/27)</b>	The AMT considered adopting data from a broiler data collection project headed by the Delaware Department of Agriculture. In February, the AMT agreed to update the relevant broiler data in the Delmarva region of the Chesapeake Bay Watershed, with notification to the PSC from relevant parties regarding timeline adjustments given additional data collection ongoing through March.
Inorganic Fertilizer	*AMT (2/13); <b>WTWG (3/5)</b>	In December, the group decided on the fertilizer smoothing process and a single method for interpolating sales data for nonreporting states. A conclusion was not reached in February regarding options for the backfilling of organic sources with inorganic sources. Given that there were no proposed paths forward, the group determined this topic finished and instead focused on the inclusion of updated broiler data.
Supplemental Nutrient Management Practices on Pasture and Hay	<b>WTWG (3/5)</b>	During the creation of Hay High and Pasture High Land Uses, nutrient management multipliers associated with Core Nutrient Management were decided. The AMT did not address the efficiencies of Supplemental Nutrient Management, Rate, Placement, and Timing. As such, the AMT reviewed potential efficiency values for Phase 7 in February and these values were approved by the WTWG at their March meeting.
P7 NEIEN Appendix	<b>WTWG (3/5)</b>	The WTWG approved the Phase 7 NEIEN Appendix at their March meeting.

# Workgroup updates

Full workgroup updates provided in later slides; please consult posted slides at your convenience

# Workgroup Updates (summary)

open to Chairs or Coordinators to add more

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## Wastewater

Met on Feb 26th to finalize four aspects of the optional inputs for the Sanitary Sewer Exfiltration estimation method for Phase 7. The group heard an introductory presentation on developing E3 Scenarios. March meeting canceled. **Next meeting: April 23, 10am-12pm**

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## Watershed Technical

The WTWG met on March 5 and discussed and **approved new Chair (Sushanth Gupta, MWCOG) and Vice Chair (Christina Lyerly, MDE)**; proposed efficiency values for supplemental NM rate, placement and timing; additions to Phase 6 NEIEN appendix; the phase 7 NEIEN appendix. **Next meeting: April 2, 10am-12pm**

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## Agriculture

Hosted hybrid meeting on March 4<sup>th</sup>. The AgWG **approved Jenn Fetter as the new Vice Chair and Caitlin Grady as chair of the AgWG**. The group is considering ag BMPs for credit or updates based on available science, in addition to the suitability of ag BMPs for remote sensing verification. Feedback and next steps will be discussed at a subsequent meeting. **Next Meeting: April 16, 10am-12pm**

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## Urban Stormwater

Met March 17th and topics included an initiative to better utilize streetsweeper technologies to address stormwater pollution; a USGS project on remote sensing of stormwater BMPs, and; an update on the Phase 7 developed land use time series, which is available for review until March 27th. **Next meeting: March 17, 10am - 12pm**

# Workgroup updates – more details

## Agriculture

- The AgWG met on March 4th for a Hybrid meeting following the Bay in the Balance Conference. The AgWG approved Jenn Fetter as the new Vice Chair and Caitlin Grady as chair of the AgWG. Other agenda items included takeaways from the Bay in the Balance conference, an overview of the recently published WIP and CAP Case Study from PA DEP, a group get to know you activity, and a discussion on ag BMPs. The group is considering ag BMPs for credit or updates based on available science, in addition to the suitability of ag BMPs for remote sensing verification. Feedback and next steps will be discussed at a subsequent meeting.
- Next meeting: April 16, 2026

## Forestry

- The Forestry Workgroup convened a programmatic STAC workshop Feb 24-25 in Frederick, MD focused on “Healthy Forests: Proactive Strategies for Managing Threats and Promoting Conservation”. The Steering Committee is initiating development of the workshop report.
- Next meeting: April 9<sup>th</sup> from 9-11. The FWG will be exploring potential data and approaches for setting a baseline for the new forest conservation target and will have a presentation from ICPRB on conservation prioritization for drinking water protection.

# Workgroup updates – more details

## Urban Stormwater

- USWG met March 17th and heard a presentation on an initiative to better utilize streetsweeper technologies to address stormwater pollution and a presentation from USGS on remote sensing of stormwater BMPs.
- The group also heard an update on the Phase 7 developed land use time series, which is available for review until March 27th.
- Next meeting: April 21, 10am - 12pm

## Wastewater Treatment

- WWTWG met Feb 26th and approved four final aspects of the optional inputs for the Sanitary Sewer Exfiltration estimation method for Phase 7.
- The group heard an introductory presentation on developing E3 Scenarios and will continue to work on this in the coming months.
- The group will be reviewing the sewer/septic backcast ahead of April 1.
- The March WWTWG meeting is canceled.
- Next Meeting: April 23, 10am - 12pm

# Workgroup updates – more details

## Watershed Technical

- The WTWG met on March 5 and discussed and approved the following:
  - Nominations for WTWG Chair (Sushanth Gupta, MWCOG) and Vice Chair Christina Lyerly (MDE)
  - Proposed efficiency values for supplemental nutrient management rate, placement, and timing
  - Additions to the Phase 6 NEIEN Appendix
  - The Phase 7 NEIEN Appendix
- The proposed process for reporting nutrient management on hay and pasture in Phase 7 was approved via email in February.
- The next WTWG meeting is April 2nd. This meeting will include an overview of the Beyond Bean Counting report recommendations and a brainstorming of future topics for the WTWG.

## Toxic Contaminants

- TCW met March 11th to hear a presentation on a recent Imidacloprid study and a presentation on the 2025 update to the Toxic Contaminants Policy and Prevention Outcome Indicator. The group discussed potential changes to the Indicator for the new outcome and other TCW tools.
- Next meeting: April 8, 1-3pm

# Workgroup updates – more details

## Land Use

- The LUWG review of the [Phase 7 Land Use Back-cast time series data](#) (1985 – 2021) is occurring until March 27<sup>th</sup>. Resources are [posted here](#). Note: Counties will be posted in batches on the [web viewer](#). The WQGIT is also welcome to provide feedback. When submitting feedback, please identify whether you are submitting (a) questions; (b) issues; or (c) errors.
- Jackie Pickford is the new Coordinator, and Julia Fucci is the new Staffer.
- LUWG is soliciting nominations for Chair, Co-Chair/Vice Chair, and members until April 15.
- Please reach out to Jackie ([jpickford@chesapeakebay.net](mailto:jpickford@chesapeakebay.net)) if you are interested in contributing to the development of the land use management strategy.
- Next Meeting: June 17, 1-3PM

# Workgroup updates – more details

## Federal Facilities

- Next meeting: April 14, 10am-12pm

## Milestones

- No update.
- Next meeting: TBD

## Criteria Assessment

- In February 2026, the CAP WG had an all-day, in-person meeting where they discussed their plans for 2026. There were several presentations, including dissolved oxygen assessment methodologies, methodology comparison across states, the water quality standards attainment indicator, and the revisions made to the Watershed Agreement.
- In March, the group discussed key questions around data integrity and dissolved oxygen assessment methodology, and had conversations about documentation of decisions, the 4-d interpolator, and the phase 7 model.
- Upcoming meeting topics may include: 30-day mean and pycnocline definitions and discussion on how criteria assessment, the 4-d interpolator and the phase 7 model work together.
- Next meeting: April 13, 1:30pm-3:30pm