



Water Quality Goal Implementation Team (WQGIT)

Monday, December 15th, 2025
1:00 - 3:50 PM

[Join the meeting via Microsoft Teams](#)

Meeting ID: 232 740 964 777 9

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[Visit the meeting webpage for meeting materials and additional information.](#)

[Announcements & Reminders \(CTRL + click to jump ahead within document\)](#)

This meeting may be recorded for internal use only to assure the accuracy of meeting notes. To turn on closed captioning, click on the three ellipses (More actions), then click on “Turn on live captions” (preview). To request accommodations, please contact Petra Baldwin at baldwin.petra@epa.gov.

Please read the following information carefully, as our meeting policies have changed:

- All meeting attendees' cameras and microphones will be muted at the start of the meeting.
- To request access to the microphone and camera, all meeting participants will be required to use the raised hand feature on Teams. Once access has been granted by the meeting organizer, you will then be allowed to unmute your mic and turn on your camera. Unless instructed otherwise, once a participant has microphone or camera access, they will have this permission for the remainder of the meeting.
- Access to chat will be provided as well. Should it be necessary, the Q&A feature on Teams will be utilized to field participant questions.

Compromised Meeting Plan: If the meeting's privacy is compromised, the meeting staffer and coordinator will send an email to all members, alternates, staffers, coordinators, and interested parties. Within the email, you will find a new meeting link, instructions on sharing this information with external partners, and any necessary adjustments to the meeting schedule. Please do NOT share this information publicly or post it to the Chesapeakebay.net webpage.

Purpose: This is the monthly meeting of the Water Quality Goal Implementation Team (WQGIT). Meeting topics will include a Phase 7 Model Development timeline update, a 2024 Tidal Water Quality Trends presentation, a discussion on updating the Hydrologic Period, and a discussion on 2025 Progress communications.

Agenda

I. Welcome and Announcements

(1:00 – 1:05 PM)

Please ensure your name and affiliation are accurately captured in the participants list. If not, please enter your correct name & affiliation in the chat box. Call-in participants are requested to identify themselves verbally. See top of the agenda for details on new meeting security settings.

Lead: Suzanne Trevena, WQGIT Chair

II. Business & Workgroup Updates (1:05 – 1:20 PM)

Jeremy will share updates from WQGIT workgroups since the last meeting and general Chesapeake Bay Program announcements, including a recap of the Urban Nutrient Management Panel Report decision, updates on Beyond 2025 following the Dec 2nd Executive Council meeting, and the WQGIT's membership plan while CBP continues to discuss structure changes.

Requested Action: Informational

Lead: Jeremy Hanson, WQGIT Coordinator

Materials: Workgroup Updates Presentation

III. 2026 WQGIT Meeting Planning (1:20 – 1:25 PM)

Jeremy will share the WQGIT's plans for monthly meetings through 2026, including a potential hybrid one- or two-day meeting in the spring. We will discuss feasibility and preferences for this meeting to start planning for it.

Requested Action: Informational

Lead: Jeremy Hanson, WQGIT Coordinator

Materials: TBD

IV. Phase 7 Timeline Updates (1:25 – 1:45 PM)

Following the federal government shutdown and furlough of many members of the CBPO modeling and GIS staff, there have been some adjustments to the Phase 7 timeline in the coming months. The overall timeline of the delivery of the model for partnership review is not affected. We will walk through these shifts and share new or updated materials for longer term planning purposes, building on past materials previewed at the [August](#) and [October](#) WQGIT meetings.

Requested Action: Informational, for discussion and input.

Lead: Jeremy Hanson, WQGIT Coordinator and Suzanne Trevena, WQGIT Chair

Materials: Presentation, other materials TBD

V. 2024 Tidal Water Quality Trends (1:45 – 2:15 PM)

The [2024 Tidal Water Quality Trends](#) have been released, including annual estimates at more than 150 stations for nutrients, dissolved oxygen, Secchi depth, chlorophyll-a and other parameters that help gauge the health of the bay and identify changes due to management actions and climate. Rebecca will share an overview of the results and answer questions.

Requested Action: Informational.

Lead: Rebecca Murphy, UMCES

Materials: Presentation, [2024 Tidal Trends Summary](#)

VI. Break (2:15– 2:25 PM)

VII. Hydrologic Period Discussion (2:25 – 2:50 PM)

As requested by the WQGIT at the [September meeting](#), Lew will share an overview of the work process and resource needs for updating the base hydrologic period in the model. WQGIT members will discuss the feasibility and desire to pursue this update for Phase 7.

Requested Action: Informational, for discussion and input.

Lead: Lew Linker, EPA

Materials: Presentation

VIII. 2025 Progress Communications Discussion (2:50 – 3:45 PM)

The release of 2025 Progress will mark a landmark year of data for the Chesapeake Bay Program and jurisdictions' work on reducing nitrogen, phosphorus and sediment loads. To aid jurisdictions' communications and messaging around this during 2026, the WQGIT will facilitate discussions on how best to approach this in a unified way across the watershed. This will be the start of discussions, with potential suggestions for recommendations to the Management Board and other areas of the Bay Program. Please come prepared to share how your jurisdiction is thinking about messaging around 2025 Progress and any concerns, hopes, and suggestions for ways CBPO can help.

Requested Action: Informational, for discussion.

Leads: Greg Sandi, WQGIT Vice-Chair

Materials: TBD

IX. Wrap-Up (3:45 – 3:50 PM)

Lead: Petra Baldwin, WQGIT Co-Staffer

X. Adjourn (3:50 PM)

Next Meeting: [Monday, January 26th, 2026](#)

Announcements & Reminders

- The Chesapeake Executive Council held their [annual meeting](#) on December 2nd. The [revised Watershed Agreement](#), [structure recommendations](#), and [governance recommendations](#) are all posted to the [calendar page](#). View the Bay Program press release [here](#).
- The report from [STAC's February 2025 workshop](#) titled "*Leveraging Artificial Intelligence and Machine learning to Advance Chesapeake Bay Research and Management: A Review of Status, Challenges, and Opportunities*" is now [available](#).
- The [ChesapeakeProgress](#) site is being rebuilt to align with new goals, outcomes, and management strategies. It will be temporary unpublished while this transition occurs. A "2025 Indicator Snapshot" of progress will be available on [ChesapeakeData](#) for public reference. Learn more in the [presentation](#) from the [November STAR meeting](#).
- The [2026 Chesapeake Community Research Symposium](#) has extended the deadline for submitting special session proposals to **Friday Dec 5th, 2025 at 5pm**. The 2026 edition of the biennial symposium will be held June 1-3, 2026, in Annapolis, Maryland. The theme of the 2026 Symposium is Chesapeake Bay Research and Restoration: Next Generation Tools for a Dynamic Future. Learn more and submit a proposal [here](#).

- **CRC is receiving applications for the [Executive Director Position Opening](#) until **Sunday, Dec 7th, 2025**.** The Chesapeake Research Consortium is seeking an experienced environmental scientist and leader to serve as its next Executive Director. To view the position description and application form, please visit the following [webpage](#).
- **Choose Clean Water Coalition's [Young Professionals of the Chesapeake](#) Mentorship Program is accepting applications for their 2026 Cohort until **Friday Dec 12th, 2025**.** The program enables young professionals working in the environmental field to achieve their career and professional development goals. They are looking for both mentors and mentees to join. Learn more and [apply here](#). If you have any questions, please contact Wuill Urvinaw at urvinaw@nwf.org.
- **The next CRC Roundtable, "[A Creative Spark: How Artists in Residence Ignite Bright Ideas](#)," is **Wednesday Dec 17th from 12-1pm**.** Within residencies hosted at research institutions, artist residencies offer a kindling of new ideas that goes both ways; artistic perspectives can illuminate complex technical challenges and inspire new approaches to research and engagement. Learn more and [register here](#).
- **Chesapeake Bay Trust's [Pooled Monitoring Initiative's Restoration Research Award Program](#) is now open with applications due **Thursday Jan 29th, 2026**.** The goal of this research program is to answer several key restoration questions that are a barrier to watershed restoration project implementation. The Request for Proposals (RFP) is [available here](#). CBT will be hosting two info sessions on Dec 12th and Jan 6th. Learn more and [apply here](#).
- **Chesapeake Bay Landscape Professionals is holding [Level 1 Green Infrastructure Trainings](#) during **February and March 2026**.** They have in-person and hybrid options in multiple locations across the watershed. This sustainable landscaping certification gives you the knowledge and skills to design, install, and maintain Bay-friendly landscapes that work with nature. Learn more and [register here](#).
- **The [Bay in the Balance Conference](#) has been rescheduled from December 8-10th, 2025, to **March 2-4th, 2026**, given the federal government shutdown.** This conference will take place in Gettysburg, PA, at the Wyndham Gettysburg Hotel & Conference Center. To learn more about the event and to register for the March conference, click [here](#).

Acronyms

CAST: [Chesapeake Assessment Scenario Tool](#)
 CBP: Chesapeake Bay Program
 CRC: Chesapeake Research Consortium
 EPA: Environmental Protection Agency
 STAC: [Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee](#)

STAR: [Scientific, Technical Assessment and Reporting](#)
 WQGIT: [Water Quality Goal Implementation Team](#)
 WTWG: [Watershed Technical Workgroup](#)