

# Agriculture Workgroup (AgWG)

September 20th, 2018

10:00 AM – 3:00 PM

## AgWG Face-to-Face Meeting Agenda

Carvel Center, Room 3  
16483 County Seat Highway  
Georgetown, DE 19947

Conference line: (202) 991-0477 Code: 2832221

Adobe Connect: <https://epawebconferencing.acms.com/agwg/>

Meeting materials: [https://www.chesapeakebay.net/who/group/agriculture\\_workgroup](https://www.chesapeakebay.net/who/group/agriculture_workgroup)

- 10:00 **Welcome, introductions, roll-call, review meeting minutes** Workgroup Chairs
- Roll-call of the governance body
  - Roll-call of the meeting participants
  - Approval of meeting minutes from the Aug 16th Conference Call
- 10:05 **BMP Expert Panel Update** Expert Panel Chairs  
Chairs and coordinators of on-going AgWG BMP Expert Panels will provide progress updates.
- 10:15 **Ag Issues and Initiatives in Sussex County (20 min)** Jen Nelson  
Jen Nelson, Resource Smart LLC, will discuss some of the local programs and initiatives underway in Sussex County and the Lower Eastern Shore of Delmarva, as well as some of the challenges facing the agriculture community in the area.
- 10:35 **Prioritization Update (30 min)** Coordinator and Chairs  
Updates on items stemming from the June 2018 prioritization workshop will be provided.
- 11:05 **Pay-for-Performance (60 min)** Kristin Fisher  
Kristin Fisher, Montgomery County Office of Agriculture, will discuss the "[pay-for-performance conservation](#)" approach that pays farmers based on quantified estimates of nutrient reductions resulting from the implementation of BMPs: a combination of nutrient and economic modeling generates field- and farm-specific information that is used to identify the most cost-effective ways to reduce nonpoint source pollution from farmland. This method of addressing water quality problems has the potential to maximize the "bang for the buck" when spending conservation dollars on water quality improvement.
- 12:05 **WORKING LUNCH (15 min break- reconvene 12:20)**  
Please plan to bring lunch to the meeting or order lunch through Allie Wagner by COB September 18<sup>th</sup>.
- 12:20 **NRCS/CBP BMP Crosswalk Update (20 min)** Mark Dubin, Barry Frantz  
Mark Dubin, UMD, and Barry Frantz, NRCS will provide a brief overview of the process they are using to review the CBP/BMP crosswalk to ensure that we are relating agricultural

implementation through USDA-NRCS programs as accurately as possible. The tentative goal is to have a completed report to guide annual implementation reporting and model representation by December of this year.

- 12:40 **Land Use Change Discussion Points (30 min)** Peter Claggett  
Peter Claggett, USGS, will discuss projected land-use changes out to 2025 and impacts on nutrient and sediment loading rates across the Bay watershed. The AgWG will be asked for feedback to assist the CBP Land Use Workgroup as it collaborates with state WIP committees to finalize 2025 land use projections later in October.
- 1:10 **Soil P data in Phase 6 Model: A Review (45 min)** Gary Shenk  
In response to the CBP Management Board's [INCORPORATING SOIL PHOSPHORUS IN THE PHASE 6 MODEL Recommended Path Forward](#), Gary Shenk, USGS, will review how soil P data is represented in the Phase 6.0 Watershed Model and the soil P data that is currently available for this purpose.
- 1:55 **Resource Improvement BMPs (30 min)** Adam Lyon  
In response to state partner inquiry regarding opportunities for reporting Resource Improvement BMPs for credit towards nutrient and sediment load reduction, Adam Lyon, MDA, will discuss Maryland's approach to incorporating [CBP partnership-approved Resource Improvement \(RI\) BMPs](#) into their verification process.
- 2:25 **Nutrient Application Recommendation Updates (30 min)** Amy Shober  
Amy Shober, UD, will discuss the rationale for updating nutrient fertility recommendations to reflect new technologies and research:  
While we have made significant improvements in N management of corn over the last decade, we recognize there is still room for improvement. Researchers in the CB watershed are interested in exploring the possibility of conducting Bay-wide coordinated research to improve N recommendations/management for corn. Ideally, we could set up a standard protocol for research and the required minimum data set so that all researchers are doing the same thing. We need to know if there is the possibility for funding this type of research, and if so, what is the key information that the CBP would like to get out of this effort?
- 2:55 **Review of Action and Decision Items** Allie Wagner  
Allie will review the action and decision items from the meeting.
- 3:00 **Adjourn Formal Meeting**  
**Optional Tour: The Lasher Laboratory**, located on the University's campus in Georgetown, is the primary poultry diagnostic laboratory in the state of Delaware. The laboratory provides rapid and comprehensive diagnostic services to commercial poultry producers as well as to the owners of small non-commercial hobby and backyard flocks.

**Next meeting: Conference Call October 18, 2018, 10 AM-12 PM**