

Chesapeake RFB Networking Forum
DRAFT Agenda

Thursday-Friday, March 2-3, 2017
Bishop Claggett Conference Center
3035 Buckeystown Pike
Adamstown, MD 21710

Objective: *The objective of the forum is to:*

1) provide an opportunity for practitioners to learn from each other about how to increase voluntary participation in riparian forest buffer (RFB) restoration and protection; 2) showcase successes in delivering RFB programs and practices; 3) boost outreach and partner coordination in delivering RFB programs; 4) introduce the RFB Management Strategy and 2-year Work Plans and identify obstacles to implementing these; and 5) develop more specific recommendations.

- 9:00** **Coffee & Danish**
- 9:30** **Welcome**
Joseph Bartenfelder, Maryland Secretary of Agriculture (invited)
- 9:35** **How Riparian Forest Buffers Help Us Meet Other Chesapeake Bay Goals –**
Kelly Shenk, Agriculture Lead, Region 3 EPA
- 9:50** **Riparian Forest Buffer Initiative, FSA Perspective –** Misty Jones, USDA FSA
Director of Conservation Environmental Programs Division (invited)
- 10:00** **Riparian Forest Buffer Initiative, NRCS Perspective –** Terron Hillsman, State
Conservationist, Maryland NRCS
- 10:10** **Farmer Perspectives on their Riparian Forest Buffers –** Moderator: Mike Kay

Susie Knapp, Sweet View Farm
David Brunell,
Steve Cassis, Whiskey Ridge Farm
Steve Thrasher,
Dick Bittner, Fox Haven Farm
- 11:10** **BREAK**

11:30 Outreach Challenge Panel – Getting the Farmer to Say Yes – How does the RFB fit into the farm operation? Moderator: ?

Brent Cammauf, Maryland NRCS; Craig Highfield, the Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay; and Jamie Weaver, Maryland Forest Service: Healthy Streams project
Lamonte Garber, Stroud Water Research Center: Farm Stewardship project
Herb Peddicord, West Virginia Division of Forestry
Jen Johns, Chesapeake Bay Foundation: RCPP and buffer bucks

12:30 LUNCH

1:30 New York: New Incentives and Partnering – xxx, Moderator.

Virginia Green or Lorri Dandignac, NY FSA
Lydia Brinkley, Upper Susquehanna Coalition
Lauren Townley, NY DEC
Scott Fickbohm, NY Department of Agriculture & Markets
Karl Strause, NY NRCS

2:00 Funders panel – Moderator: Jamie Baxter, Chesapeake Funders Network (invited)

Pat Stuntz, The Keith Campbell Foundation (invited)
Jake Reilly, National Fish and Wildlife Foundation
Someone to talk about ecosystem services/wildlife habitat?
Matt Keefer – their new RFP?

2:30 BREAK

2:50 New Outreach tools – discussion and demonstration of new outreach tools

Gary Bentrup, USDA National Agroforestry Center, Nebraska: Buffer \$
Sally Claggett/Jenny McGarvey: RFB website demonstration/launch
Cass Pallai, Chesapeake Conservancy: New public high-resolution imagery
Terry Fisher, PACD: Assessment of effectiveness of outreach tools?

3:30 Riparian Forest Buffers – the latest scientific research – xxxx, Moderator.

Peter Kleinman, USDA Agricultural Research Service – RFB monitoring study (MD, PA, VA) preliminary results
David Wise, Stroud Water Research Center – RFBs & enhanced instream processing & ongoing research regarding survivorship
Don English, USDA – survey & pollinators

4:00 Panel on targeting, outreach challenge & incentives—xxx, Moderator.

Discussion of how to use enhanced scientific understanding of where best to place buffers for water quality with challenge of getting voluntary participation.

Louise Lawrence, Maryland Department of Agriculture: NIP pilot
Anne Hairston-Strang and Patrick Ma, MDNR: Washington County
Amy Jacobs/Kathy Boomer, The Nature Conservancy: Nanticoke and Wicomico

4:30 State RFB Task Force Report Updates – Al Todd, Moderator. Updates on progress towards implementing actions in the state task force reports from the Chesapeake Bay Riparian Forest Buffer Initiative. [this topic will expand to 1.5 hours]

Emily Horsley, VA FSA and Greg Evans, VA DOF
Kevin Hinkle, WV FSA and Herb Peddicord, WV Division of Forestry
Lauren Townley, NY DEC and Virginia Green/Lorri Dandignac, NY FSA
Matt Keefer, PA Bureau of Forestry and ?, PA FSA
Anne Hairston-Strang, Maryland Forest Service, and Laura Human, Maryland FSA
Marcia Fox, DNREC and Lynn Manges, DE FSA

5:30 Refreshments & Outreach exchange – view state outreach materials, poster displays, etc.

6:30 Dinner

DAY TWO – Friday, March 3 Agenda

8:00 Coffee & Danish & Topic Tables

8:30 Lightning Round – Moderators. Quick introductions to innovative and effective approaches from across the region.

Sampling of Presenters:

Ryan Davis, Pheasants Forever-?

Karen Cladas, new riparian foresters – 1 year lessons – and Rosie-?

Kevin Hinkle, WV FSA

Jen Johns, CBF study of RFBs-?

Greg Evans, Healthy Watershed Forest project

Social science project – Penn State-?

? Ducks Unlimited

Cass Pallai, Chesapeake Conservancy: Centre County PA Buffer Project

Gary Moore, DCR, VA?

9:45 BREAK

10:00 Farm bill – Alix Murdoch, Chesapeake Bay Foundation
15 minute presentation, followed by group brainstorming session

10:30 Long Term Conservation and Riparian Forest Buffers – xxx, Moderator.

Jennifer Miller-Herzog, Chesapeake Program Manager, Land Trust Alliance
Mark Rose, Deputy Chief for Programs, NRCS – ACEP
Joe Thompson, Potomac Conservancy -?
MET-?

11:30 Wrap up

12:00 Adjourn