



**CSPDC Chesapeake Bay TMDL
Watershed Implementation Plan
Stakeholder Meeting**
September 16, 2020, 9:00 – 10:30 a.m.
Via Zoom Video Conference Call

Meeting Summary

In attendance:

Lara Johnson, VDOF	Michael Ramsey, City of Waynesboro
Tara Wyrick, DEQ	Genevieve Goss, VCC
Dale Chestnut, JMU	Rachel Winter, Headwaters SWCD
Rebecca Stimson, City of Harrisonburg	Morgan Shrewsbury, Augusta County
Keith Thomas, City of Harrisonburg	Kevin Tate, Shenandoah Valley Conservation Collaborative
Rebecca Joyce, CSPDC	Hunter Moore, CSPDC

Welcome and Introductions

- Hunter Moore welcomed everyone and thanked them for joining the call. She gave some instructions on using Zoom and asked the group to introduce themselves in the chat box.

WIP III Update

- Hunter gave an update on recent CSPDC WIP activities, including the completion of three documents. The WIP brochures are currently being printed and a digital version can be found on the CSPDC’s WIP site. Hunter said that this brochure can be shared with others and she can distribute hardcopies out to localities and organizations if they would like them.
- Hunter also shared the completed WIP Grant Matrix, which is a list of grant opportunities for WIP-related projects. This will be a living document and Hunter will try to keep this up to date since grant programs and deadlines are always changing. This matrix is also posted on the WIP site.



- Hunter also discussed the Locality Comprehensive Plan Review for WIP-Related Language that was finalized. She summarized that specific WIP III language is not included in most plans or ordinances and that the CSPDC may work on model language for WIP III for localities to include or work with localities to develop their own language.
- All three documents will be sent out after the meeting and will be on the PDC WIP site.

2021 Scope of Work

- Hunter discussed the 2021 Scope of Work for WIP and that they would be submitting this to DEQ at the end of the month. Hunter listed ideas for region-specific tasks to include for the next year. This included continuing to work with localities and the Department of Forestry on tree planting projects, development of WIP III model language for locality comp plans, development of regional project for NFWF funding, working with VDH on septic pump out tracking, and a stream clean-up event or kits.
- Hunter asked the group for other ideas to include or if the CPSDC should focus on certain tasks. No new ideas were given but the group agreed that the current list of ideas was good.

BMP Reporting Gaps Discussion

- Hunter explained DEQ's deliverable for BMP reporting gaps and identifying the gaps. Hunter listed the State agencies that already receive or give BMP reporting, and also listed some ideas on existing and future BMPs that may not be captured in reporting. Hunter asked the group for ways to identify these gaps or other BMPs that could be reported.
- Rebecca Stimson added that she thought Hunter's list of existing BMPs were good and could not think of any new ones. They have found it hard to report residential and septic pumping BMPs and there is no statewide guidance for tracking residential BMPs.
- Keith Thomas added possibly tracking bioreactor BMPs, but he was not sure if that was on DEQ's list or reportable.
- Hunter asked Rachel Winters if the SWCD captured residential BMPs. Rachel said that she believes that the SWCD reports residential BMP data associated with the VCAP program. Kevin added that they may also report some if they have a TMDL that includes a residential practice.

- Rebecca Stimson mentioned that if the locality has an MS4, there is no incentive for them to do a VCAP project because the SWCD gets those credits and the MS4 does not, which can create some disconnect for reporting. Rachel added that she thought that this issue was brought up to DEQ in a VCAP technical committee group.
- Rebecca Stimson also shared that they can now report tree plantings but would like to have more guidance from DEQ on how to report. Lara Johnson responded to Rebecca's comment by adding that VDOF is working on an online tool to help localities track tree planting BMPs. The tool helps with tracking and allows either the locality or VDOF report the BMPs to DEQ. The tool uses ESRI mapping software and should be coming out soon for Fall planting.
- Dale Chestnut discussed possibly rare instances where they remove or retrofit an existing BMP and how there is not a way to report the change. The notice of termination form only looks for added BMPs and not retrofitting, and there is no official way to report this. This also applies to renovations to BMPs like a dry pond to wet pond and the reporting does not reflect the change.

Guest Speaker: Lara Johnson, VDOF

- Lara Johnson with the Department of Forestry discussed two of their funding opportunities: the Ash Removal and Replacement Cost Share program and also the Virginia Trees for Clean Water grant program.
- Lara first talked about the Ash removal program and that applications are due by email on September 18th. Ash trees can be dangerous and expensive to remove. There is a 50% cost share assistance for removals with greater 30% canopy decline. Funding is not to exceed \$6150 per organization and will include a \$200/tree incentive payment for replacing lost canopy. Replacement trees do not have to be planted in the same location as removal.
- The Virginia Trees for Clean Water applications are due by October 2nd, and this grant ranges from \$1,000 to \$15,000. This year they are doing a 'match what you can' program and in-kind is allowable. Lara and her staff are happy to do site visit and provide guidance for potential tree planting projects. All projects must be completed by June 2021.
- Genevieve Goss asked if this funding is for community sites only. Lara explained that their program is for communities that are publicly accessible and not for private sites. The VCAP program does promote private tree plantings.



- Lara said she would be happy to come back and talk about the tree planting BMP tracking online tool once it is released.

Community Updates

- Hunter asked the group if anyone would like to share any BMP projects that communities are currently working on or share any other WIP related business.
- Rebecca Joyce mentioned the Federal Emergency Management Agency has a new hazard mitigation program called BRIC (Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities). It is a more flexible program than the Pre-Disaster Mitigation Grant Program it is replacing. BRIC is focusing on community mitigation projects not just residential projects. Please reach out to Rebecca via email rebecca@cspdc.org if you would like to learn more about the program.

VIII. Adjourn

- With no other business, the meeting was adjourned. Hunter announced that the next meeting will be on December 10th, 2020.