

# CSPDC Chesapeake Bay TMDL Watershed Implementation Plan Stakeholder Meeting

March 17, 2021, 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. Via Zoom Video Conference Call **Meeting Summary** 

#### In attendance:

| Sara Bottenfield, DEQ                                            | Kimberly Miller, CSPDC                 |
|------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|
| David Brotman, Friends of the North Fork of the Shenandoah River | John Reeves, Rockingham County citizen |
| Mark Frondorf, Shenandoah River Keeper                           | Tom Roberts, City of Buena Vista       |
| Lara Johnson, VDOF                                               | Morgan Shrewsbury, Augusta County      |
| Rebecca Joyce, CSPDC                                             | Keith Thomas, City of Harrisonburg     |
| Peter Kesecker, City of Staunton                                 | Doug Wolfe, Augusta County             |

## **Welcome and Introductions**

• Rebecca Joyce welcomed everyone and thanked them for joining the call. She asked the group to introduce themselves through the video call or in the chat box.

## Virginia Department of Forestry's My Tree Counts Program

 Lara Johnson, Urban and Community Forestry Program Manager with the Virginia Department of Forestry gave a presentation on their online mapping tool, "My Tree Counts". Using a story map format, tree planting projects across the State are highlighted with this new tool. The "My Tree Counts" webpage can be found <a href="here">here</a>.

#### 2021 PDC WIP Deliverables

- Ms. Joyce reviewed the deliverables for the current year which are grouped into 4 categories of actions:
  - 1. Facilitating the WIP program with local and regional partners.
  - 2. Serving as a liaison and meeting reporting requirements with DEQ.



- 3. Working on regionally specific initiatives including assisting with tree planting projects, creating model language for local comprehensive plans, identify regional projects compatible with NFWF funding opportunities, and connecting localities with other mitigation funding sources that support BMP implementation and flood prevention.
- 4. Optional activities such as compiling GIS shape files, grant assistance, and creating a local water quality policy "toolbox".

# **Hazard Mitigation Plan and Flood Grants**

- Ms. Joyce relayed to the group that the Hazard Mitigation Plan had been completed and would go to the local jurisdictions for adoption later in the Spring.
- She also mentioned there are funding opportunities through the Federal Emergency Management Agency and the State of Virginia for flood mitigation that allow for storm water improvements including the FEMA Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities Program and the State's new Community Flood Preparedness Fund.

# **Community Updates**

- Ms. Joyce 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.
- David Brotman, Friends of the North Fork of the Shenandoah River mentioned that they had hired a new volunteer coordinator. He also mentioned that their volunteers could do plantings and maintenance. Their organization wants to fill the role of convener.
- **Keith Thomas, City of Harrisonburg** stated the City is continuing its stream restoration work and is busy getting easements.
- Sara Bottenfield, DEQ told the group that they are requesting citizen nominations for water quality monitoring. She also mentioned the Highland County fuel tanker spill that occurred last month.
- Peter Kesecker, City of Staunton let the group know that the engineers that conducted a
  flood study for the City would be announcing their recommendations in May. He also
  mentioned that the Gypsy Hill stream restoration project for Gum Springs is currently on
  hold.
- Morgan Shrewsbury, Augusta County mentioned that the County is working on a stream restoration project, their tmdl action plan, a pedestrian project in Verona, a stream remediation project in Dooms and a dam remediation project.

## VIII. Adjourn

• With no other business, the meeting was adjourned.