



**CSPDC Chesapeake Bay TMDL
Watershed Implementation Plan
Stakeholder Meeting**

December 7, 2022 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

Via Zoom Video Conference Call

Meeting Summary

In attendance:

David Hirschman, NFWF Liaison	Hunter Moore, CSPDC
Sandra Stuart, NBSWCD	Rebecca Joyce, CSPDC
Morgan Shrewsbury, Augusta County	Sara Jordan, DEQ
Doug Wolfe, Augusta County	Tom Roberts, City of Buena Vista
Adam Schellhammer, VCC	Arne Glaeser, City of Lexington
Dale Chestnut, JMU	Kent O’Donohue, Town of Bridgewater
Fred Blanton, Lewis Creek WAC	

Welcome and Introductions

- Hunter Moore welcomed everyone and thanked them for joining. She asked the group to introduce themselves.

NFWF Chesapeake Bay Stewardship Funds

- **David Hirschman, NFWF Field Liaison**

- Dave gave an overview of the different grant programs for NFWF Chesapeake Bay Stewardship funds: Innovative Nutrient & Sediment Reduction (INSR), Small Watershed – Implementation, and Small Watershed – Planning & Technical Assistance. He discussed the different award amounts, match requirements, and RFP release dates for these grants.
- With the infrastructure bill, there is more funding in these grant programs, which also allows for match requirements to be lower.
- Dave also discussed a new grant program called Chesapeake WILD, which is focused on conserving fish and wildlife habitats.



- Dave shared about the benefits of partnerships for applications, selecting the best grant categories, and a couple grant scenarios.
- Tom asked about stream restoration projects. Stream restoration projects can get scrutiny due to low community engagement, project size and cost.
- Sandra asked about whether an invasive plant removal project along Woods Creek would be eligible for funding. The project also involves a small dam. Dave suggested bundling the dam removal with the invasives work. If the project could also involve aquatic organism passage, that would be a benefit. Chesapeake WILD may be a possibility for funding.
- Fred asked about involving multiple partners in the Staunton – Augusta area on a project and the best approach for NFWF funding. Overlapping projects and partnerships are encouraged. One approach would be to first apply for the PTA grant, to help with the planning process. If successful, then the group can apply for implementation funding.
- Kent asked about the definition of ‘small watershed’ and the eligibility for MS4 to apply. There is not a definition for a small watershed. Regulated localities can apply but are encouraged to show citizen engagement and going above and beyond MS4 compliance. Kent also asked about the Town doing the project design in-house and timing of application. One cannot apply after a project is complete. Awards are usually announced in Spring but contracts are not finalized until the following Winter. During this period, reimbursements are allowed.
- Sandra asked if the Natural Bridge State Park friends group (a non-profit) would be eligible to apply for Chesapeake WILD. Dave confirmed that this group would be eligible to apply.
- The RFP for the SWG grant is expected to come out in February or March of 2023.

CSPDC WIP Program Update

- Hunter gave an update on recent WIP activities. The PDC hosted the Home Green Home virtual workshop of Nov 15th. 39 people registered and 24 actually attended. Overall, the PDC was pleased with the turnout and interest in the workshop. Adam Schellhammer with VCC and Rich Wood with Headwaters SWCD presented on ways you can make your home and yard more environmentally friendly. The recording and slides are available to share and the PDC hopes to continue similar workshops for 2023. Adam added that Rich had great examples and photos of the changes he has done to his own yard.
- This month, Hunter and Rebecca are wrapping up any remaining deliverables. Rebecca is finishing a small Environmental Justice plan and that will be submitted with the final reports that are due to DEQ at the end of December.
- The 2023 WIP contract between DEQ and the CSPDC was recently finalized and executed.
- Back in October, all Bay-PDCs involved with WIP met with DEQ. DEQ gave an overview of the State’s WIP progress and discussed 2023 scopes of work. Overall, the Bay has



improved and WIP progress has been made; however, the 2025 goals are not expected to be met.

- DEQ is encouraging all PDCs' WIP programs to focus more on BMP implementation activities, and less on education for 2023. Hunter and Rebecca plan to reach out to unregulated localities to schedule individual meetings in early 2023 to discuss the WIP program, BMP implementation, potential projects and how the CSPDC can assist them.
- With extra meetings planned with localities, the CSPDC will have less stakeholder meetings for 2023. The CSPDC will continue to keep partners and other stakeholder in the loop and will reach out for possible project collaboration.

Community Updates

- There were no community updates.

VIII. Adjourn

- With no other business, the meeting was adjourned.