



**Chesapeake Bay Program**  
**SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**  
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July 26, 2016

RE: STAC Proprietary BMPs Workshop Report

Nicholas DiPasquale, Chair, Chesapeake Bay Program Management Board  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
410 Severn Avenue, Suite 109  
Annapolis, MD 21403

Cc: Management Board; Water Quality Goal Implementation Team; Local Government Advisory Committee; Urban Stormwater Workgroup; Watershed Technical Workgroup; Land Use Workgroup.

Dear Mr. DiPasquale,

Please see the attached STAC workshop report entitled, "Evaluating Proprietary BMPs: Is it Time for a State, Regional, or National Program?" This report provides a summary of STAC's March 24, 2015 workshop and includes specific recommendations identified by workshop attendees.

The purpose of this workshop was to address the need for an evaluation program for structural or proprietary Best Management Practices (BMPs) in the Chesapeake Bay watershed (CBW). Nutrient and sediment reductions are usually met through a set of nonproprietary or conventional BMPs for stormwater treatment for which expected performance has been established through research and monitoring. Manufactured treatment devices (MTDs), structural BMPs most often used to treat runoff from ultra-urban or high density developments, can be a cost-effective alternative to traditional nonproprietary BMPs. The Chesapeake Bay Program (CBP) does not currently provide water quality credit for MTDs in modeling TMDL (Total Maximum Daily Load) attainment. Despite the lack of credit, thousands of MTDs have been installed throughout the watershed. A challenge exists in balancing the need to monitor and verify the nutrient and sediment removal performance of MTDs with the need to establish a process that continues to encourage innovation and MTD product development.

Workshop participants identified a set of 6 recommendations for establishing a Chesapeake Bay-wide MTD evaluation program. These recommendations propose that due to water quality goals associated with the Chesapeake Bay TMDL, the CBP – specifically an expert panel of the Urban Stormwater Workgroup (USWG) – may provide an excellent venue for such an evaluation program. The goals of this effort will be to develop a protocol that balances the need for verified performance with the need for innovation, and an administrative program that can implement it within the CBW states and District of Columbia. The recommendations can be summarized broadly below:

- A Chesapeake Bay-wide MTD evaluation protocol (Chesapeake Bay Technology Assessment Protocol or “CBTAP”) should be developed and adopted; the workshop recommends using the Virginia Technology Assessment Protocol (VTAP) as a starting point.
- An expert advisory panel, composed of members of the various MTD sectors including industry, regulators, consultants, academics, and Non-Government Organizations (NGOs), should determine the ultimate protocol and programmatic scope in administering CBTAP.
- It is recommended that the Panel be formed by fall 2016, and complete its recommendations by August of 2017, so that approval of recommended water quality performance credits through CBTAP may be integrated into the Chesapeake Bay Watershed Model (CBWM) as soon as practical.

We hope the Management Board, Goal Implementation Teams, and various workgroups find these workshop recommendations to be useful, and we look forward to your feedback. STAC respectfully requests a written response to the workshop findings and recommendations from the CBP Management Board Chair by October 26, 2016.

Please direct any questions you may have about this report and its recommendations to Rachel Dixon, the Chesapeake Bay Program’s Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee Coordinator, David Sample at Virginia Tech, and Normand Goulet at the Northern Virginia Regional Commission.

On behalf of the entire STAC, thank you again for considering these recommended next steps, and we look forward to working with you closely on this in the future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Lisa Wainger', with a stylized, cursive script.

Lisa Wainger  
Chair, Chesapeake Bay Program's Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee