



# Evaluating Phosphorus Index Effectiveness within the Chesapeake Bay Watershed

## FY08 Workshop Proposal

Submitted by the Chesapeake Bay Program's  
Nutrient Subcommittee and Agricultural Nutrient  
and Sediment Reduction Workgroup



# Topic Selection

- Project list developed by AgNSRWG members
- Input from AgNSRWG, NSC, CBPO, CRC, STAC



# Workshop Steering Committee

- **David Kindig**- AgNSRWG Chair, VA DCR
- **Mark Dubin**- AgNSRWG Coordinator, UMD
- **Sally Bradley**- Nutrient Subcommittee Staff, CRC
- **Kelly Shenk**- EPA CBPO
- **Daphne Pee**- Regional Coordinator, MAWP
- **Dave Hanson**- STAC Representative, UDel

\* The Steering Committee will be expanded to include additional members if this proposal is funded



# Topic Background

## ■ P Index

- Assesses the potential risk of P movement to surface water sources (intended to be a relative ranking, not a prediction of actual movement)
- Uses site specific characteristics and value categories
- Creates a decision matrix to assess risk and management options

## ■ Differences between P Index applications among CBP partners

## ■ Concern that soil P levels continue to increase, despite widespread implementation of P-based nutrient planning using P index tools



# Workshop Objectives

- Evaluate the effectiveness of P Index tools
- Evaluate the trends in soil phosphorus levels and water quality impacts
- Compare the P Index tools being implemented in the Bay watershed
  - Go beyond evaluating differences- review and understand how these tools are used



# Anticipated Audience

\*Persons involved with nutrient management planning and programs

## ■ Participants

- Federal agencies
- State agencies
- County conservation district staff
- Non-profit organizations
- Private sector consultants
- Agricultural industry representatives

## ■ Speakers

- University and USDA-ARS soil scientists
- USDA-NRCS agronomists
- USGS hydrologists
- State nutrient management program representatives
- Private consultants
- Agricultural industry representatives



# Workshop Details

- **Date:** Early November 2008
- **Number of participants:** 50-100 individuals
- **Location:** Centralized watershed location
  - Frederick or Hagerstown (MD)
  - Chambersburg or Gettysburg (PA)
- **Schedule:** Two-day workshop
  - Day 1- General forum session
  - Day 2- Committee type session
- **Product:** Workshop proceedings and recommendations



# Cost Estimate

## ■ Budget

- Facility rental
- Catering
- Registration activities
- Steering committee and speaker expenses
- Publication of the proceedings

## ■ Request: \$10,000

\*Additional funds may be provided by other workshop partners if needed



# Workshop Partners

- UMD-Mid-Atlantic Water Program
  - In-Kind
  - Financial Support Possible
  
- Environmental Defense
  - In-Kind