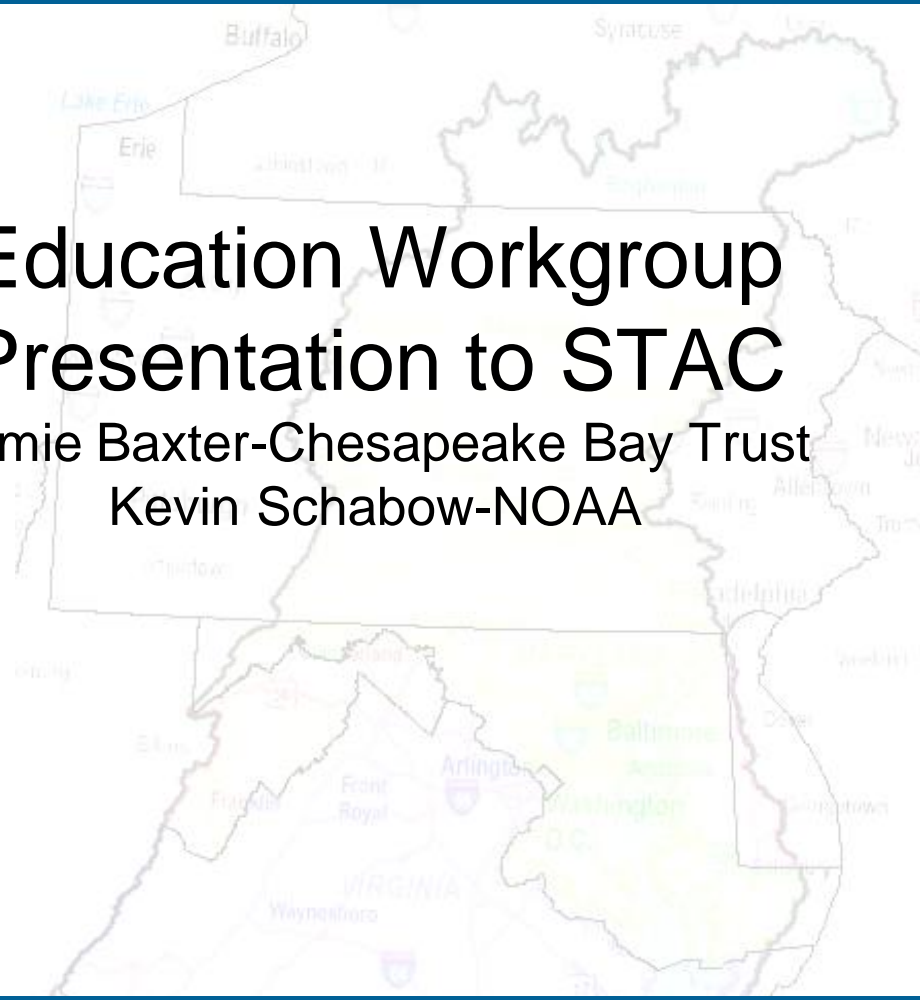




Education Workgroup Presentation to STAC

Jamie Baxter-Chesapeake Bay Trust
Kevin Schabow-NOAA




March 27, 2012

CBP Education at a Glance-1998

1998 Education Directive

Chesapeake Bay Program Education Initiative



Chesapeake Bay Program

Chesapeake Executive Council
DECEMBER 8, 1998
DIRECTIVE NO 98-1

Chesapeake Bay Program Education Initiative

The future well-being of North America's largest and most productive estuary, the Chesapeake Bay, its thousands of tributaries and its 64,000 square miles of watershed will soon rest in the hands of its youngest citizens. These citizens, three million strong in kindergarten through 12th grade, are tomorrow's leaders. They also will be the stewards of the Bay's precious resources including its [fish, crabs and oysters, forests and wetlands](#).

As the [Chesapeake Bay Program](#) partnership, we acknowledge our responsibility to ensure that these future caretakers receive the knowledge and understanding necessary for them to make informed and intelligent decisions relative to their own actions and the actions of others who affect the Bay system. We acknowledge our duty to impart to these young people a sense of individual responsibility and our hope that they develop the skills to form a personal ethic regarding the natural world. Further, we acknowledge that the Chesapeake Bay, its rivers and its watershed provide an authentic, locally-relevant source of environmental information and data that should be used to help advance student learning skills and problem-solving abilities across the entire school curriculum.

Today, throughout the Chesapeake region, the Departments of Education and the many outstanding private environmental organizations in the region offer excellent programs that connect education and the environment. Examples include rigorous watershed, water resource and Bay-related learning standards in educational systems; professional development opportunities for teachers; opportunities for students to

- Recognized role education plays in restoration
- Established education workgroup
- Encourages states to summarize CB education programs



CBP Education at a Glance-C2K

C2K Keystone “MWEE” Commitment



Chesapeake Bay Program Education Workgroup

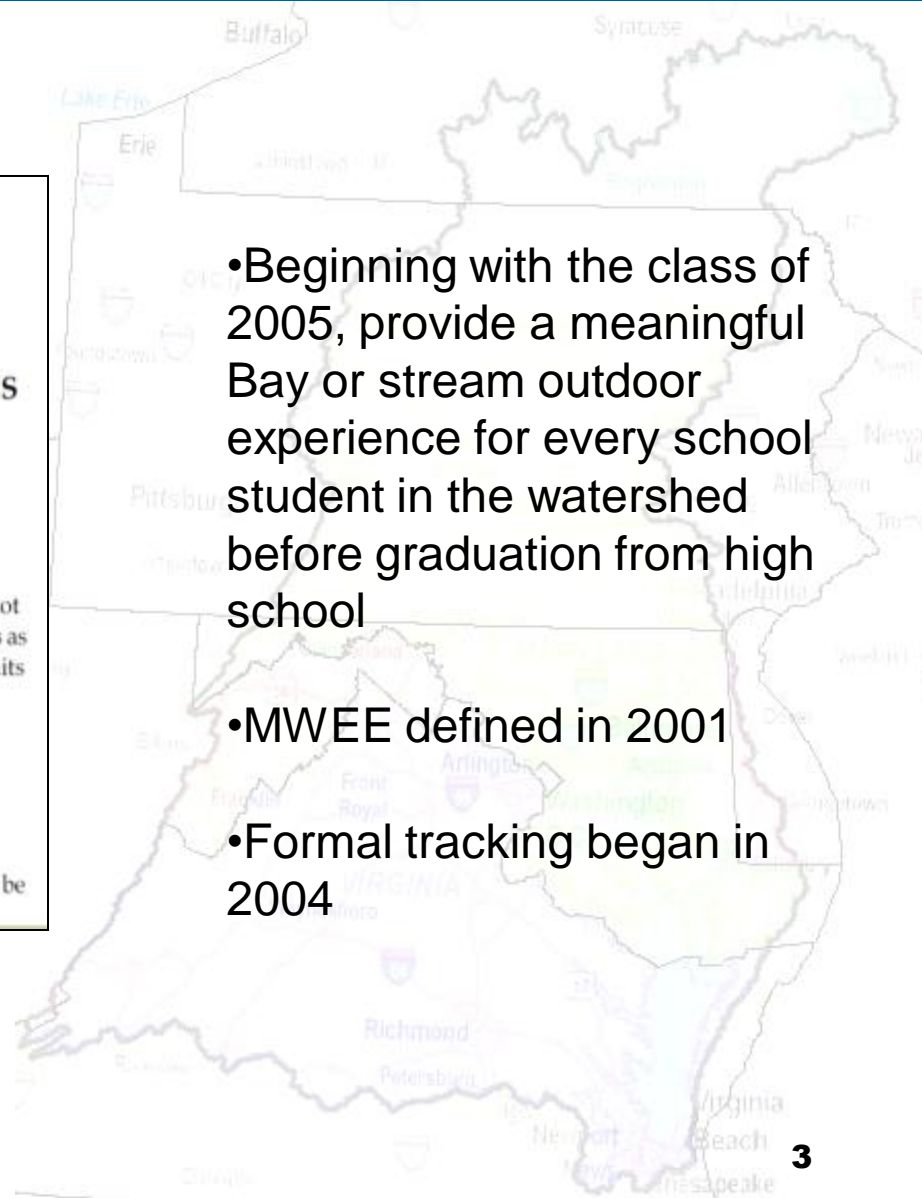
STEWARDSHIP AND MEANINGFUL WATERSHED EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCES

The “Stewardship and Community Engagement” Commitment of the *Chesapeake 2000* agreement clearly focuses on connecting individuals and groups to the Bay through their shared sense of responsibility and action. The goal of this Commitment, included below, not only defines the role of the jurisdictions to *promote* and *assist*, but formally engages schools as integral partners to *undertake initiatives* in helping to meet the Agreement. This goal commits to:

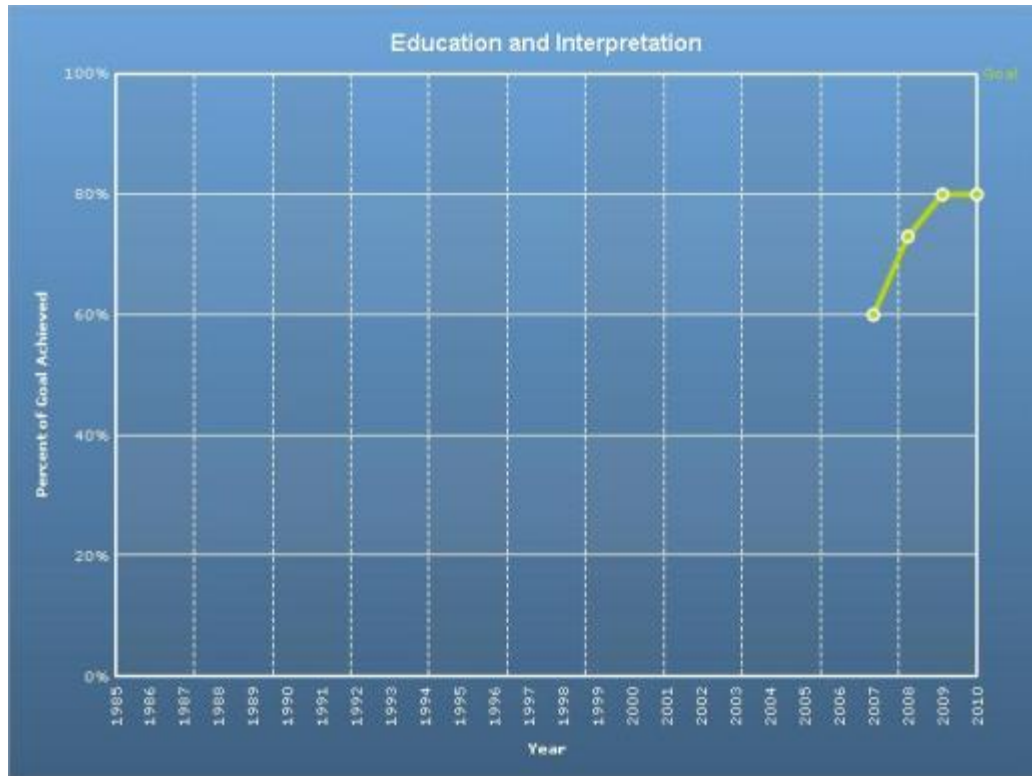
Promote individual stewardship and assist individuals, community-based organizations, businesses, local governments and schools to undertake initiatives to achieve the goals and commitments of this agreement.

Similarly, two objectives developed as part of this goal describe more specific outcomes to be achieved by the jurisdictions in promoting stewardship and assisting schools. These are:

- Beginning with the class of 2005, provide a meaningful Bay or stream outdoor experience for every school student in the watershed before graduation from high school
- MWEE defined in 2001
- Formal tracking began in 2004

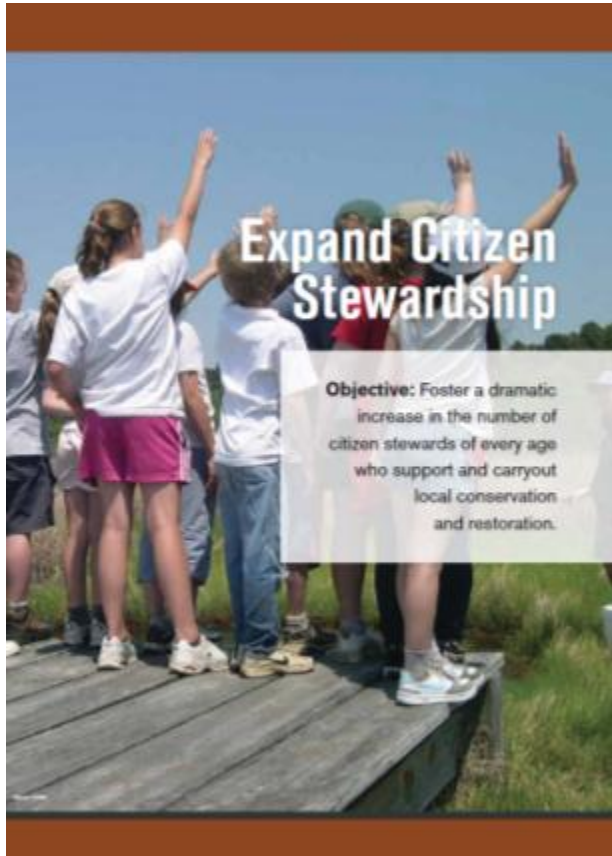


Monitoring Progress

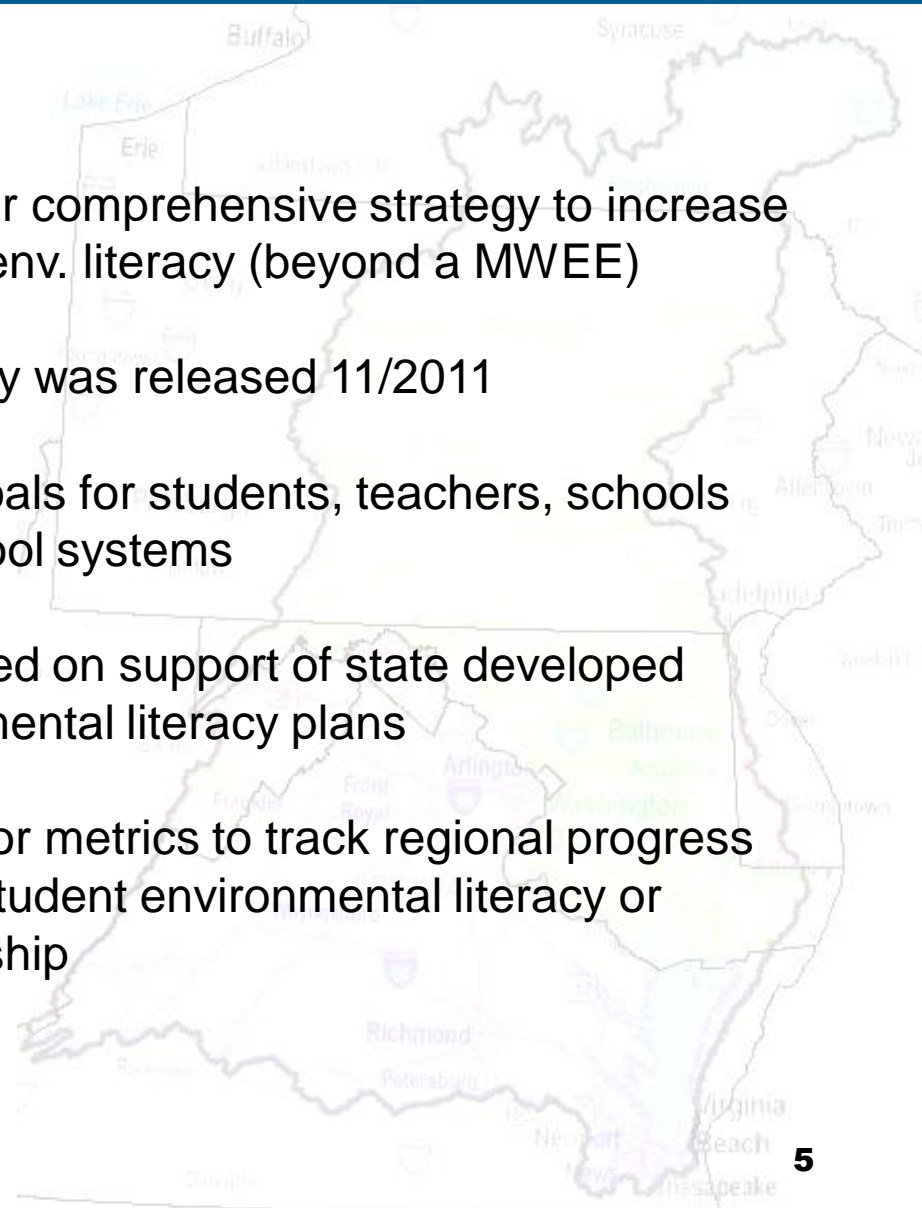


- Tracking not done in uniform manner
- Only field experience is reported
- Recognized that one field experience can't be only indicator for increased stewardship
- Actual evaluation of stewardship levels cost prohibitive but is being done at national scale (NELA)

E.O. 13508-Renewed commitment, expanded scope



- Calls for comprehensive strategy to increase student env. literacy (beyond a MWEE)
- Strategy was released 11/2011
- Sets goals for students, teachers, schools and school systems
- Focused on support of state developed environmental literacy plans
- Calls for metrics to track regional progress toward student environmental literacy or stewardship



Workshop Proposal

- Research Symposium on environmental education best practices
 - Focus on practices which lead to stewardship outcomes
- Working session with states to integrate proceedings with implementation and tracking
- Products:
 - Workshop proceedings
 - Best practices document
 - New education metrics for region
 - Consistent tracking techniques



Near Term Application

- **Pennsylvania** – just released draft Env. Literacy plan, green schools priority
- **Maryland** – new High School Graduation Requirement in Env. Literacy
- **District of Columbia** – Healthy Schools Act implementation
- **Virginia** – expanding Env. Education through science standards reform

