





The workshop depended on a lot of intense work in breakout groups to allow participants time to talk



- Session 1: solutions to barriers
  - What are key barriers to getting buffers on the ground and why?
  - What solutions do you see?
- Session 2: key steps to implement the solutions
  - What are key barriers to getting buffers on the ground and why?
  - What solutions do you see?
- Case study session:
  - Examples where multifunctional buffers are working.
  - What can we learn?

# Preliminary findings: multi-functional buffers key part of the solution; working together = critical



- Timing of discussion critical given WIP III, 2025 deadline
- Multi-functional approach allows for local & Bay goals
- Economics key— need viable farms
  - diversifying crops/outputs
  - protecting against loss (flood)
- # of practical considerations
  - Needs of landowner (farm, urban)
  - Buffer as part of larger system (uplands also critical)
  - One size does not fit all: niche crops, biomass production, conventional ag
  - Local markets, options for outputs
  - Maintenance, operation



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FEATURED

# Stream Buffers Make Financial Sense

Philip Gruber Nov 30, 2018 Updated Nov 30, 2018




Mill Creek flows through a riparian buffer on the Mahlon Stoltzfus farm in New Holland, Pennsylvania. Trees and shrubs along stream banks prevent erosion and shade the water.

Photo by Philip Gruber

## Article about workshop published last week

[https://www.lancasterfarming.com/farm\\_life/conservation/stream-buffers-make-financial-sense/article\\_1c024bbe-db50-5971-9926-541fcb9b075d.html](https://www.lancasterfarming.com/farm_life/conservation/stream-buffers-make-financial-sense/article_1c024bbe-db50-5971-9926-541fcb9b075d.html)

# Next: STAC report to synthesize workshop results; presentations already online



The screenshot shows the STAC website header with the logo and navigation menu. The main content area features a title, a paragraph of text, a map of the Chesapeake Bay region, and a list of four workshop objectives. Below this are three columns: 'Location and Lodging', 'Registration', and 'Sponsorship'.

**stac** Chesapeake Bay Program's  
**Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee**

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### Establishment of Multifunctional Riparian Buffers: How do we accelerate the path to 95,000+ acres with the greatest economic, social and environmental impact?

The goal of this workshop is to accelerate the establishment of riparian buffers in the Chesapeake Bay watershed to meet environmental goals with minimal government subsidies. To accelerate the establishment of effective buffers, STAC and others need to understand the state of knowledge on buffers, engage stakeholders around the current science, and create a roadmap to guide future buffer planning. To achieve this, we will explore a market-based approach for multifunctional buffers, targeting opportunities to improve water quality alongside farm profitability and other benefits. The workshop will address the following:

- 1) Understand how farmer preferences and practices can align with industry needs in the Chesapeake Bay regional bioeconomy
- 2) Examine how scientific knowledge on the economic and environmental benefits of multifunctional buffers be successfully leveraged to encourage farmer buy-in
- 3) Identify solutions to barriers in building a robust bioeconomy in the Chesapeake Bay
- 4) Understand all additional environmental, social and economic benefits multifunctional buffers provide: e.g. flood mitigation, farm profitability and wildlife habitat: and how to communicate these to stakeholders



**Location and Lodging**  
When: November 13, 2018 -November 14, 2018  
Where: Dixon University Center  
2986 North Second Street  
Harrisburg, PA  
717-720-4080

**Registration**  
Registration is currently closed. If you have any questions, please contact [STAC Staff](#)

**Questions?**  
[Lara Fowler](#), Workshop Lead  
[Lara Fowler](#), STAC Representative  
[Annabelle Harvey](#), STAC Staff

**Sponsorship**

- Follow up info already distributed to participants
- Workshop leads: Penn State grad students Veronika Vazhnik and Stephanie Herbstritt
- Big thanks to STAC staff (Rachel Dixon & Annabelle Harvey)
- Questions?
  - Lara Fowler: [lbf10@psu.edu](mailto:lbf10@psu.edu)

-  [91\\_DCNR Case Study\\_Coulter.pdf](#)
-  [91\\_FDC Case Study\\_Circle.pdf](#)
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