



Chesapeake Bay Program's (CBP)
Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee (STAC)
Quarterly Meeting – June 14-15, 2022
Hybrid Meeting: Lancaster, PA: Cork Factory
[Zoom Registration](#)

****Exact Times Are Subject to Change****

Tuesday, June 14th

- 9:30 am** **Coffee & Light Breakfast (Provided)**
- 10:00 am** **Call to Order, STAC Business, Announcements** — *Kathy Boomer (STAC Chair – FFAR)*
- Introductions
 - Recap of STAC March 2022 Quarterly Meeting
 - Update to WQGIT BMP Review Protocol Revisions
 - Approval Requests:
 - Review and Approval of the Consent Agenda
 - March 2022 Quarterly Meeting Minutes
 - March – June Executive Board Meeting Minutes
 - CBP Management Board Announcements
 - Member Announcements and Updates
 - Comprehensive Evaluation of System Response (CESR) update
- 10:30 am** **Quarterly Meeting Overview**— *Kathy Boomer (FFAR)*
- 10:45 am** **Chesapeake Conservation Corps Overview** — *Rebecca Lauver (Alliance)*
Rebecca Lauver is the current PA Forest Project Coordinator with the Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay in Lancaster, PA. She started working for the Alliance during a one-year position through Chesapeake Conservation Corps. She joined the Alliance's forest team as a full time staff member in August of 2021 and now creates tree planting plans, helps to lead tree planting maintenance, and coordinates several volunteer opportunities and programs.
- 11:15 am** **STAR's Role in the SRS and SSRF Processes** — *Breck Sullivan (USGS)*
- 11:45 am** **Lunch (Provided)**
- 12:30 pm** **Science Needs of the Chesapeake Bay Program: Stewardship Outcome** — *Breck Sullivan (USGS), Outcome Leads*
The Stewardship Outcome includes the public access, diversity, and stewardship goals. The Cohort identifies factors influencing science during the Strategy Review System and updates their science needs as part of the Strategic Science and Research Framework. The CBP Science Needs Database can be found [here](#) and details on each outcome are listed and linked [here](#).
- 1:00 pm** **Relating Science Needs to Single, Double, Triple Loop Learning Discussion** — *Kathy Boomer (FFAR), Denice Wardrop (CRC), Mike Runge (USGS)*

- 1:30 pm** **PA in the Balance: Focus on Lancaster —**
Allyson Gibson (Lancaster Clean Water Partners)
 Introduction to Lancaster and its importance to soil health. Discussion of demographic challenges and opportunities, as well as current strategies to address concerns.
- 2:00 pm** **(Optional) Group Field trip**
 An optional field trip to visit sites where soil health is the focus: **Bottom Line Ag Supply LLC** and **Cedar Meadow Farm**. Transportation is provided.
- **Bottom Line Ag Supply LLC** (825 Strasburg Pike)
 - **Cedar Meadow Farm** (535 Drytown Rd, Holtwood, PA 17532)
- 5:30 pm** **Recess**
- 6:30 pm** **Dinner (informal gatherings)**

Wednesday, June 15th:

- 8:30 am** **Coffee & Light Breakfast (Provided)**
- 9:00 am** **Soil Health 101 and Its Relevance to CBP/STAC —** *Kathy Boomer (STAC Chair – FFAR)*
- Explore healthy agriculture through soil health as essential component of CBP Framework for securing “an environmentally and economically sustainable Chesapeake Bay watershed with clean water, abundant life, conserved lands and access to the water, a vibrant cultural heritage and a diversity of engaged citizens and stakeholders.” (Chesapeake Bay Agreement 2014) (Triple-, Double-Loop Learning Opportunity).
 - Explore uncertainties that challenge soil health management and associated priority research areas likely strategic for bringing federal funds to the Bay watershed (e.g., federal commitment to Climate Smart Ag and Development) (Single-Loop Learning Opportunity)
- 9:30 am** **Panel: Stakeholder Perspectives Related to Soil Health —**
 Panel discussion followed by a Q&A session.
Matthew Ehrhart (Stroud Water Research Center)
Alex Echols (The Campbell Foundation)
Jim Hershey (No-Till Alliance)
Brian Campbell (TNC, PA Chapter)
Mike Twining (Willard Agri-Service)
- 10:30 am** **Break**
- 10:45am** **Panel: Science Perspectives on the Opportunities, Challenges and Uncertainties to Advancing Soil Health —**
 Panel discussion followed by a Q&A session.
Nathan Lowder (NRCS Regional Soil Health Specialist)
Curtis Dell (USDA ARS at PSU)
Ken Staver (UMD)
Amy Shober (UD)
Peter Landschoot (PSU)

11:45 am **Break**

11:50 am **Small Group Break-Out Discussion**

Discussion of next steps to ensure soil health receives the appropriate amount of consideration and attention within the Bay Program management. Report-out for ten minutes following break outs.

- Reflections on importance of healthy agriculture through soil health to the Chesapeake Bay Program's mission
- Key concerns, information needs to determine urgency or need for STAC action on advancing healthy agriculture through soil health.
- Next step recommendations

12:30 pm **Lunch (Provided)**

1:15 pm **Adjourn**