



## **Chesapeake Bay Program**

*40 years of science, restoration and partnership.*

## **Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments Chesapeake Bay and Water Resources Policy Committee**

**Martha Shimkin, Deputy Director  
EPA Chesapeake Bay Program  
May 19, 2023**

### The Chesapeake Bay Agreement of 1983

We recognize that the findings of the Chesapeake Bay Program have shown an historical decline in the living resources of the Chesapeake Bay and that a cooperative approach is needed among the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the State of Maryland, the Commonwealths of Pennsylvania and Virginia, and the District of Columbia (the States) to fully address the extent, complexity, and sources of pollutants entering the Bay. We further recognize that EPA and the States share the responsibility for management decisions and resources regarding the high priority issues of the Chesapeake Bay.

Accordingly, the States and EPA agree to the following actions:

1. A Chesapeake Executive Council will be established which will meet at least twice yearly to assess and oversee the implementation of coordinated plans to improve and protect the water quality and living resources of the Chesapeake Bay estuarine system. The Council will consist of the appropriate Cabinet designees of the Governors and the Mayor of the District of Columbia and the Regional Administrator of EPA. The Council will be initially chaired by EPA and will report annually to the signatories of this Agreement.
2. The Chesapeake Executive Council will establish an implementation committee of agency representatives who will meet as needed to coordinate technical matters and to coordinate the development and evaluation of management plans. The Council may appoint such ex officio nonvoting members as deemed appropriate.
3. A liaison office for Chesapeake Bay activities will be established at EPA's Central Regional Laboratory in Annapolis, Maryland, to advise and support the Council and committee.

Signed this 9th Day of December, 1983

 <i>Charles L. Robb</i> Governor Commonwealth of Virginia	 <i>M. Anthony</i> Mayor District of Columbia
 <i>Harry Hughes</i> Governor State of Maryland	 <i>Joseph H. Hartman</i> Chairman Chesapeake Bay Commission
 <i>Robert P. Letcher</i> Governor Commonwealth of Pennsylvania	 <i>William D. Ruckelshaus</i> Administrator Environmental Protection Agency



2 0 1 4

As amended, October 5, 2022



## VITAL HABITATS

<b>Black Duck Outcome</b>	 RECENT PROGRESS <b>INCREASE</b> <i>Updated November 2022</i>	 OUTLOOK <b>UNCERTAIN</b> <i>Updated November 2022</i>	
<b>Brook Trout Outcome</b>	 RECENT PROGRESS <b>NO CHANGE</b> <i>Updated September 2019</i>	 OUTLOOK <b>OFF COURSE</b> <i>Updated November 2021</i>	
<b>Fish Passage Outcome</b>	 RECENT PROGRESS <b>INCREASE</b> <i>Updated August 2021</i>	 OUTLOOK <b>ON COURSE</b> <i>Updated November 2021</i>	
<b>Forest Buffers Outcome</b>	 RECENT PROGRESS <b>INCREASE</b> <i>Updated March 2023</i>	 OUTLOOK <b>OFF COURSE</b> <i>Updated March 2023</i>	
<b>Stream Health Outcome</b>	 RECENT PROGRESS <b>NO CHANGE</b> <i>Updated March 2018</i>	 OUTLOOK <b>UNCERTAIN</b> <i>Updated November 2021</i>	
<b>Submerged Aquatic Vegetation (SAV) Outcome</b>	 RECENT PROGRESS <b>INCREASE</b> <i>Updated July 2022</i>	 OUTLOOK <b>OFF COURSE</b> <i>Updated July 2022</i>	
<b>Tree Canopy Outcome</b>	 RECENT PROGRESS <b>DECREASE</b> <i>Updated February 2023</i>	 OUTLOOK <b>OFF COURSE</b> <i>Updated February 2023</i>	
<b>Wetlands Outcome</b>	 RECENT PROGRESS <b>INCREASE</b> <i>Updated November 2022</i>	 OUTLOOK <b>OFF COURSE</b> <i>Updated November 2022</i>	



## SUSTAINABLE FISHERIES

### Blue Crab Abundance Outcome



RECENT PROGRESS  
**DECREASE**

*Updated August 2022*



OUTLOOK  
**ON COURSE**

*Updated August 2022*



[Visit Blue Crab Abundance](#)

### Blue Crab Management Outcome



RECENT PROGRESS  
**NO CHANGE**

*Updated August 2022*



OUTLOOK  
**COMPLETED**

*Updated August 2022*



### Fish Habitat Outcome



RECENT PROGRESS  
**INCREASE**

*Updated April 2018*



OUTLOOK  
**ON COURSE**

*Updated November 2021*



### Forage Fish Outcome



RECENT PROGRESS  
**INCREASE**

*Updated April 2018*



OUTLOOK  
**ON COURSE**

*Updated November 2021*



### Oysters Outcome



RECENT PROGRESS  
**INCREASE**

*Updated July 2022*



OUTLOOK  
**ON COURSE**

*Updated July 2022*





## WATER QUALITY

**2017 Watershed Implementation Plans (WIPs) Outcome**



RECENT PROGRESS  
**COMPLETED**

*Updated November 2021*



OUTLOOK  
**COMPLETED**

*Updated November 2021*



**2025 Watershed Implementation Plans (WIPs) Outcome**



RECENT PROGRESS  
**INCREASE**

*Updated June 2022*



OUTLOOK  
**OFF COURSE**

*Updated June 2022*



**Water Quality Standards Attainment and Monitoring Outcome**



RECENT PROGRESS  
**MIXED**

*Updated September 2022*



OUTLOOK  
**OFF COURSE**

*Updated September 2022*



## TOXIC CONTAMINANTS

**Toxic Contaminants Research Outcome**



RECENT PROGRESS  
**INCREASE**

*Updated November 2022*



OUTLOOK  
**OFF COURSE**

*Updated November 2022*



**Toxic Contaminants Policy and Prevention Outcome**



RECENT PROGRESS  
**DECREASE**

*Updated August 2022*



OUTLOOK  
**OFF COURSE**

*Updated August 2022*



## HEALTHY WATERSHEDS

**Healthy Watersheds Outcome**



RECENT PROGRESS  
**NO CHANGE**

*Updated April 2018*



OUTLOOK  
**UNCERTAIN**

*Updated November 2021*





## ENVIRONMENTAL LITERACY

**Environmental Literacy Planning Outcome**



RECENT PROGRESS  
**INCREASE**

*Updated October 2020*



OUTLOOK  
**UNCERTAIN**

*Updated May 2022*



**Student Outcome**



RECENT PROGRESS  
**NO CHANGE**

*Updated October 2020*



OUTLOOK  
**UNCERTAIN**

*Updated May 2022*



**Sustainable Schools Outcome**



RECENT PROGRESS  
**DECREASE**

*Updated June 2022*



OUTLOOK  
**ON COURSE**

*Updated June 2022*



## STEWARDSHIP

**Stewardship Outcome**



RECENT PROGRESS  
**NO CHANGE**

*Updated April 2018*



OUTLOOK  
**UNCERTAIN**

*Updated February 2022*



**Diversity Outcome**



RECENT PROGRESS  
**NO CHANGE**

*Updated January 2023*



OUTLOOK  
**UNCERTAIN**

*Updated January 2023*



**Local Leadership Outcome**



RECENT PROGRESS  
**INCREASE**

*Updated February 2023*



OUTLOOK  
**ON COURSE**

*Updated February 2023*





## PUBLIC ACCESS

**Public Access Site Development Outcome**



RECENT PROGRESS  
**INCREASE**

*Updated September 2022*



OUTLOOK  
**ON COURSE**

*Updated September 2022*



## ENVIRONMENTAL LITERACY

**Environmental Literacy Planning Outcome**



RECENT PROGRESS  
**INCREASE**

*Updated October 2020*



OUTLOOK  
**UNCERTAIN**

*Updated May 2022*



**Student Outcome**



RECENT PROGRESS  
**NO CHANGE**

*Updated October 2020*



OUTLOOK  
**UNCERTAIN**

*Updated May 2022*



**Sustainable Schools Outcome**



RECENT PROGRESS  
**DECREASE**

*Updated June 2022*



OUTLOOK  
**ON COURSE**

*Updated June 2022*



## CLIMATE RESILIENCY

**Climate Adaptation Outcome**



RECENT PROGRESS  
**INCREASE**

*Updated November 2022*



OUTLOOK  
**UNCERTAIN**

*Updated November 2022*



**Climate Monitoring and Assessment Outcome**



RECENT PROGRESS  
**INCREASE**

*Updated November 2022*



OUTLOOK  
**ON COURSE**

*Updated November 2022*



# Executive Council Charge

## **Chesapeake Bay Program Partnership**

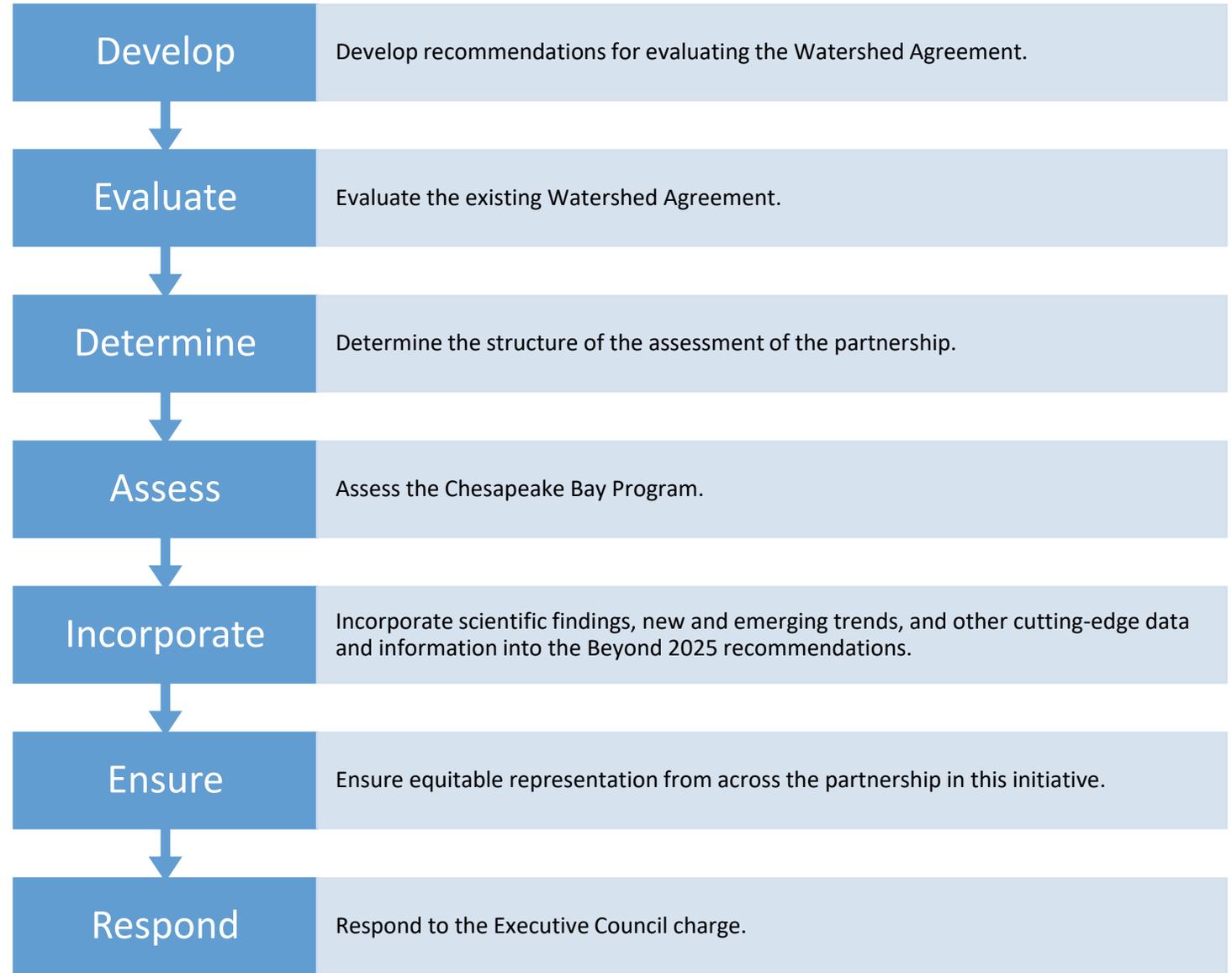
### **Executive Council Charge to the Principals' Staff Committee: Charting a Course to 2025 and Beyond**

**Adopted October 11, 2022**

As the Chesapeake Bay Program (CBP) partnership nears the 2025 date that the partnership set for several of the goals and outcomes under the Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement (Watershed Agreement), there are many successes to celebrate. At the same time, emerging issues and changing conditions (e.g., climate change, growth, new scientific data) have impacted the levels of effort needed to meet our collective restoration priorities. We, as a partnership, remain committed to using the best available science in restoring the Chesapeake Bay as we accelerate toward the deadline and anticipate continued progress post-2025.

Thus, this Executive Council charges the Principals' Staff Committee (PSC) in recommending a critical path forward that prioritizes and outlines the next steps for meeting the goals and outcomes of the Watershed Agreement leading up to and beyond 2025. The PSC is to report back to the Executive Council at our 2023 annual meeting with recommendations on how to best address and integrate new science and restoration strategies leading up to 2025. At our 2024 annual meeting, the PSC is to prepare recommendations that continue to address new advances in science and restoration, along with a focus on our partnership for going beyond 2025.

# Beyond 2025 Steering Committee Objectives



Questions?

Thank you!

Martha Shimkin, Deputy Director  
EPA Chesapeake Bay Program

[shimkin.martha@epa.gov](mailto:shimkin.martha@epa.gov)

(410) 267-9850

