

Pennsylvania's Proposed Chesapeake Bay Agricultural Water Quality Initiative



GOALS

- Clean Water within the Chesapeake Bay Watershed
- Economically Viable Farms

PLEASE NOTE

This draft Initiative was included as
Appendix 5 of BAY WIP

OBJECTIVES

- Reduce Nitrogen, Phosphorous and Sediment loads to levels necessary to restore water quality
- Maintain the economic viability of Pennsylvania farms and farm families.
- Be consistent with existing legal agreements among the Chesapeake Bay States, and state and federal laws.

Key Components

- Implementation of existing Pennsylvania regulatory requirements;
- Modify regulatory requirements & administrative tools;
- Strengthen Education and Outreach;
- Targeted watershed approach;
- Monitor and evaluate the progress.

Existing Regulatory Requirements

- Continue routine CAFO & CAO inspections;
- Continue to respond and investigate all complaints;
- Utilize new CBRAP grant staff to increase inspection and CD referral follow-up.

Modify Regulatory Tools

- Update of Chapter 102 regs and technical guidance;
- Update Manure Management Manual;
- Update of Chapter 96 to include Pennsylvania's Nutrient Trading Program.

Strengthen Education and Outreach

- 102 Regulations Training for CD staff
- 102 Regulation & MMM for Agriculture
 - NRCS Training in March
 - Winter Crop Meetings
- Regulatory “outreach” component of Chesapeake Bay technicians

Targeted Watershed Approach

- Focus limited resources in high priority watersheds;
- Outreach and education activities to regulatory requirements;
- Identify current status of regulatory compliance;
- Assessments to evaluate, identify and prioritize follow up efforts for technical assistance, BMP implementation and compliance/enforcement.

Proposed Timeline

- **Nov 2010** – Revised Draft for Chesapeake Bay WIP
- **Feb 2011** - Meet with AAB Subcommittee
- **April/June 2011** – Present to with AAB
- **May/July 2011** – Present to SCC
- **June/July 2011** – Publish in Pa Bulletin (30 day public comment period)
- **September 2011** – Finalize Document

Bay WIP & AAB

Specifically Noted in WIP – Page 98

Need to better engage the experts in the room:

- problem solving for significant issues like soil phosphorus, phytase use and other manure management;
- information sharing regarding new technologies, BMP installation and industry issues.

Bay WIP noted PennAg Industries' effort to account for and verify the use of phytase in the swine industry

Bay WIP noted potential opportunity for Additional cooperation between DEP and the AAB to provide problem solving in the dairy, beef, vegetable, poultry, crop farm, etc. interests represented on the AAB.