

# The Chesapeake Bay 2014 Agreement

## *Getting to A New Agreement – A Case Study*



**July 2014**

**Joe Gill, Secretary**

**Maryland Department of Natural Resources**

# A Regional Agreement

**A cooperative approach is necessary to address the Bay's problems.**

## A National Treasure:

The Chesapeake Bay was the first estuary in the nation targeted by Congress for restoration and protection. The original Agreement was a simple, one-page pledge signed in 1983.



# A Regional Agreement

**Not just about the water:** The Chesapeake Bay has been valued at over one trillion dollars related to fishing, tourism, property values, and shipping activities.



**INVESTMENT:** \$1 of water and sewer infrastructure investment increases private output (Gross Domestic Product) in the long term by \$6.35.



**FISHERIES:** Commercial seafood industry in Maryland and Virginia contributed \$3.39 billion in sales, \$890 million in income, and almost 34,000 jobs to the local economy. (2009 Fisheries Economics of the U.S. report)



**PROPERTY VALUES:** An EPA study indicated that clean water can increase the value of single family homes up to 4,000 feet from the shoreline by up to 25 percent.

# A Regional Agreement - History

- 1960s-70s Visible decline in Bay resource
- 1976-1982 Federal government conducts 5-year Bay study
- 1983** **First Bay Agreement - Bay Program Created**
- 1987** **Second Bay Agreement – Water Quality Goals**
- 2000** **Third Bay Agreement – 117 outcomes**
- 2008 Water Quality Impairments Acknowledged
- 2010 Federal requirement to reduce pollutant loads (TMDL)
- 2014** **Fourth Bay Agreement – 10 goals, 29 outcomes, two year management strategies**

# A New Watershed Agreement - 2014

... 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“ (June 16, 2014)



## Ten Goals:

1. Sustainable Fisheries
2. Vital Habitats
3. Water Quality
4. Toxic Contaminants
5. Healthy Watersheds
6. Stewardship
7. Land Conservation
8. Public Access
9. Environmental Literacy
10. Climate Resiliency



## Each Goal Has an *Outcome*

### Example I: Sustainable Fisheries Goal Outcomes

- Blue Crabs- Maintain female abundance
- Oyster - Restore 10 Tributaries
- Forage Fish - Assess population



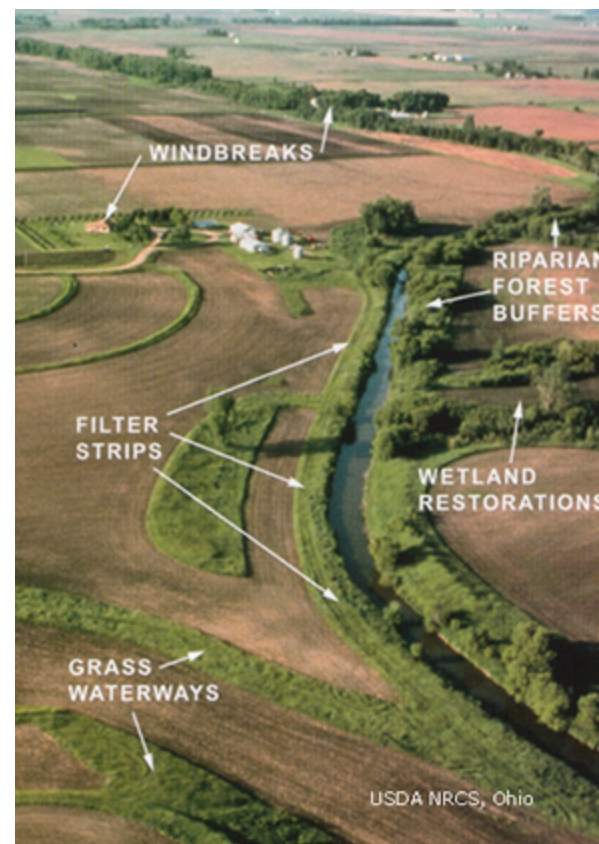
## Each Goal Has an Outcome

### Example 2: Vital Habitats Goal Outcomes

Wetlands restoration –restore 85,000 acres (for black ducks)

Submerged aquatic vegetation -90,000 by 2017 and 130,000 by 2025

Plant trees along streams - 900 miles per year





# Goals, Outcomes and Accountability

## Each outcome will have a two-year management strategies

- The management strategy will outline the means for accomplishing each outcome— what each partner will do – for the next two years
- The strategy will describe how nonprofit and private partners will be engaged.
- The strategy will describe what steps will be taken and what will be accomplished by the end of two years



## IDENTIFY IMPLEMENTING PARTNERS

**Three Existing States** –Maryland, Virginia, Pennsylvania; **Three New States** – New York, West Virginia and Delaware; **One District and City** – Washington, D.C.

**The Federal Government** – Environmental Protection Agency is lead, six other agencies participate

**One Tri-State Legislative Body** – the Chesapeake Bay Commission



# Getting to Agreement

**Timeline** – A date to sign the Agreement. Begin with the end in mind and back up from there

**Resources** – Allocate resources – staff and time to work with all partners to get it done



## Leadership

- ✓ Identify **ONE INDIVIDUAL** with responsibility for getting the Agreement signed
- ✓ Identify **ONE INDIVIDUAL** to represent each key partner
- ✓ Spend **TIME** developing relationships with leadership partners – in person, by phone, via email.



## Staff

- ✓ Identify **key** staff people – especially people who work for other partners -- who you know you can work with and trust
- ✓ Work with key staff to move forward
- ✓ Maintain a positive, can-do attitude



# Getting to Agreement

**Differences** – understand that all partners have different interests that need to be met, and meet them

**Consensus** – seek to find common ground for agreement and be willing to live with an outcome even if you would choose another way

**Persistence** – the closer you get to Agreement, the harder it will become to get it done.



## Time

- ✓ **CAUTION:** dates on calendar are closer than they appear
- ✓ Be realistic in setting timelines. Build in additional time just in case
- ✓ Establish a sense of **URGENCY**



## The goal is not signing the Agreement – the goal is *implementation*

- ✓ Leadership, staff, time and resources wisely spent during the process to get to an Agreement will build trust, involvement and commitment by government, citizens and businesses who will need to support its implementation
- ✓ The process is a challenging – and rewarding – for the future of the Bay and its people





**Thank You**

