West Virginia's Chesapeake Bay Update

WV Chesapeake Bay Program Website Fall 2019, Issue 33

Quick Links

U.S. EPA's Chesapeake Bay TMDL website

What's My Watershed?

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GET INVOLVED: UPCOMING EVENTS

G3 Grant Workshop

Free!
"Green Streets, Green Jobs, Green Towns" (G3)
Grant Program Workshop

November 6, 2019
8:30 am - 4:30 pm

2019 WV Conservation Farm of the Year

Lukas and Gabby Newcomer, Burlington, WV

Davin White, West Virginia Conservation Agency

Noble Farms, located near Burlington, utilizes an "intensive rotational grazing" system. By rotating cattle through paddocks every day, this lessens the impact on their land. The Newcomers have shown real commitment to conservation practices that protect the soil, streams, grasses, and other natural resources. Along Patterson Creek, Lukas has excluded livestock and planted about 150 sugar maple trees along the banks; this acts as a nutrient barrier and shade for the future. Lukas uses many techniques from Joel Salatin of Polyface Farms. Lukas and Joel both use the natural process in their farming techniques instead of working against nature, work with it. To read the full article click here!

Personnel Changes

Tanner McNeely- Conservation Specialist

10306 Eaton Place, Suite 340, Fairfax, VA

In-person participation is strongly encouraged, but a link will be provided for those who want to participate remotely.Contact: G3Forum@TetraTech.com for information and/or to reserve a seat.

Two West Virginia communities, Town of Bath (Berkeley Springs, shown above) and Romney, have received these grants in recent years. This workshop is intended for local governments and nonprofits new to the program who are interested in receiving free training and consultation on the Chesapeake Bay's G3 Grant Program. Workshop topics will include:

- G3 Grant Program details, including how to apply and types of projects funded
- How green infrastructure can successfully manage stormwater and flooding
- Co-benefits created by green infrastructure (e.g., increased safety, cleaner water/air) that increase quality of life
- How green streets save money
- Low-cost options for greening towns and cities using existing resources

Click here for an agenda.
Click here for the flyer.

Tree planting complete by Chesapeake Bay funding

Kristen Bisom, WVCA

A riparian buffer was planted along the main stem of Sleepy

Tanner McNeely has started his new position as a conservation specialist based in the Moorefield office.

Tanner is a May 2019 graduate of West Virginia University's Davis College of Agriculture, Natural Resources and Design, where he was an agribusiness major and minored in agriculture and natural resource law.

He's originally from Organ Cave, WV and attended Greenbrier East High School.

He and his fiancée, Paige, recently remodeled a house near Romney in Hampshire County, which was built in 1893.

He has three dachshunds and if he has any free time at all, he enjoys trout fishing.

A lifelong Texas Longhorns fan, Tanner once or twice bravely sat in the student section at a WVU football game wearing Texas attire.

West Virginia's Plan for the Bay Submitted

Alana Hartman, West Virginia DEP


West Virginia's
Phase 3 Watershed Implementation Plan for the
Chesapeake Bay Total Maximum Daily Load

2019

On August 23, 2019, West Virginia's Chesapeake Bay Tributary Team submitted the final Phase 3 Watershed Implementation Plan (WIP3) for the Chesapeake Bay Total Maximum Daily Load. After a 60-day comment period that ended June 10, the WIP3 has now been finalized and posted at the Tributary Team's website, as well as the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's page for

Creek in May 2019. Volunteers helped to plant 162 native trees and shrubs along 1,000+ feet of Sleepy Creek. This extended the existing buffer to 35 feet wide and helps catch runoff from the adjacent crop field and roadway before it reaches the creek. Sleepy Creek is a direct drain to the Potomac River and is impaired for fecal coliform bacteria. This tree planting was funded through a Chesapeake Bay Implementation Grant and will reduce sediment, nitrogen, phosphorus, and fecal coliform bacteria loads to the creek.

NACD Announces 2020 Stewardship Week Theme

View Link Here!

In 2020, NACD's Stewardship Week will celebrate the theme "Where Would We BEE Without Pollinators?"

On April 8, 2019, NACD announced it was selected as a recipient of the David Rockefeller Fund Pollinator Education Initiative Grant through an agreement with Pollinator Partnership. Through the project, NACD will facilitate the development of resources for supporting pollinator education activities, including a guide to conduct a pollinator conservation field day, materials and tests for students to evaluate their pollinator knowledge, and lesson plans for teachers to

the Chesapeake Bay cleanup effort. The plan includes refined strategies for reducing nitrogen, phosphorus and sediment in West Virginia's waters that drain to the Potomac River, and therefore to the Chesapeake Bay. The strategies include practices on developed lands and agricultural pastures and fields, streambank restoration and enforcement of existing environmental permits. Many of the strategies depend on community participation, such as tree planting projects in public spaces. Contact the Tributary Team if you'd like to be involved. The Tributary Team wishes to thank everyone who helped to draft the strategies or provided comments.

Successful Forestry Workshop

Heather Duncan, Eastern Panhandle Conservation District

60 attendees participated in a forestry field day outside of Hedgesville at the farm of Floyd Kursey on September 28th. Attendance experience ranged from lifelong land and woodland owners to those who were just getting started on managing woodland. Attendees came from as far as the outskirts of Washington D.C. to attend the daylong event that focused on forest health, management, and safety. Hands on special sessions were also concentrated on riparian buffers and the use of drones.

For the full story click here!

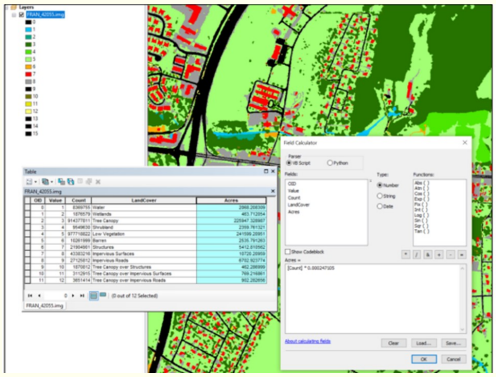
Free Download: High-Resolution Land Cover

Chesapeake Conservancy

The Chesapeake Conservancy in partnership with other organizations has provided a high resolution land cover classification dataset on its website. The dataset was created for the Chesapeake Bay Program (CBP)-a regional partnership of EPA, other federal, state, and local agencies and governments, nonprofits, and academic institutions that leads and directs Bay restoration efforts-which was looking to improve its data related to the Chesapeake Bay watershed landscape.

engage students in hands-on, habitat-focused outdoor activities. Once completed, these materials will all be available free of charge through NACD's website.

Have news or an upcoming event to report please email: tmcneely@wvca.us



The land cover data represents land cover conditions as evident in NAIP (National Agriculture Imagery Program) imagery for the years 2013/2014. Updates for the years 2017/2018 and 2021/2022 are currently planned, assuming NAIP continues as anticipated, and will be shared once complete. The land cover data is providing CBP and partner organizations with the power to practice precision conservation-putting the right practices and the right skills, at the right place and the right time-by making effective and impactful decisions about where to target their efforts.

Potential users of the data may view an informational webinar at the same website, which includes examples of how people are using the data.

About WV's Potomac Tributary Strategy Team

Fourteen percent (14%) of West Virginia drains into the Potomac River and on to the Chesapeake Bay. In June of 2002, Governor Bob Wise signed the Chesapeake Bay Program Water Quality Initiative Memorandum of Understanding. By signing this memo, West Virginia agreed to develop goals and objectives to reduce nutrient and sediment loading to the Chesapeake Bay.

To help WV accomplish these goals, Project Teams began working in targeted watersheds. These groups build partnerships, gather funding, and identify priority projects that are most important to their local communities.
Reducing nitrogen, phosphorus, and sediment in local creeks and rivers will mean healthier water resources that are better able to sustain tourism, fishing, drinking water supplies, wildlife habitat, and other uses. Each one of us can act locally to help achieve these goals.

WV's Potomac Tributary Strategy Team