

Phase II SAG Charge

Virginia submitted its Watershed Implementation Plan (WIP) in November and EPA accepted that plan and included it in the Chesapeake Bay TMDL with minor modifications.

The WIP was developed to allow us the flexibility to implement the most cost effective practices in each watershed. This plan emphasizes actions with appropriate timeframes in each sector to achieve significant cost effective reductions in pollution loads to the Bay. The next step in the TMDL is the development of a Phase II WIP. The Phase II WIP will involve the State's development of local area targets and working more closely with local governments, planning district commissions, soil & water conservation districts, watershed organizations and other stakeholders to identify specific practices to reduce water pollution at the local level.

As with the Phase I WIP, the Secretary of Natural Resources is convening a Stakeholder Advisory Group (SAG). The charge of the SAG is to provide guidance and recommendations to the Secretary of Natural Resources during the development of the Chesapeake Bay TMDL Phase II Watershed Implementation Plan.

Specific issues to be addressed by the committee include but are not limited to:

- Provide recommendations on strategies to successfully engage local governments, planning district commissions, soil and water conservation districts, and other local and regional entities in the Phase II WIP process;
- Provide comments and recommendations on issues raised by local governments, planning district commissions, soil and water conservation districts, and other local and regional entities as they work toward identifying pollution reduction practices and strategies to be undertaken at the local level;
- Identify potential resources, including funding and staffing opportunities, to assist local governments and other local entities in implementing identified practices;
- Provide comments to the Secretary of Natural Resources on the draft Phase II WIP document.