



Mid-Atlantic Wetlands Workgroup

2023 Annual Meeting

November 14-16, 2023
Lancaster, PA

Sharing Research, Best Practices and Lessons Learned in Wetland Management

MAWWG Purpose

The Mid-Atlantic Wetland Workgroup (MAWWG) facilitates a community of practice among scientists and regulators to improve the quality and quantity of wetlands and inform resource management, including sharing strategies to monitor, assess, conserve and restore tidal and non-tidal wetlands in a scientifically sound and implementable manner with a focus on state, tribal and federal programs.

MAWWG forums often spur new projects and partnerships that lead to collaborative efforts to leverage efficiencies and strengthen management of aquatic resources across the region. Information is transferable and facilitates the linkage of regional, state, tribal, and federal programs.

Participants include federal, state and tribal scientists and regulatory personnel, academia, and not-for-profit groups.

Meeting Location and Details

This year's annual Meeting will be held at the Lancaster Marriott Penn Square in downtown Lancaster, PA. Rooms have been blocked off for participants to reserve on their own and can be accessed [here](#).

Continental breakfast will be available the morning of Day 1 (Tuesday November 14th) from 7 to 8am. Please arrive during this time to sign in and collect your registration materials. A registration table will also be available throughout the meeting for those attending only days 2 or 3.

Lunch will not be provided on Tuesday, November 14th, but downtown Lancaster has many options within walking distance including the highly recommended Lancaster Central Market. We will provide a boxed lunch on Wednesday November 15th for participants to take on the field visit. Coffee, pastries and bagels will be available for morning breaks.

AGENDA OVERVIEW

	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3
8:30 - 8:45	Opening Announcements	Opening remarks from EPA	Recap and Announcements
8:45 - 10:15	Session 1: Introductions and Icebreaker Activity	State Share Outs	Session 5: Wetland Mapping, Monitoring, and Metrics
10:15 - 10:30	Break	Break	Break
10:30 – 12:00	State Share Outs	Session 4: Field Visit Prep	Session 6: Common Metrics and Closing Discussion
12:00 - 1:00	Lunch	Lunch (Boxed lunches taken on the go)	
1:00 - 2:30	Session 2: Climate Change Sea Level Rise and Coastal Wetlands	Field Visit	
2:30 - 2:45	Break		
2:45 - 4:15	Session 3: Wetland Restoration Targeting		
4:15 – 4:45	Debrief	Debrief	
	Lingering questions, Discussion of takeaways, Tomorrow’s logistics	Lingering questions, Discussion of takeaways, Tomorrow’s logistics	

SPEAKERS AND PRESENTATIONS

Tuesday, November 14th

Day 1 Morning

8:30am – 8:45am Opening Announcements

- Ian Grosfelt, NAWM

8:45am – 10:15am Introductions and Icebreaker

- **MAWWG History, Purpose, and Goals:** Mark Biddle, Delaware DNREC
- **Icebreaker Exercise: Challenges and Needs**

10:15am – 10:30am BREAK

10:30am – 12:00pm State Share-Outs

- **Pennsylvania:** Mary Ann Furedi, Pennsylvania Natural Heritage Program/Western Pennsylvania Conservancy
- **West Virginia:** Sara Miller and Kylie Joins, West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection
- **Maryland:** Denise Clearwater, Maryland Department of the Environment

Day 1 Afternoon

1:00pm – 2:30pm Climate Change, Sea Level Rise, and Coastal Wetlands

- **Bird Use of Recently Created Marshes:** Chance Hines, Center for Conservation Biology - William and Mary
- **The Intersection of Blue Carbon and Natural Infrastructure in the Chesapeake Bay:** Alex Dhond, US EPA Region 3
- **Measurements of Marsh Resilience Under Future Sea-Level Rise Conditions in the Meadowlands of New Jersey:** Ildiko Pechmann, New Jersey Sports and Exposition Authority

2:30pm – 2:45pm BREAK

2:45pm – 4:15pm Wetland Restoration Targeting Panel

- Dave Goerman, Pennsylvania DEP
- Elizabeth Byers, West Virginia DEP
- Shreeram Inamdar, University of Delaware

4:15pm – 4:45pm Day 1 Debrief

Wednesday, November 15th

Day 2 Morning

8:30am – 8:45am Opening Remarks

- Christine Mazzarella, EPA Region 3

8:45am – 10:15am State Share-Outs

- **Delaware:** Mark Biddle, Delaware DNREC
- **Washington, DC:** Jennifer Dietzen, District Department of Energy & Environment
- **Chickahominy Indian Tribe:** Joseph Hunt, Chickahominy Indian Tribe
- **New Jersey:** Brittany Wilburn, New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection and Joshua Moody, New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection

10:15am – 10:30am BREAK

10:30am – 11:15pm Understanding Legacy Sediment Restoration Perspective

- **Overview of the Use of the Guiding Principles:** Dave Goerman, Pennsylvania DEP
- **Big Spring Run Demonstration Project: Overview, Adjoining Sites, Preexisting Conditions, and Work Done:** Jeff Hartranft, Pennsylvania DEP
- **Swarr Run Project:** Justin Spangler, LandStudies

Day 2 Afternoon

11:30am – 4:15pm Field Visit

- **[Big Spring Run Floodplain Restoration Site](#):** This project was designed to return the bottom of the stream valley to its unaltered conditions, before the installation of milldams in the 1800s, to create a wetland-meadow valley complex. Over 21,721 cubic yards of legacy sediment was removed for 1,479 linear feet of valley restoration and 3,075 feet of stream channel restoration.
- **Swarr Run Floodplain Restoration Site:** Located in East Hempfield Township, Lancaster County, this project removed 80,000 cubic yards of legacy sediment from a 17-acre floodplain area to restore an active connected and functional floodplain.

4:15pm – 4:45pm Day 2 Debrief

Thursday, November 16th

Day 3 Morning

8:30am – 8:45am Recap and Announcements

8:45am – 10:15am Wetland Mapping, Monitoring, and Metrics

- **Emerging Methods for Mapping Wetlands in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed:** Labeeb Ahmed, US Geological Survey
- **New statewide wetland mapping in WV supports wetland conservation:** Elizabeth Byers, West Virginia DEP
- **Expanding Monitoring and Performance to Dynamic Alluvial Valleys:** Samuel Leberg, EPA
- **Hydrological and biological responses to restoration of dynamic alluvial valleys at Robinson Run, PA:** Kelly Johnson, Ohio University

10:15am – 10:30am BREAK

10:30am – 12:00pm Common Metrics and Closing Discussion

- Megan Fitzgerald, US EPA Region 3