

Re-plumbing the Chesapeake Watershed: Improving roadside ditch management to meet TMDL water quality goals

Tentative Agenda, as of
September 19, 2014

Overall Workshop Goals:

Increase awareness of the critical impacts of roadside ditches, inventory the current status of ditch management across the Chesapeake Bay watershed, and develop recommendations for how best to improve roadside ditch management.



Dates: 9-10 October 2014 (Thursday – Friday)
Location: The Tidewater Inn, Easton, MD
Audience: CBP Scientists and Decision-Makers in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed concerned with roadside ditch maintenance

AGENDA – DAY 1

9:30 **Welcome Address: Robert Summers, Secretary of Maryland Department of Environment**

9:45 **Dr. Kathy Boomer (TNC)** – Goals of the Workshop relative to CBP and based on the developing adaptive watershed management strategies

State of the Science: Sizing Up the Problem

10:00 **Dr. Rebecca Schneider** (Cornell) Overview of the contribution of roadside ditches in rural and suburban settings: floods, pollution, and sediment

10:35 – 10:45 coffee break

10:45 **Dr. Beverley Wemple** (Vermont) Impacts of forest logging roads on stream hydrology and sediment.

11:15 **Dr. Zac Easton** (Virginia Tech) Lessons from agricultural ditches –modeling for stormwater

11:45 **Dr. Robin van Meter** (Washington College) Road impacts on aquatic ecosystems –BACK-UP: Kathy Boomer – Estimated cumulative impacts and opportunities to treat ‘urban sector’ runoff in Talbot County’s roadside ditches.

12:15 **LUNCH (1 hour)**

Mitigating Ditch Impacts: Strategies for “Re-plumbing” our Watersheds

1:15 **Mr. Steve Bloser** (PA Center for Dirt and Gravel Roads) Successful BMPs - 2,500 projects and counting

1:45 **Mr. David Wick** (Exec Director, Lake George Park Commission) NYS storm water management case studies – success stories and challenges

2:15 **Dr. Ray Bryant** (Penn State) Filtering mediums for treating stormwater runoff

2:45 **Dr. Bernard Sweeney** (Stroud Water Research Center) Level –lip spreaders

3:15 Afternoon Break

3:30 **Dr. Laura Christianson (Conservation Fund Freshwater Institute)** Wood chip bioreactors: A cutting edge strategy for water quality

4:00 **Mr. Jason Keppler (MD Department of Agriculture):** Ditch Management on Maryland’s Eastern Shore

4:30 **William Ryall (Environmental Concern, MD):** Swale design considerations

5:00 Donnelle Keech: Day 1 Wrap-Up and Day 2 Preview

5:30 **“DOWN IN THE DITCHES” HAPPY HOUR – cocktails and appetizers co-sponsored by Cornell University and the Chesapeake Bay Foundation (CBF)**

AGENDA – DAY 2

Linking Ditch Management Science and Policies, Across Multiple Spatial Scales

- 8:30 Ms. Donnelle Keech: Welcome Back and Overview of Days 1 and 2**
- 8:45 Mr. Jeff Sweeney** (Chesapeake Bay Program) Roadside ditches and the current CBP Model - Opportunities for future CBP model development
- 9:15 Ms. Kari Dolan** (Vermont DEC) Case Study - Vermont Lake Champlain TMDL Program
- 9:45 Dr. David Orr** (Cornell Local Roads) Overcoming Barriers to Change: Training and Technical Assistance
- 10:15 Ms. Karuna Pujara** (MD State Highway Administration) Understanding road maintenance concerns in managing water quality impacts
- 10:45** coffee break
- 11:00 Breakout Group Discussions**
Key questions:
- Do roadside ditch impacts and practices vary significantly across the Chesapeake Bay Watershed?
 - What do we recommend for improving roadside ditch management watershed-wide?
- 12:30 Lunch**
- 1:30 Group Discussion and Recommendations**
- Each group presents their report
 - Follow-up with whole group discussion to get consensus on what the key recommendations should be.
- 3:15** Workshop Wrap-Up
- 3:30** Adjourn