

## CAC CCMP Update Workshop-DRAFT NOTES

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### A. AGRICULTURE

1. Agriculture is largest landuse in watershed and should be the primary focus.
2. Buffers and cover crops are critical BMPs that need to be implemented on a larger scale
3. Placement of BMPs need to be targeted to make the most impact. Need to determine cost/benefit of location of BMPs
4. Need for holistic management of ag/tax ditches and irrigation. There is a need to move away from strictly draining the land. Fields are directly connected to ditches, which are directly connected to waterways
5. Historically there is predominance of 3 grain rotation. Is this best? Are there alternative crops that have similar nutrient needs? Suggestion to establish new agricultural markets

### B. WASTEWATER

1. Need to monitor the effectiveness of wastewater treatment plants. Identify the inputs, fate of nutrients, and finally nutrient loading to Bays from wastewater
2. Need an updated hydrodynamic model to determine loss of nutrients as traveling to the Bays
3. Establish nutrient market for trading/offsets
4. Continue conversion of septic systems to central sewer
5. New communities should not be allowed to be built unless on central sewer.
6. How can we enable low income residents to convert to central sewer? Is there potential to use pollution offsets (like Town of Lewes) to subsidize low income homes?

### C. STORMWATER

1. Existing stormwater facilities need to be regularly maintained. Although regulations require maintenance, there is a need for follow up from inspectors. The inspection authorities are understaffed to do this. Maybe work with SCD to implement an improved maintenance program?
2. Stormwater plans need to be managed more holistically. Don't permit new construction unless under TMDL.

### D) LIVING RESOURCES

1. Desire policy to encourage use of living shorelines over traditional, hardened shorelines.

2. Continued outreach and education on the importance of our variety of living resources.
3. Better management of chemicals and fertilizers on lawns. Need to holistically manage lawns within HOAs. Livable Lawns needs to grow scope to Sussex County. Potentially establish a Bay friendly lawns program. In addition, a targeted outreach campaign can be for the disconnection of gutters and showers to Bays.

#### **D) EDUCATION AND OUTREACH**

1. Need for general education on who is CIB and what do we accomplish?
2. Speakers Bureau needs direction. The desire for education and outreach is now on the micro-scale. Communities want to know about the waterway in their backyard. The Your Creek program is a great example of this, and should keep going.
3. Outreach needs to reach new audiences. There is a gap in outreach with the interfaith community.
4. CAC needs to have a voice in the community, and the freedom to speak out on issues.

#### **E) WATERWAYS MANAGEMENT**

1. Sedimentation is a critical issues to address. It starts with landuse, but there is a knowledge gap on the rate of sedimentation.
2. Riparian and wetland margins will be protected if we institute reduced speed for watercraft in sensitive areas. Watercraft increases the rate of erosion/sedimentation.
3. Shellfish monitoring for consumption needed for metals (Arsenic and Selenium).