



EPA MID-ATLANTIC
REGION

AGENDA

ENGAGING AND INVESTING FOR A HEALTHY AND SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

WEDNESDAY, MAY 17, 2023 • 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. ET

ZOOM—[Register for the Summit Here!](#)

10:00 – 10:10 a.m.	• WELCOME/OPENING REMARKS				
10:10 – 11:15 a.m.	• PANEL OF STATE SECRETARIES				
11:15 – 11:30 a.m.	• BREAK				
	• MORNING CONCURRENT SESSIONS				
	TRACK 1	TRACK 2	TRACK 3	TRACK 4	TRACK 5
11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.	■ Serving Underserved Communities in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed	■ Show Me the Money: How to Find, Apply for, and Manage EPA Grants	■ Advancing Diverse, Locally Based Composting Infrastructure in the Mid- Atlantic	■ Fairness and Equity in Federal Actions: Civil Rights Acts Title VI	■ Swimmable, Fishable, and Navigable: Goals for the Anacostia ■ Replacing the Nation's Lead Pipes Over the Next Decade Through Data- Driven Policy, Momentum Building, and Technical Assistance
12:30 – 1:00 p.m.	• LUNCH				

	• AFTERNOON CONCURRENT SESSIONS (PART I)				
	TRACK 1	TRACK 2	TRACK 3	TRACK 4	TRACK 5
1:00 – 2:30 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Emergency Response within Your Community 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Water Technical Assistance: Collaborating with States to Help Communities Solve Water Challenges ■ Equity Emphasis Areas: An Approach for Equitable Regional Planning 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Get the Lead Out: Strategies for Protecting Children's Health and Communities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 40th Anniversary of Chesapeake Bay ■ EPA's ECHO Tool: Ensuring that Information Regarding Environmental Violations and Enforcement Actions is More Readily Available to the Public 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ The Reed Center for Ecosystem Reintegration ■ Reimagine Middle Branch: Environmental Justice in Action ■ Living and Loving the Land: Nutrients, Stewardship in the 21st Century
2:30 – 2:45 p.m.	• BREAK				
	• AFTERNOON CONCURRENT SESSIONS (PART II)				
	TRACK 1	TRACK 2	TRACK 3	TRACK 4	TRACK 5
2:45 – 3:45 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ OPEN 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Empowering Communities: Environmental Justice Grants Programs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Regulatory Updates on PFAS: Forever Chemicals Here to Stay 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ West Virginia Community Capacity Building 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ EPA Showed Me the Money: How Grants Have Lifted Up Communities
3:45 – 4:00 p.m.	• CLOSING REMARKS				

A SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR PARTNERS



Maryland
Department of
the Environment



pennsylvania
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL
PROTECTION

EPA R3 2023 SUMMIT SESSION DESCRIPTIONS

Title	Description
40th Anniversary of the Chesapeake Bay Program	<p>2023 marks the 40th Anniversary of the signing of the original Chesapeake Bay Agreement. This agreement marked the first time that Chesapeake Bay jurisdictions, the Chesapeake Bay Commission, and the EPA (representing federal agencies) came together and agreed on actions to restore the Chesapeake Bay and watershed. This session will review progress made over the past 40 years to restore the United States' largest estuary and future challenges the partnership will face.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Matt Robinson, <i>EPA Region 3</i> • Carin Bisland, <i>EPA Region 3</i> • Anna Killius, <i>Chesapeake Bay Commission</i> • Kate Fritz, <i>Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay</i>
Advancing Diverse, Locally Based Composting Infrastructure in the Mid-Atlantic	<p>Composting is often talked about at the home/backyard scale and at the municipal/commercial scale. A diversified, decentralized approach to composting, which includes developing locally based capacity, is often left out of the conversation. Advancing home and community-scale composting with on-farm and medium-sized operations creates jobs, reduces private and public sector costs for managing waste, and ties compost to healthy soils and local food production, thereby reinforcing a community culture of sustainability and engaged environmental stewardship. This session will highlight innovative efforts taking place in our Mid-Atlantic Region to diversify our composting capacity.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elana Goldstein, <i>EPA Region 3</i> • Linda Bilsens Brolis, <i>Neighborhood Soils Rebuilder Composter Training Program, Institute for Local Self-Reliance</i> • Thomas Fazio, <i>ECO City Farms, Hyattsville and Bladensburg, MD</i>
Emergency Response within your Community	<p>We will focus on what a community can expect from emergency responders to significant environmental incidents in their community.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Joel D. Landis, <i>Somerset County Department of Emergency Services</i> • John Giese, <i>Office of Pollution Response and Emergency Preparedness, VADEQ</i> • Michael Towle, <i>EPA Region 3</i>
Empowering Communities: Environmental Justice Grants Programs	<p>To advance Environmental Justice, EPA has launched an ambitious program that will empower community efforts to confront and overcome persistent pollution challenges in underserved communities that have too often led to those communities bearing a disproportionate share of adverse health outcomes. This new program will aggressively advance environmental justice and support projects like community-led air pollution monitoring, prevention and remediation; mitigating climate and health risks from extreme heat and wildfires; climate resiliency and adaptation; and reducing indoor air pollution. This session will highlight two elements of this program: (1) The Environmental Justice Thriving Communities Technical Assistance Centers (TCTAC) Program; and the (2) Environmental and Climate Justice (ECJ) Grant program.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Samantha Beers, <i>EPA Region 3</i> • Tom Cinti, <i>EPA Region 3</i> • Sacoby Wilson, <i>T.H.E. EJ Lab</i>

Title	Description
EPA Showed Me the Money: How Grants Have Lifted Up Communities	<p>This session spotlights successful grantees. The purpose of the session is to inspire new potential grantees by highlighting stakeholders and community groups which have received grants. The session will feature a panel of several successful grantees from different programs telling their stories. We envision sharing major grant opportunities during this session and having representation from the programs.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elizabeth Hughes, <i>Earth Conservancy</i> • Russ Zerbo, <i>Advocate for Counsel of Clean Air</i> • Nguyen Le, <i>Chesapeake Bay Trust</i> • Jerome Shabazz, <i>Overbrook Environmental Center</i>
EPA's ECHO Tool: Ensuring that Information Regarding Environmental Violations and Enforcement Actions is More Readily Available to the Public	<p>The ECHO tool is another example of U.S. EPA's continued focus on environmental justice communities and its desire to ensure that information regarding environmental compliance and enforcement activities is readily available to those communities.</p> <p>Learn more about EPA's Enforcement and Compliance History Online website (https://echo.epa.gov/) to search for facilities in your community to assess their compliance with environmental regulations. You can use ECHO to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Search for Facilities • Investigate Pollution Sources • Search for EPA Enforcement Cases • Examine and Create Enforcement-Related Maps • Analyze Trends in Compliance and Enforcement Data <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Moshood Oduwole, <i>EPA Region 3</i> • Kurt J. Elsner, <i>EPA Region 3</i>
Equity Emphasis Areas: An Approach for Equitable Regional Planning	<p>Metropolitan transportation and other regional planning activities in the metropolitan Washington area use a locally developed approach to explicitly consider areas that have traditionally experienced inequities in services and opportunities. Geographic areas, known as Equity Emphasis Areas (EEAs,) have higher concentrations of low-income and or racial/ethnic minority populations that traditionally have been underserved in a wide variety of needs such as transportation, housing, employment, healthcare, etc. EEAs closely align with the new federal Justice40 areas and serve a similar purpose of focusing investments to address legacy inequalities in society.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Timothy Canan, <i>Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments</i>
Fairness and Equity in Federal Actions: Civil Rights Act's Title VI	<p>Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 imposes certain responsibilities upon recipients of federal financial assistance. It is vital that recipients of federal financial assistance are familiar with their responsibilities under Title VI and that community members are aware of their rights. The EPA Office of External Civil Rights Compliance is responsible for oversight of the Title VI program and has been implementing a series of improvements and has additional projects underway.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anhthu Hoang, <i>EPA Region 3</i> • Daniel Isales, <i>EPA Region 3</i>

Title	Description
Get the Lead Out: Strategies for Protecting Children's Health and Communities	<p>Part 1: Lead is a naturally occurring element that can cause negative health effects, particularly in children. Lead exposure can result from multiple sources as lead can be found in all parts of our environment – the air, the soil, the water, and even inside our homes - making it complicated to address. This session will introduce lead and exhibit EPA's new Local Lead Action Plan (LLAP) Guide, a tool available to communities and stakeholders to address lead locally.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kyle Chelius, <i>EPA Region 3</i> • Hannah Bartling, <i>EPA Region 3</i> <p>Part 2: A Conversation about Children's Health and the Still and Present Danger of Lead</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recent high profile lead poisoning has happened in West Virginia. • Low rates of Blood Lead testing in children were found. • Building partnerships with state and local providers in WV to identify the barriers of testing. • Using lessons learned at the community level about risk messaging and prevention. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carol Ann Gross-Davis, <i>EPA Region 3</i> • Erin Sullivan, <i>EPA Region 3</i> • David Didden, <i>West Virginia Bureau for Public Health; Office of Maternal, Child, and Family Health</i>
Living and Loving the Land: Nutrients, Stewardship in the 21st Century	<p>As an industry-led partnership for regional-scale program delivery, the Mid-Atlantic 4R Nutrient Stewardship Association serves as an umbrella organization for local 4R efforts in Delaware, Maryland and Pennsylvania. Each of these organizations are working to promote local solutions which emphasize nutrient application in the right rate, timing, method, and source to ensure adequate soil fertility for plant production and minimize the potential for environmental degradation; promote a holistic approach to conservation that incorporates restoration and protection of wetlands and buffers to intercept nutrients and sediment downstream (trap practices), and also to provide enhanced habitat for wetland and aquatic species of concern; and provide an open dialogue that strives to identify practices that all partners promote with a common voice. This session will discuss our partnerships, conservation implementation, and success nutrient reduction strategies.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dean Collamer, <i>Growmark FS</i> • Amy Jacobs, <i>The Nature Conservancy</i> • Lindsay Thompson, <i>Delaware-Maryland Agribusiness Association</i>
Regulatory Updates on PFAS: Forever Chemicals Here to Stay	<p>On March 14, 2023, EPA announced the proposed National Primary Drinking Water Regulation (NPDWR) for six PFAS, including perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA). EPA anticipates finalizing the regulation by the end of 2023. EPA also intends to announce Final Aquatic Life Criteria for PFOA and PFOS in April 2023. These proposed Clean Water Act criteria reflect the latest scientific knowledge regarding the effects of PFOA and PFOS on freshwater organisms.</p> <p>These regulatory actions are expected this year, making the EPA R3 Summit a great opportunity to share these with regional stakeholders.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ruby Stanmyer, <i>EPA Region 3</i> • Charlie Brown, <i>EPA Region 3</i> • Amy Williams, <i>PADEP</i>

Title	Description
Reimagine Middle Branch: Environmental Justice in Action	<p>Middle Branch Resiliency Initiative (MBRI). The MBRI is a comprehensive set of shoreline protection, marsh re-establishment, and stormwater management projects located throughout the Middle Branch shoreline.</p> <p>To overturn generations of environmental injustice, Baltimore's forgotten waterfront is being transformed into Baltimore's next great waterfront. Demonstrate how collaboration and vision can transform long-overlooked communities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brad Rogers, <i>MBRI, South Baltimore Gateway Partnership</i>
Replacing the Nation's Lead Pipes Over the Next Decade Through Data-Driven Policy, Momentum Building, and Technical Assistance	<p>The Environmental Policy Innovation Center (EPIC) is working with many key partners to leverage the energy and potential of this moment in history to connect communities to water infrastructure funding and to help put the country on track to replace lead pipes quickly, equitably, and efficiently. Our work is focused on 1) data to drive informed, effective, and equitable policy change; 2) momentum building to encourage more commitments by elected officials and other leaders to replace lead service lines nationwide; and 3) on-the-ground technical assistance and community engagement to connect communities to funding and boost lead service line replacement programs. We will present on our policy work, our dashboard of funding available for lead service line replacement through the State Revolving Funds, and case studies on our work delivering technical assistance through our role as a Funding Navigator and as an EPA-selected Environmental Finance Center.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maureen Cunningham, <i>Environmental Policy Innovation Center</i> • Denise Schmidt, <i>Environmental Policy Innovation Center</i> • Breeana Gonzalez, <i>Environmental Policy Innovation Center</i>
Serving Underserved Communities in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed	<p>In 2021, the Chesapeake Executive Council signed a statement in support of diversity, equity, inclusion and justice. The statement promotes including a people of all races, ethnicities, income levels, faiths, genders, ages, sexual orientations and disabilities, along with other diverse groups, as well as promoting equal employment opportunities and expanding the diversity of the workforce and participants in restoration and conservation activities. This session will include a panel of representatives from underserved communities who are passionate about restoration of the Chesapeake Bay and watershed. Staff from the Chesapeake Bay Program Office will also present efforts to implement the intent of the DEIJ statement and comply with President Biden's Justice40 initiative.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vincent Leggett, <i>Blacks of the Chesapeake Bay Foundation</i> • Abel Olivo, <i>Defensores de la Cuenca</i> • Julie Lawson, <i>Chesapeake Bay Program Stakeholders Advisory Committee</i> • Angie Rosser, <i>West Virginia Rivers Coalition</i> • Samantha Beers, <i>EPA Region 3</i> • Ann Wolverton, <i>EPA Region 3</i> • Patrick Walsh, <i>EPA Region 3</i>
Show Me the Money: How to Find, Apply for, and Manage EPA Grants	<p>Federal grant opportunities are notoriously difficult to navigate, and application packages can be challenging to complete, especially for first time applicants. Knowing what is needed can limit errors and prevent delays in the review process to get the grant awarded. This 60-minute session will go over how to find and apply for grant opportunities, what makes for a complete application package, how to develop a grant budget, and best practices for managing grant funds.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Baseemah Patterson, <i>EPA Region 3</i> • Haley McAlpine, <i>EPA Region 3</i>

Title	Description
Swimmable, Fishable, and Navigable: Goals for the Anacostia	<p>Our mission is a swimmable, fishable, and navigable Anacostia River.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gretchen Mikeska, <i>DC Department of Energy and Environment</i>
The Reed Center for Ecosystem Reintegration	<p>With our unprecedented abilities to communicate globally, to explore increasingly complex systems and new realms of microbiology, and to provide humanity's first detailed multi-generational glances down to Earth from space, there has never been a greater opportunity to transform human perspectives and behaviors. Mr. Friton will explain that by employing homeland security measures, such as creating hyper-local sustenance infrastructure and utilizing the mimicry of thriving wild ecosystems, we can at once feed people a more nutrient-dense diet, reduce food waste, improve soil health, and restore our most vital asset: fresh water.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Benjamin (Ben) Friton, <i>The Reed Center</i>
Water Technical Assistance: Collaborating with States to Help Communities Solve Water Challenges	<p>EPA announced the selection of 29 Environmental Finance Centers (EFCs) that will help communities across the country access federal funding for infrastructure and greenhouse gas reduction projects that improve public health and environmental protection. The EFCs will deliver targeted technical assistance to local governments, states, Tribes, and non-governmental organizations to protect public health, safeguard the environment, and advance environmental justice.</p> <p>This session will provide an overview of the current technical assistance work being done by EPA Region 3 programs and introduce the efforts of the University of Maryland EFC.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amie Howell, <i>EPA Region 3</i> • Walter Higgins, <i>EPA Region 3</i> • Jeffrey (Jeff) Boylan, <i>EPA Region 3</i> • Jennifer Cotting, <i>University of Maryland EFC</i> • Ellen Kohler, <i>Water Center at Penn</i>
West Virginia Community Capacity Building	<p>Communities in West Virginia have been pursuing economic redevelopment with assistance from a variety of sources. This presentation will discuss several of the mechanisms those communities employed to achieve economic redevelopment.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bettina Jones, <i>Appalachian Regional Commission</i> • Heidi Binko, <i>Just Transition Fund</i> • Betty Barnes, <i>EPA Region 3</i>