CHESAPEAKE BAY COMMISSION

Policy for the Bay | www.chesbay.us

Agenda
Hershey, PA
November 12-13, 2026

Members of the public interested in attending the meeting should contact Jennifer Dieux at jdieux@chesbay.us for location information. Full Commission meetings are in-person attendance only. No live-streaming is available.

MEETING LOCATION:
Hershey's Chocolate World
101 Chocolate World Way
Hershey, PA 17033

Thursday, November 12, 2026

1:00 P.M. **WELCOME**
ROLL CALL
APPROVAL OF MINUTES
ADOPTION/MODIFICATION OF AGENDA

1:25 P.M. **A "SWEET" DEAL: ACCELERATING CONSERVATION ON DAIRY FARMS THROUGH CORPORATE INVESTMENT**

The Hershey Company and its fresh milk supplier, Land O'Lakes, Inc., have partnered with the Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay to support conservation practices on dairy farms in the Chesapeake region. U.S. EPA, USDA-NRCS and Pennsylvania state agencies have provided critical funding to the partnership.

Marisa Jakubovic
Responsible Sourcing Manager
The Hershey Company

Aaron Harris
Sr. Sustainability & Animal Care Specialist
Land O'Lakes, Inc.

Jenna Beckett
Pennsylvania State Director and Ag Program Director
Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay

2:25 P.M. **BREAK**

2:45 P.M. **THE CONSERVATION BRAND: ADDING MARKET VALUE TO ON-FARM PRACTICES**

State governments and private companies across the food supply chain are creating opportunities for farmers to reap additional monetary benefits from environmental performance.

Elizabeth Hoffman
Program Manager, Leaders in Environmentally Engaged Farming
Maryland Department of Agriculture

Sarah Xenophon
Director, Farm Viability & Natural Resource Division
State Conservation Commission (PA)

3:30 P.M. **STRENGTHENING FARM VIABILITY AS THE FOUNDATION FOR CONSERVATION**

Productive and profitable farms are key to conservation success. What advice does the Chesapeake Bay Program's Agricultural Advisory Committee have for us on balancing the economic and environmental sustainability of watershed farms?

Bill Fink
Chair, Chesapeake Bay Program Agricultural Advisory Committee
Director of Agricultural Operations, Country View Family Farms, Middletown, PA

Robert (Bob) Waring
Vice Chair, Chesapeake Bay Program Agricultural Advisory Committee
Brandon Farms, Dunnsville, Essex County, VA

4:00 P.M. **ADJOURN**

Friday, November 13, 2026

Breakfast & Meeting Location:
Hershey Lodge
325 University Drive
Hershey, PA 17033
8:00 A.M. **DELEGATION BREAKFASTS**

9:15 A.M. **WELCOME**

The Honorable Patty Kim
Senate of Pennsylvania (District 15)

The Honorable Thomas Mehaffie
Pennsylvania House of Representatives (District 106)

ROLL CALL

9:25 A.M. **USING TECHNOLOGY TO IMPROVE AGRICULTURAL CONSERVATION**

How can recent technological advances like remote sensing and artificial intelligence-powered tools help farmers, conservation districts, and technical assistance providers identify where conservation practices are or should be as well as the programs available to implement them?

John Dawes
Executive Director and Co-Founder
The Commons

Alex Echols
Agriculture Program Strategist - Chesapeake
The Campbell Foundation

Robert Waring
Senior Agricultural Conservation Specialist
Colonial Soil & Water Conservation District (VA)

Moderator: Jennifer Nelson
Owner
Resource Smart, LLC

10:25 A.M. **BREAK**

10:40 A.M. **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S UPDATES**

11:00 A.M. **ADDING VALUE TO WASTEWATER TREATMENT**

Capital Region Water operates the largest wastewater treatment plant in Pennsylvania's part of the Chesapeake Bay Watershed. They recently completed an upgrade to their anaerobic digester system that refines biogas into renewable natural gas. While some of the gas is used on-site, the majority of the renewable natural gas is sold to the market through direct injection into the neighboring UGI pipeline, thus reducing methane emissions and generating revenue to support operations through the sale of gas and RIN credits.

Charlotte Katzenmoyer
CEO
Capital Region Water (PA)

Jess Rosentel
COO, Wastewater
Capital Region Water (PA)

Heather Dziedzic
Vice President of Policy
American Biogas Council

11:45 A.M. **INTERIM ACTIONS**
NEW BUSINESS
PUBLIC COMMENT

12:00 P.M. **ADJOURN**

The next meeting of the full Chesapeake Bay Commission will be held in Annapolis, MD, on January 7-8, 2027.

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Delegation Breakfast Meetings
Hershey, PA
September 13, 2026
8:00 a.m.

Selected Topics for Discussion

Maryland

- 2026 Bay Cabinet meeting
- 2027 Session priorities
- Updates from DNR

Pennsylvania

- Legislative Update and Outlook
- WIP Update
- Upcoming EC meeting

Virginia

- 2027 Session priorities
- Updates from Natural and Historic Resources