

## Appendix C

### *Pennsylvania in the Balance Conference Agenda*

**Tuesday, March 1, 2016**

12:00–1:30 PM **Registration/Check-in**

Participants can check in at the registration table outside the General Session room from 12:00 -1:30 p.m. and from 6:00-8:00 p.m. For anyone arriving after 8, the registration table will be set up outside the general session room. Participants can check in any time. Please stop at the registration table for assistance.

1:30– 1:50 PM **Welcome and Introductions**

*Dean Richard Roush, College of Agricultural Sciences*

*Matt Royer, Penn State Agriculture and Environment Center*

1:50–2:50PM **Setting the Stage: Progress to Date and Our Collective Challenge**

The water quality improvement requirements of the Clean Water Act and the Chesapeake Bay TMDL are reviewed so we understand our “collective challenge.” In the face of this challenge, much has been accomplished in the agricultural sector toward meeting water quality goals. These successes demonstrate that progress is possible in addressing Pennsylvania’s water quality issues.

*Steve Taglang, PA Dept. of Env’tl Protection*

*Karl Brown, PA Dept. of Agriculture*

*Denise Coleman, NRCS*

*Bill Wehry, USDA FSA*

2:50-3:05 PM **Networking Break**

3:05–3:45 PM **PA Agriculture and Water Quality: Current Trends**

Current pictures of Pennsylvania agriculture and water quality will be presented by experts looking at the latest agricultural data from USDA National Agricultural Statistics Service and nutrient and sediment load trends from the Chesapeake Bay nontidal monitoring network.

*King Whetstone, USDA NASS Northeast Regional Director*

*Scott Phillips, USGS*

- 3:45 – 4:15 PM **PA Water Quality Now and Tomorrow: Miles to Go**  
 While progress has been made, both state water quality goals and Chesapeake Bay commitments are not being met. In particular, Pennsylvania progress in meeting Bay milestones has fallen short. Recognizing this, the Commonwealth has recently announced a new strategy for achieving water quality and Chesapeake Bay restoration goals.  
*Lee McDonnell, PADEP*  
*Matt Ehrhart, Stroud Water Research Center*
- 4:15–5:15 PM **Framing the Issue: Hard Facts (Matt Royer, Moderator)**  
 A panel of diverse stakeholders share their thoughts on the challenges faced in meeting water quality goals and sustaining a vibrant agriculture in Pennsylvania.  
*Pete Kleinman, USDA ARS*  
*Karl Brown, State Conservation Commission*  
*Denise Coleman, USDA NRCS*  
*Chris Herr, PennAg Industries*  
*John Bell, PA Farm Bureau*  
*Harry Campbell, Chesapeake Bay Foundation*  
*Jim Shortle, Penn State Environment and Natural Resources Institute*
- 5:15-5:30 PM **Summary of the Discussion, Preview of March 2<sup>nd</sup> (Lara Fowler, Facilitator)**
- 6:00 -7:30 PM **Welcome Reception (Heavy hors d'ouerves)**  
 Join us for a welcome reception and meet the diverse range of individuals and agencies that hold a stake in seeking solutions to Pennsylvania agriculture's environmental challenges – from scientists and regulators to authority managers, farmers, and environmentalists.
- 7:30 PM **Short check in discussion with Steering Committee**

**Wednesday, March 2, 2016**

- 7:00–8:00 AM **Continental Breakfast**  
Join us for a continental breakfast before the day's activities.
- 8:00 – 8:15 AM **What Went Bump in the Night? (Lara Fowler, Facilitator)**  
What issues or questions arose during yesterday's discussions?
- 8:15-8:25 AM **The Importance of the Producer Perspective**  
*Secretary Russell Redding, PA Dept. of Agriculture*
- 8:25–9:15 AM **Producer Panel**  
Join us for an informative panel with producers to learn more about the industry perspective on agriculture and water quality, and the barriers and opportunities for agriculture in meeting the Commonwealth's clean water goals.  
*Jim Harbach, Schrack Farms Partnership, Logantown, PA*  
*Raymond King, Lancaster County, PA*  
*Josh Daniels, Just-A-Mere Farm, Dalmatia, PA*  
*Hannah Smith Brubaker, Village Acres, Mifflintown, PA*  
*Jim Hershey, Hershey Farms, Elizabethtown, PA*
- 9:15—9:30 AM **Plenary: Setting the Stage for Work Session 1 (Strategies for Targeting) and Work Session 2 (Technical Assistance)**  
*Plenary Speakers: Pete Kleinman, USDA ARS (Targeting); Peter Hughes, Red Barn (TA)*
- 9:30—10:45 AM **Facilitated Work Session 1:  
Who, What and Where: Strategies for Targeting Resources**  
Given finite resources to meet PA's agricultural goals for improving local and Bay water quality, it is important to ask *who, what and where* should our resources be targeted. In recent years, there has been an increasing understanding of the importance of targeting, with development and utilization of priority watersheds for federal and state funding programs. Further opportunities and strategies for doing this will be discussed and identified.
- 10:45-11:15 AM **Networking Break**
- 11:15- 12:30 PM **Facilitated Work Session 2:  
Ensuring Adequate Technical Assistance Capacity**  
Farmers rely on conservation professionals to provide technical assistance to develop conservation and nutrient management plans and to design and

implement conservation practices. Yet the work load is great and a TA “bottleneck” exists in Pennsylvania. Participants will discuss and identify strategies for ensuring adequate and timely TA.

12:30 - 1:30 PM **Lunch and Report Out (Full group)**  
During lunch, each discussion group will report out on morning discussions.

1:30 – 1:45 PM **Plenary: Setting the Stage for Work Session 3 (Innovations in Incentives) and Work Session 4 (Compliance)**  
*Plenary Speakers: Bill Angstadt, Angstadt Consulting (Innovations in Incentives); Marel King, Chesapeake Bay Commission (Compliance)*

1:45 - 3:00 PM **Facilitated Work Session 3: Innovation in Incentives for Implementation**  
Many programs exist to incentivize conservation on the ground. The myriad of programs can, in fact, be overwhelming and a barrier to adoption. Moreover, even with strong financial incentives, some high priority practices, such as forest riparian buffers, are presently not experiencing the adoption rates needed to meet our water quality goals for agriculture. Participants will discuss and identify strategies to create an incentives structure that maximizes the acceleration of adoption given finite resources.

3:00 - 3:30 PM **Networking Break**

3:30 - 4:45 PM **Facilitated Work Session 4: Compliance**  
Some farmers are not in compliance with existing state laws and regulations regarding agriculture and the environment. Participants will discuss and identify strategies needed to ensure baseline compliance throughout the Commonwealth.

5:45 - 5:30 PM **Report out: Outcomes from Breakout Discussions**  
At the close of the facilitated discussions, each group will give a brief summary of their discussions.

5:30 - 5:45 PM **Day 2 Wrap Up**

6:30 - 8:00 PM **Reception**  
Please join us for an evening reception, where participants can continue to enjoy good company and thought provoking conversation. Heavy hors d'ouerves will be served.

**Thursday, March 3, 2016**

- 7:00 - 8:00 AM **Continental Breakfast**  
Join us for a continental breakfast before the day's activities.
- 8:00 - 8:30 AM **What Went Bump in the Night, Setting the Stage for Day 3 (Lara Fowler, Facilitator)**
- 8:30 – 8:45 AM **Plenary: Setting the Stage for Work Session 5 (Funding) and Work Session 6 (Who, What & How)**  
*Plenary Speakers: Harry Campbell, Chesapeake Bay Foundation (Funding); Matt Ehrhart, Stroud Water Research Center (Who, What & How)*
- 8:45 - 10:00 AM **Facilitated Work Session 5: Developing a Funding Strategy to Obtain Additional Resources for Water Quality Improvement**  
Existing funding amounts are inadequate to meet local water quality and Chesapeake Bay goals. New sources of funding must be sought. Participants will work to identify a new water quality funding strategy.
- 10:00-10:30 AM **Networking Break**
- 10:30-12:00 PM **Facilitated Work Session 6: Who's On First? The Who, What and How of Getting it Done**  
Achieving water quality improvement and ensuring a thriving agricultural industry in Pennsylvania is no easy task. It will take a well-conceived and organized collaborative partnership to accomplishing these dual goals. Participants will map out the structure of this partnership, the roles of partners, and identify the collective process for accelerating our efforts.
- 12:00-12:30 PM **Prioritizing Implementation Strategies and Action Items**
- 12:30-12:45 **Closing Comments**  
*Dean Roush, Penn State College of Ag Sciences  
Secretary Russell Redding, PA Dep't of Ag*
- 12:45- 2:00 PM **Lunch, Wrap Up, and Action Items**  
*Matthew Royer, Penn State University*  
During lunch, a summary of the outcome stemming from work accomplished the previous day and a half will be reviewed for further refinement.