

SCIENTISTS AND POLICY LEADERS FOR THE BAY

December 8, 2008
Annapolis, Maryland

On December 3, 2008, 20 distinguished Bay scientists and policy leaders, each with decades of experience on Chesapeake Bay issues, met in Annapolis to discuss the current state of Bay restoration. These scientists and policy leaders were unanimous that the current structure and efforts under the formal Bay Program are not succeeding and the Bay's health is declining, not improving. The group resolved to suggest changes to assure a restored Chesapeake Bay and after a day of free and full discussion, agreed on the following:

STATEMENT ON CHESAPEAKE BAY RESTORATION CURRENT BAY PROGRAM IS NOT WORKING: MANDATORY ENFORCEABLE MEASURES NEEDED

We have concluded that after 25 years of effort, the formal Bay Program and the restoration efforts under the voluntary, collaborative approach currently in place have not worked. We recognize that many people, organizations, and government entities have worked diligently to restore the Bay, which would be worse without their actions. But in the face of significant population growth and expanding development, these efforts have been insufficient and are failing. Water quality is declining or not improving in much of the Bay and its rivers, and living resources continue to decline.

We must transition from the voluntary collaborative approach in place for 25 years to a more comprehensive regulatory program that would establish mandatory, enforceable measures for meeting the nutrient, sediment, and toxic chemical reductions needed to remove all Bay waters from the Clean Water Act impaired waters list.

These measures should be fully implemented and enforced so our children can safely swim, fish, and enjoy the Bay as their grandparents once did. The required reductions of nutrients, sediment, and toxic chemicals must be based on quantitative, scientific standards, have enforceable limits, precise monitoring, and substantive sanctions for noncompliance. We believe that the core of this new approach to Bay restoration should be the principles that clean water is a right of all citizens and that polluters should pay.

ACTIONS NECESSARY TO RESTORE THE BAY

AXIOMS FOR RESTORING THE BAY

1. Reduce individual pollution from everyone in the watershed.
2. Change development patterns through state and local land use legislation and establish a policy of no net loss of forest and wetlands.
3. Require mandatory controls and increased accountability to reduce agricultural pollutants, including enhanced nutrient management and better manure management.
4. Require stronger protection and management of Bay fisheries necessary for a healthy ecosystem.
5. Require pollution reductions on a river-by-river basis to fully implement the tributary strategies.
6. Assure that the U.S. EPA and other federal agencies give Chesapeake Bay restoration the highest and most urgent priority in funding, enforcement of existing laws, new regulatory actions, and in forming a new and effective approach and organizational structure for Bay restoration with state governments and other key officials.

**THE ABOVE STATEMENT AND CALL FOR ACTION IS AGREED
UPON BY THE FOLLOWING SIGNATORIES* ON THIS 8TH DAY OF
DECEMBER 2008, ON THE EVE OF THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF
THE SIGNING OF THE FIRST BAY AGREEMENT:**

Walter Boynton, Ph.D.
Professor,
Chesapeake Biological Laboratory
University of Maryland, Center for Environmental Science
Solomons, Maryland

Thomas W. Simpson, Ph.D.
Executive Director, Water Stewardship, Inc.
Professor, University of Maryland
Annapolis, Maryland

William C. Dennison, Ph.D.
Vice President for Science Application
University of Maryland, Center for Environmental Science
Horn Point Laboratory
Cambridge, Maryland

Howard Ernst, Ph.D.
Associate Professor of Political Science
United States Naval Academy
Annapolis, Maryland

Thomas R. Fisher, Ph.D.
Professor, University of Maryland, Center for Environmental Science
Horn Point Laboratory
Cambridge, Maryland

Gerrit-Jan Knaap, Ph.D.
Professor, Urban Studies and Planning
Executive Director, National Center for Smart Growth
University of Maryland
College Park, Maryland

John W. Frece, Adjunct Professor in Urban Studies and Planning
Associate Director, National Center for Smart Growth
University of Maryland
College Park, Maryland

Robert J. Etgen, J.D.
Executive Director, Eastern Shore Land Conservancy
Queenstown, Maryland

John E. (Ned) Gerber, Director/ Wildlife Habitat Ecologist
Chesapeake Wildlife Heritage
Easton, Maryland

Daniel W. Colhoun, Owner/Operator
Sportsmen Hall Farm
Upperco, Maryland

Tom Horton, Author and Adjunct Professor
Salisbury University,
Salisbury, Maryland

Richard Pritzlaff, President
The Biophilia Foundation
Annapolis, Maryland 21146

Charlie Stek
Chief Environmental Staffer, U.S. Senator Paul Sarbanes (Retired)
Highland, Maryland

Senator Joseph D. Tydings, J.D.
U.S. Senator (1965-1971)
Jarrettsville, MARYLAND

Senator Bernie Fowler
Maryland Senator (1983-1994)
Dares Beach, Maryland

Senator Gerald W. Winegrad, J.D.
Maryland Senator (1983-1995), Delegate (1978-1983)
Adjunct Professor, School of Public Policy,
University of Maryland
Annapolis, Maryland

*** THE VIEWS EXPRESSED IN THIS DOCUMENT PRESENT THE PERSONAL VIEWS OF THE SIGNATORIES AND NOT NECESSARILY THE VIEWS OF THEIR EMPLOYERS.**