



# CHESAPEAKE BAY

## Navigating Change and Conservation

---

2025 Education Series  
Chesapeake Bay Webinar

June 10, 2025



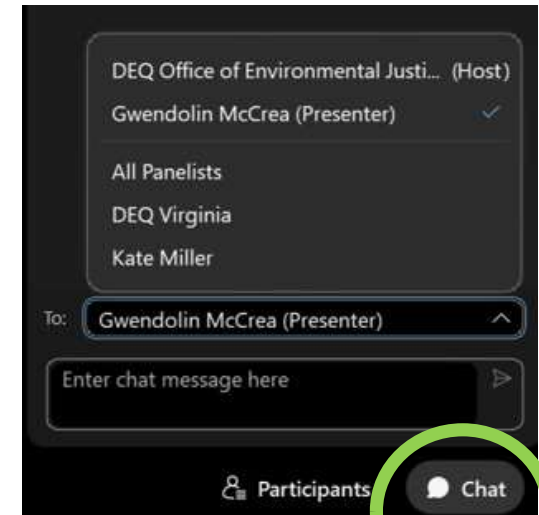
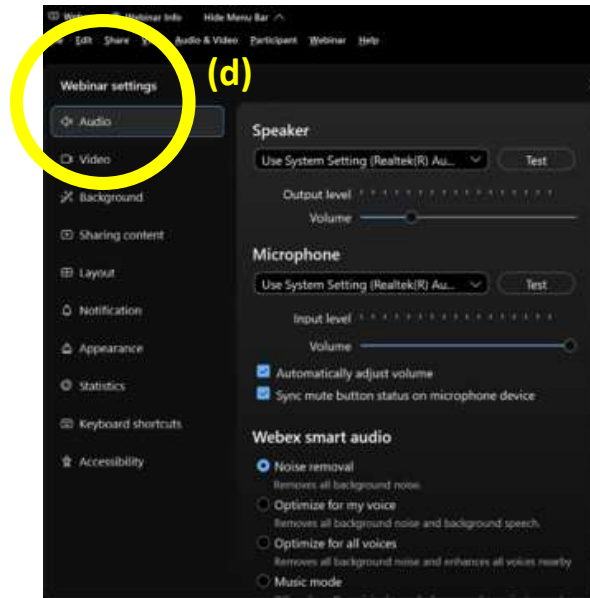
## How to use WebEx

(a) Mute button

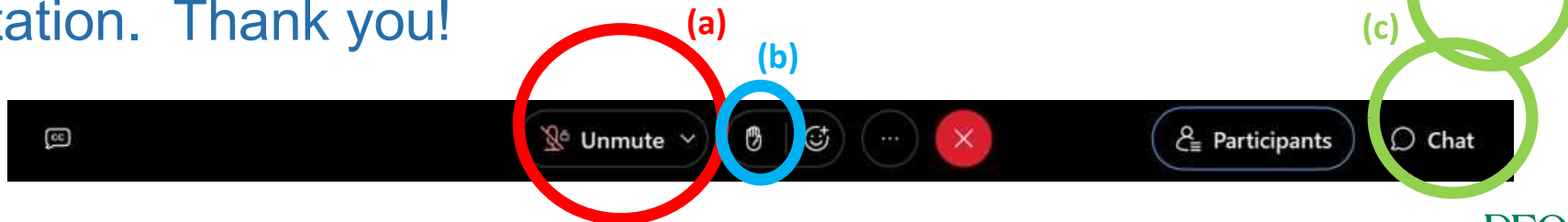
(b) Raise Hand button

(c) Chat

(d) Webinar Settings



Please be sure to mute yourself during the presentation. Thank you!



# Welcome & Agenda



Intro to the Chesapeake Bay



Federal & State Roles in Protecting the Bay



Beyond 2025



Tips on Protecting the Bay



Resources

# Objectives



Learn something new  
about the Chesapeake Bay



Recognize the Federal and State  
roles in protecting the Bay



Chesapeake Bay Total Maximum  
Daily Load (TMDL)



Virginia's Phase III Watershed  
Implementation Plan (WIP III)

## Acronyms & Abbreviations

Bay	• Chesapeake Bay
Bay Act	• Chesapeake Bay Preservation Act
BMPs	• Best Management Practices
CBP	• Chesapeake Bay Program
CZM	• Coastal Zone Management
DEQ	• Virginia Department of Environmental Quality
EPA	• U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
TMDLs	• Total Maximum Daily Loads
WIPs	• Watershed Implementation Plans



# Geography of the Chesapeake Bay





# Significance of the Chesapeake Bay



Historic

Cultural

Economic



## Environmental Significance of the Bay



Largest  
estuary in  
the U.S.



Chesapeake  
Bay  
watershed



Water  
quality



# Historic Problems with Bay Water Quality



Decreased water clarity

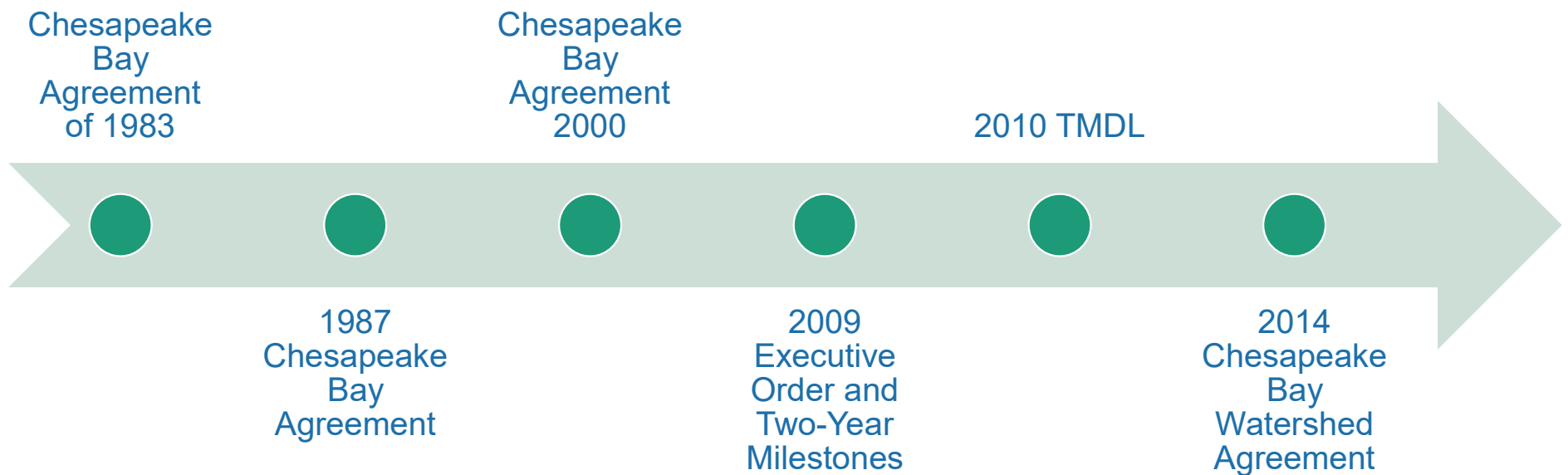


Algal blooms

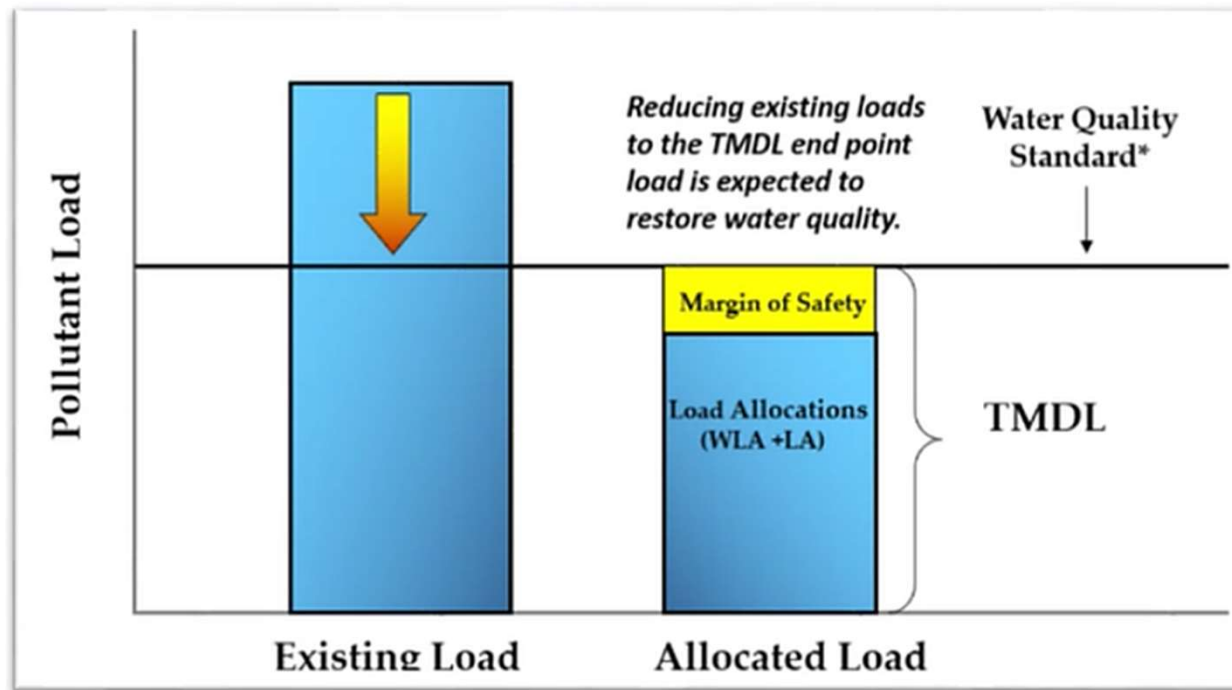


Declines in fisheries

# Chesapeake Bay Program



## What is a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL)?



WLA = Wasteload allocation (load allocated to point source pollutants, such as discharges from WWTP)

LA = Load allocation (load allocated to nonpoint source pollutants, such as agricultural runoff)



## Chesapeake Bay Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL)



1

Nitrogen  
25% reduction

2

Phosphorus  
24% reduction

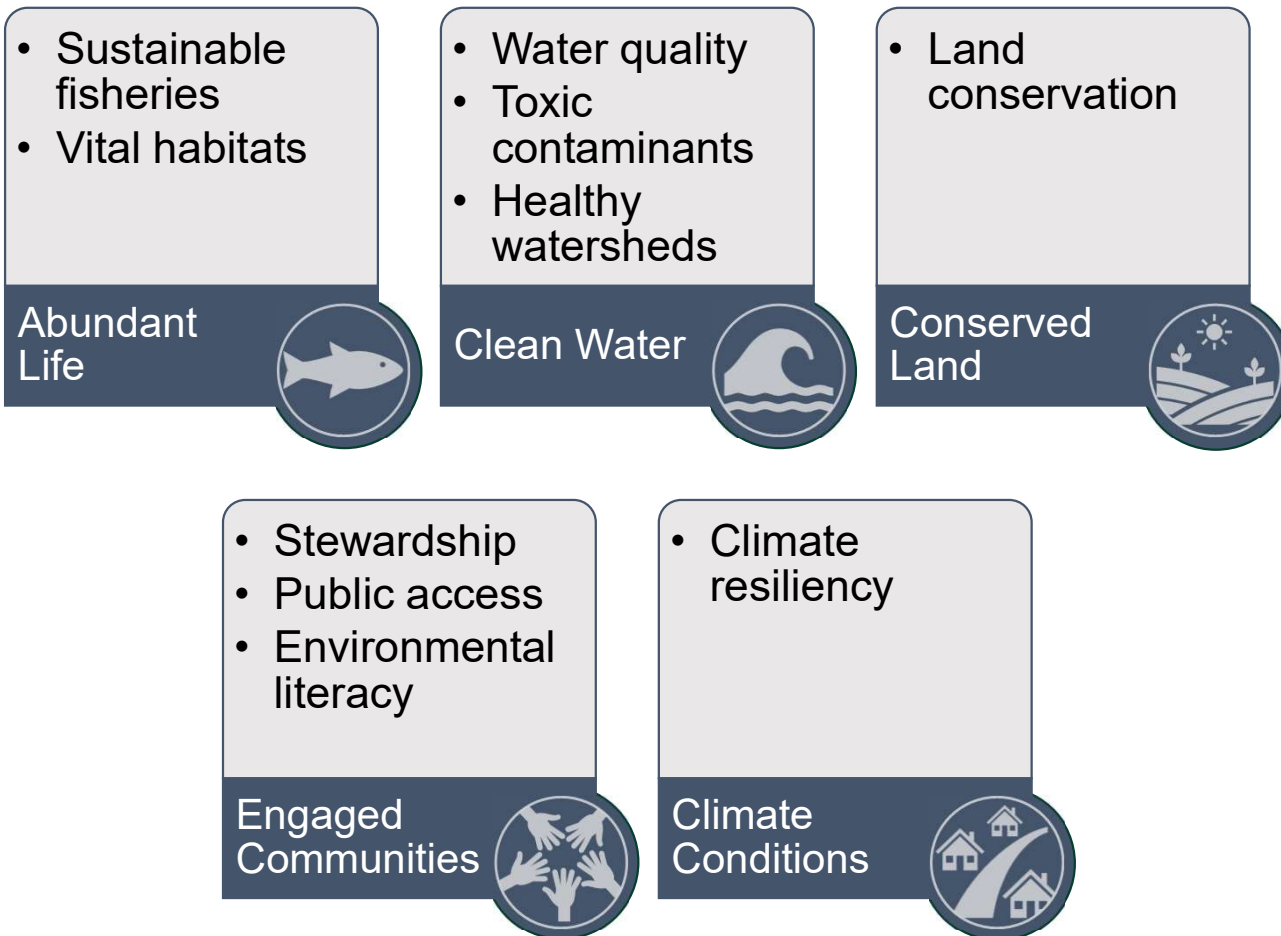
3

Sediment  
20% reduction

**Questions?**



# 2014 Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement





# Virginia Chesapeake Bay Preservation Act

1988 – framework for improving water quality

Local governments have primary responsibility

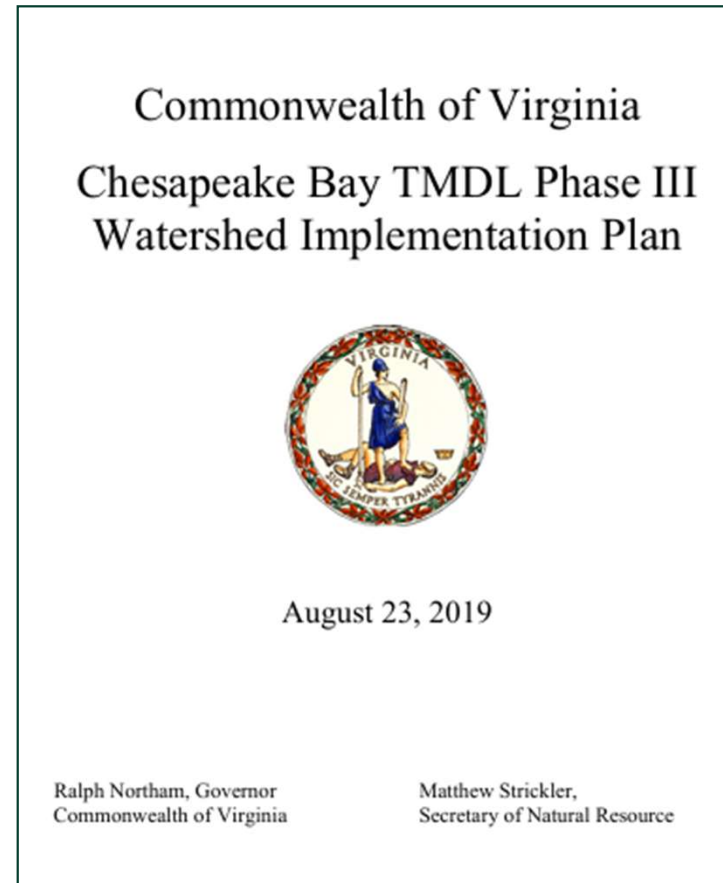
DEQ provides oversight, policy guidance, technical assistance

Local governments implement:

- Chesapeake Bay Preservation Areas, performance criteria, comprehensive planning, zoning ordinances, development processes, etc.

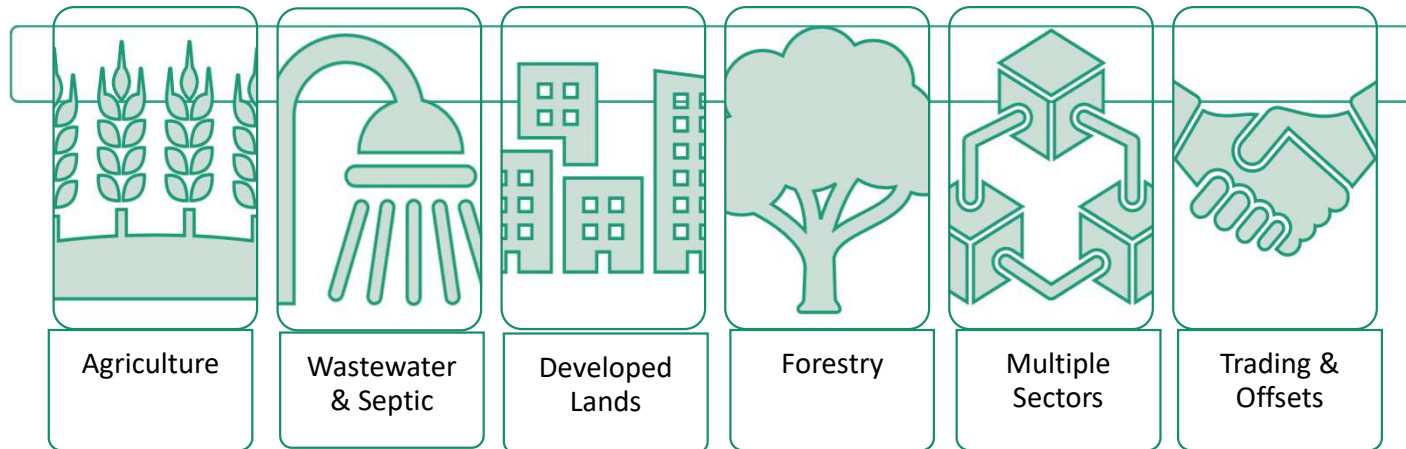
## Watershed Implementation Plans (WIPs)

- Virginia's Phase III Watershed Implementation Plan (WIP III)
  - Completed August 2019
  - Details BMPs and Programmatic Actions to achieve targets for nitrogen, phosphorus, and sediment
  - Commits to adaptive management approach



## Nutrient & Sediment Reduction Milestones

- 2-year nutrient and sediment reduction milestones
- 2024-2025 Programmatic Milestones Progress Report
  - Key ongoing activities and WIP initiatives for:



- Submitted by DEQ to EPA on Jan. 15, 2025



## Recent Updates on Nutrient and Sediment Progress

Nitrogen:  
84% reduction

Phosphorous:  
91% reduction

Sediment:  
100%  
reduction



**Questions?**



# Beyond 2025

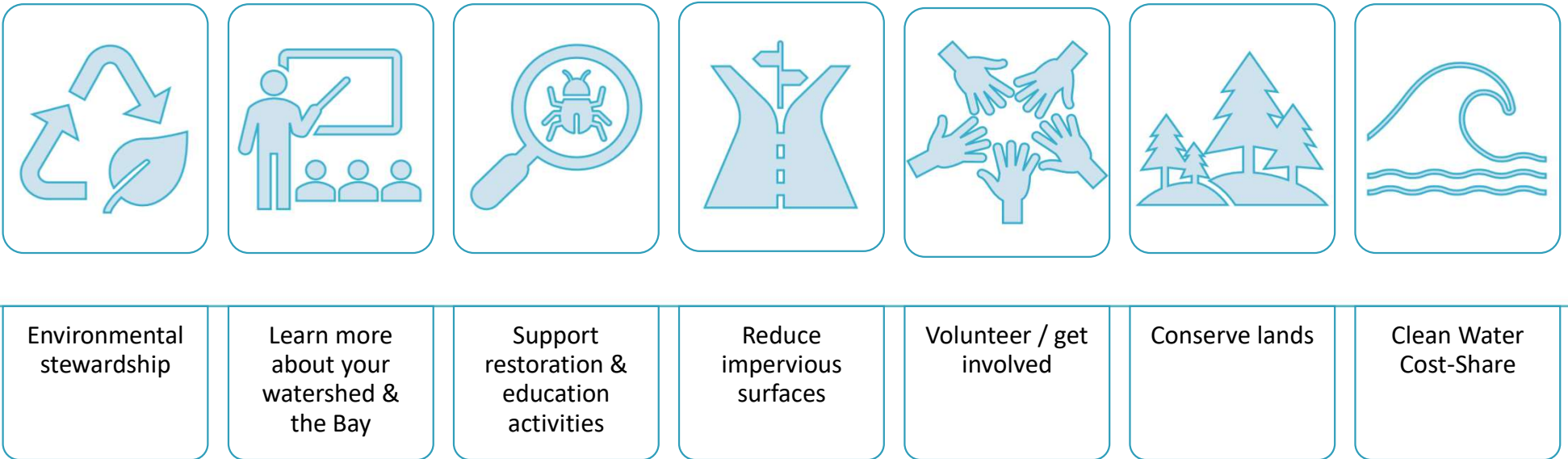
## Phase 1

Beyond  
2025  
Report

## Phase 2

Revising  
the Bay  
Watershed  
Agreement

## How to Protect the Bay – Tips





# Revisiting the Objectives



Learn something new  
about the Chesapeake Bay



Recognize the Federal and State  
roles in protecting the Bay



Chesapeake Bay Total Maximum  
Daily Load (TMDL)



Virginia's Phase III Watershed  
Implementation Plan (WIP III)

## **Wrap-Up & Final Questions**



# 2025 Education Series Webinars

- Register by individual webinar, or for the whole series!
- Even if you can't participate live – registering gets you a link to the recorded webinar

Link: [www.deq.virginia.gov/get-involved/education-series](http://www.deq.virginia.gov/get-involved/education-series)

## 2025 VIRTUAL EDUCATION SERIES

Learn more about DEQ programs & resources



Free & open to the public  
Webinars are recorded & posted online  
Visit [deq.virginia.gov/eduseries](http://deq.virginia.gov/eduseries)

REGISTER NOW



### LANDFILLS 101 | March 11, 6:30 p.m. - 8 p.m.

Curious about how landfills are built, what happens when they're full, or how they're permitted and inspected? Join our free webinar to learn about DEQ's role in regulating Virginia's landfills.

### CHESAPEAKE BAY | June 10, 6:30 p.m. - 8 p.m.

The Chesapeake Bay, the largest estuary in the U.S., is home to diverse plant and animal life but faces water quality challenges. Its watershed spans six states and D.C., making its preservation critical. Virginia plays a key role in its recovery. Join our free webinar to learn about DEQ's efforts to protect and restore the Bay.



### WATER PLANNING | Sep. 9, 6:30 p.m. - 8 p.m.

Virginia boasts over 100,000 miles of rivers and streams, 1 million acres of wetlands, 240+ public lakes, and 120 miles of coastline. Balancing the demands on these resources—from protecting aquatic life to supporting public use and industry—is essential. Join our free webinar to learn about Virginia's water resources and DEQ's efforts in managing and planning for their sustainable use.



### GRANTS | Dec. 9, 6:30 p.m. - 8 p.m.

Looking for grants for litter prevention, recycling, water quality monitoring, or watershed projects? DEQ offers funding for these and more. Join our free webinar to learn about available grants in Virginia and how to apply.