

Virginia Department of Environmental Quality  
Workgroup to Review the Practice of Retiring Agricultural Land for the Generation of Nutrient Credits  
Draft Meeting Agenda  
Monday, November 1, 2021  
Start Time: 9:00 A.M

Location: Bank of America Building, 1111 East Main Street, Richmond, Virginia  
3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Conference Room

1. Introductions:

- Include brief description of your background and why this issue is important to you

2. Meeting Objectives:

- Item 377.O of the Commonwealth's budget from the 2021 Special Session requires DEQ to conduct a study on the conversion of farmland to nutrient banks.

3. Current practice of conversion of agricultural land for nutrient credit banking:

4. Around the Table Questions:

- a. *Does the practice of retiring agricultural land for the generation of nutrient credits have an impact on agricultural sustainability, farmland retention, farmland preservation, or functions of the nutrient credit exchange in the Virginia portion of the Chesapeake Bay watershed and its subwatersheds? If yes, describe the impact.*
- b. *If the establishment of nutrient banks has an impact on farmland retention/availability, what recommendations do you suggest regarding how the nutrient credit trading regulations and/or underlying statutory authority should be changed to help reduce the loss of prime farmland?*
- c. *In situations where land is converted to forestland to generate nutrient credits, what protections are in the nutrient credit trading regulations to ensure the forestland is managed under a forestry management plan and/or noxious weed or invasive species are controlled.*

5. Next Steps:

NOTE: All attendees will be expected to wear face coverings

NOTE: Agency Contact: Lindsey – [Lindsey.parsley@deq.virginia.gov](mailto:Lindsey.parsley@deq.virginia.gov)