



## 2016 Chesapeake Watershed Forum Call for Presentations

### *"A Personal Call to Action"*

**To be considered, please read the following carefully before you go to the registration link located at the end of the guidelines.**

#### **All proposals must:**

1. meet Forum presentation guidelines described below,
2. be completely filled-out, and
3. **be submitted no later than May 15, 2016**

#### **NEW THIS YEAR:**

\*Each track will incorporate at least one session that provides track-themed information geared towards reaching out to, or of interest to diverse audiences and one skill based session that would be helpful to new Chesapeake professionals just starting their careers.

\*Also, each track will include two, 45 minute presentations that will match the track theme and be delivered as a case study or TED type presentation.

\*We are opening up the pre-forum, Professional Development, one-day workshops to outside proposals to encourage issue experts and certification programs to submit on topics that will provide in-depth analysis of or training in emerging topics germane to restoration. (To apply for a pre-Forum, Professional Development workshop please send a one page concept plan that includes intended audience and what participants will leave with and send to [letgen@allianceforthebay.org](mailto:letgen@allianceforthebay.org) )

#### **Specific Track Needs:**

**(Please continue to read through the following pages for this important information)**

### **Restoration Science and Practice: (REVISED)**

- 1) Proposals that highlight promising, innovative best management practices in urban and working (ag and forest) landscapes including those that support accelerated and enhanced removal of pollutants (e.g. phytoremediation techniques, enhancements to proven practices such as the precision-based technologies, addressing micro-plastics pollution, etc.).
- 2) Proposals about restoring soil health in urban and agricultural landscapes and the connection to water quality outcomes, including microbes and nutrient cycling and case studies.
- 3) Proposals that will provide practical and applied guidance for restoration including: how practitioners choose BMPs to implement in varying restoration approaches and landscapes including upland BMPs, optimizing cross-sector benefits, targeting where restoration is most likely to succeed, etc.).

### **Conservation and Preservation:**

- 1) Proposals for a 90 minute skill-building workshop focused on land trusts, conservation easements, or land stewardship. Session should be introductory and targeted to young professionals without prior knowledge about land conservation.
- 2) Proposals for a 90 minute interactive session addressing the intersection of conservation and diverse communities. This could include Americans Indians, urban communities, farmers, corporations, etc.
- 3) Proposal for a 45 minute session about the impact of sea-level rise and climate change on conserved lands. Session should be delivered as a case study or TED type presentation.

### **Planning and Regulation:**

Presentations that highlight projects and/or programs that demonstrate effective and innovative use of planning or regulations to address Bay restoration and conservation efforts.

**Organizational Development:** Not accepting proposals

### **Chesapeake Forests:**

- 1) Proposals that relate to sparking action in a diverse audience, including, but not limited to, volunteers, businesses and foundations, private landowners, governments, and the general public, on topics related to, but not limited to, tree planting, tree maintenance, forest conservation, or forest management.
- 2) Proposals related to innovative approaches in urban forestry.
- 3) Proposals related to practical forest or tree-based skill development that preferably translates to an outdoor session (e.g., tree ID, foraging, how to develop a planting plan, etc.)

*The Chesapeake Forests track presumes a basic understanding of the merits of forests for meeting the restoration goals of the Chesapeake Bay. Please indicate whether your proposal is for a 45 minute or 90 minute presentation.*

### **Communications and Advocacy:**

- 1) Proposals that successfully engaged new audiences, especially in urbanized, low-income areas and rural, agriculture areas.
- 2) Proposals that highlight successful partnerships with non-traditional partners such as social justice, health, or business groups.
- 3) Proposals that demonstrate a regional approach to conservation issues.
- 4) Proposals that highlight private sector participation on a larger scale

### **Citizen and Community Engagement:**

Proposals sought for *interactive sessions* that highlight new and/or innovative approaches for engaging citizens and communities. These approaches may, and are not limited to, focusing on:

- 1) Sharing tools, techniques, best practices and inspiration to assist watershed organizations and local governments to engage citizens and communities in watershed planning, protection and restoration activities.
- 2) Promoting connections and communications among groups and local governments engaged in watershed activities.
- 3) Fostering the engagement of citizens and communities in collaborative advocacy strategies for influencing public policy, (including addressing environmental justice concerns when appropriate) and learning how to inform and influence effectively.
- 4) Targeting skill development for new professionals in the area of citizen and community engagement.

Some presenters may be asked to share a 90 minute time slot with another presenter. Therefore, please indicate if your proposal is for a 45 or 90 minute session, or if it can be scaled to fit either a 45 or 90 minute time block.



### **Forum Presentation Guidelines:**

- Presenters are allowed to submit more than one workshop proposal, but each proposal must be submitted separately.
- Workshops should focus on a combination of instruction and hands-on skill-building - not just lecturing. Based on past participant feedback, the planning team discourages workshops with panel discussions.
- Workshops are scheduled for 90 minutes OR 45 minutes. Ample time should be reserved for a question and answer session. **Proposals that demonstrate audience interaction will be viewed more favorably.**

## Forum Presentation Guidelines (Cont.):

- Workshops should be geared toward the following audience(s):
  - Staff, board members and volunteers with local/regional watershed conservation organizations, AND/OR
  - Elected or appointed officials and staff of local governments
- Workshops should highlight valuable lessons learned and potential transferability to other localities and watersheds.

In addition, if your proposal is accepted you will receive a **1-day** registration scholarship (lodging for 1 night and 3 meals) as a presenter. (This is limited to one scholarship per workshop)

Co-presenters are welcomed to request an application for a Forum scholarship when registration opens.

For further information or questions about the guidelines please contact Lou Etgen at [letgen@allianceforthebay.org](mailto:letgen@allianceforthebay.org) or (443) 949-0575.



### Where do I go to enter my proposed presentation?

Click on this [link](#) and you are all set to go.

Thank you.

The Planning Team