

**Delaware Center for the Inland Bays Science & Technical Advisory Committee Meeting**  
December 11, 2015

**9:06 Scott Andres, Chair, called meeting to order**

Chris Bason welcomed Emily Seldomridge, the new CIB Watershed Coordinator, and Chris Brosch, the new Delaware Department of Agriculture Nutrient Management Program Administrator

**STAC Announcements**

- Marianne Walch
  - IB Monitoring Plan update and next meeting, drafts will be distributed over next month
  - Grant funds secured from Surface Water Match Planning grant and looks favorable from the Community Water Quality Improvement Grant; both on living shorelines. Department of Transportation funds released on stormwater improvement in South Bethany to finish out this project; interested in doing some post monitoring there.
- Scott Andres
  - Consider donating to the Center

**CAC Announcements, Susie Ball**

- Looking for new CAC members; broad spectrum of stakeholders; contact Susie/Scott/Marianne with suggestions

**CAC Resolution on nutrient loads from residential fertilization, Scott Andres**

- See presentation
- Susie Ball expressed concern about the incredible amount of development in the watershed and their use of fertilizer; some P fertilizer still available for sale online
- Chris Brosch mentioned an upcoming meeting on January 21<sup>st</sup> of the Chesapeake Stormwater Network to review fertilizer analysis data and he will share the outcomes of that meeting
- Bill Ullman suggested CAC members write letters to the people who sell fertilizer in the watershed and ask them to stop selling P here
- John Schneider asked if the turf group saw anything in literature search about P removal by removal of grass clippings or trapping of P by establishment in turf
  - Scott noted the potential for P loss during construction and the need for managing the soil resource (and its bound P)

**Nutrient Trends in Delaware Surface Waters 1998-2014, Dave Wolanski, DNREC**

- See presentation
- Group discussion about Inland Bays nitrogen trends (mostly downward or steady) and the one upward trending nitrogen site – Bundicks Branch – which has seen increased development and a change/ intensification of the agriculture there too

- Chris Brosch asked a question about the magnitude of the slopes for each nutrient – see table at end of presentation
- Robin Tyler made the point that increases in phosphorus are not necessarily a result in what people are doing; decreases in macroalgae, which results in more resuspension of sediment and P that was in the macroalgae now released in the tidal/open water sites
- Sergio Huerta said from a laboratory perspective that when looking at peaks/outliers, a lot depends on how you sample too so more important to look at trend than individual data points
- Chris Bason asked about statistical analysis used – non-parametric tests (Sen's)
- Scott Andres asked if data presented were raw data – yes
- Bill Ullman shared that concentrations are interesting, but still need to look at loads too
- John Schneider added that DNREC monitors water quality to also learn how plants and animals respond
- Roy Miller mentioned that a decrease in nutrients is likely what drove the decline in macroalgae that we've seen in the Inland Bays; we don't see the really bad conditions anymore
- Bill Ullman reminded us that we need to remember the City of Rehoboth Beach also drastically reduced their P load during this period of time.

#### **Update on Your Creek Project, Marianne Walch & Sally Boswell, CIB**

- See presentation and report
- (I got pulled out by reporter and missed the rest)

#### **Macroalgae Blooms in the Inland Bays, Ed Whereat, Citizen Monitoring Program**

- See presentation
- Can this organism create cysts – could this be the reason for high levels in areas?
  - Yes, good chance that is happening
- How is this diagnosed in humans?
  - People who ate contaminated shellfish all get sick and go to hospital at same time – presumptive diagnosis. This organism is not part of typical panels that are run (according to Sergio Huerta).

Next Meeting will be in March and date will be distributed soon.

Note: WMDT was present to observe and capture video of the meeting