



Virginia Department of Conservation & Recreation

# RMP Program Update

AUGUST 2016

## Status of 2016 CB RMP Development Contracts

Contracts were issued in December 2015 to several private RMP Developers for the development of Resource Management Plans (RMPs). \$120,000 was allocated for the development of plans on 12,000 acres in the Chesapeake Bay watershed. These CB Bay Plans were submitted to SWCDs by June 30, 2016. DCR will issue another Request for Proposals for the development of RMPs in the CB watershed this fall for a calendar year 2017 project.

\$100,000 was allocated for the development of plans on 10,000 acres Outside the Chesapeake Bay Watershed (OCB). OCB Plans must be submitted and approved by the SWCD before December 31, 2016. A project workload listing the anticipated number of plans and associated SWCDs has been provided to CDCs, but is subject to change.

District staff with Technical Review Committee (TRC) user roles will receive e-mail notification when a plan has been submitted to their District for review, but those SWCD staff may also log in at any time and search to see whether plans are under development within their District.

### RMP Cost-Share for 2017

Cost-share funds are available for both RMP Development (RMP-1) and RMP Implementation (RMP-2) for fiscal year 2017.

The RMP cost-share set-aside includes both practices statewide. The set-aside totals just over \$200,000.

If all state set-aside funds have been used, the application may be funded using the District's cost-share allocation.

The Tracking Program now has the ability for DCR administrators to manage budgets on a statewide basis (RMP-1 and RMP-2, CREP funds, RCPP funds, etc.). The procedure for requesting these funds is a bit more automated. Information about this procedure was provided at June VACS trainings and is also available in the "DCR Application and Logi Updates" link found at [www.dcr.virginia.gov/soil-and-water/bmptraining](http://www.dcr.virginia.gov/soil-and-water/bmptraining).

### Updated FAQ

The RMP program FAQ is a list of program-related questions and DCR responses. This document has been updated to address topics that have arisen as the program has progressed, to clarify previous topics, and to remove questions and material that are no longer relevant.

The FAQ document is available at [http://www.dcr.virginia.gov/soil\\_and\\_water/rmp.shtml](http://www.dcr.virginia.gov/soil_and_water/rmp.shtml).

Under the title "Resources for Soil and Water Conservation Districts" there is a link to the "Program FAQ" pdf.

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# Operational Support

RMP Program Operational Support Reimbursement will continue to be available in fiscal year 2017, until all available funds are expended. These funds are provided to SWCDs for all RMPs reviewed. These funds will provide support for plan review; funding is not provided for any implementation inspections or activities. Funding will be available to any SWCD reviewing an RMP, regardless of whether the plan was funded through the plan development RFP, cost-share, or out-of-pocket.

## Stream determinations and stream school

DCR has previously stated that SWCDs could request RMP revisions if the validity of a Plan Developer stream perenniality determination was disputed during RMP plan review, or at any other point up to certification. However, “DCR has now determined, through consultation with our counsel that perennial stream determinations should occur only during the RMP review process. Our counsel has determined the RMP, once approved, would not need revision if a SWCD contested the perenniality determination later in the process (i.e. after RMP approval).” DCR is planning to provide related training to Districts and developers.

## TRC Conference Calls

RMP staff host a monthly TRC conference for TRC committee participants. Agendas and meeting notes from previous meetings are posted at <http://www.dcr.virginia.gov/soil-and-water/rmp-trc-conf-call>

**Date:** 4th Monday of each month

**Time:** 10:00—11:00

**Call-in #:** 866-842-5779

**Conference Code:** 8047860007



## Module Updates and User Roles

The Resource Management Planning Module is updated regularly to add functionality to the application. The most recent update, including bug fixes and enhancements was June 30. DCR staff notify users via e-mail when these updates are installed and what issues were addressed. Details about the enhancements and updates are also discussed on TRC conference calls.

It is necessary that each District have at least one staff person with an assigned TRC user role. Notification of submitted RMPs are issued via e-mail to the user's e-mail account. The TRC user role gives the user a unique set of permissions, including the ability to review and approve plans in the user's District. Any person who does not currently have necessary access should submit an Application Access Form to their CDC.

## Revised Plan Review Checklist

The RMP Plan Review Checklist has been revised and is to be used for plan review going forward in FY17. The revised form is located at <http://www.dcr.virginia.gov/soil-and-water/rmp> in the section titled “Resources for Soil and Water Conservation Districts.”



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## *Resource Management Plans*

*A Voluntary Approach  
to Agricultural Certainty*