2015 Chesapeake Watershed Forum Call for Presentations

“Moving the Needle Toward a Restored Bay Watershed”

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 29, 2015

NEW THIS YEAR:

This year’s Forum workshop sessions are being aligned with the outcomes of the newly signed Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement and actions that are being taken or that need to be taken to achieve the goals of the agreement.

The Planning Team is seeking specific workshop proposals to fulfill the following Track needs:

Conservation and Preservation – 1) Proposals for a 45 minute session focused on approaches to manage protected lands (including forests) to sustain water resources.

2) Proposals for a 90 minute session that highlights how land conservation can be used as a best management practice to improve watershed health and sustain water quality. Could include examples of land protection benefits to educate local groups.

Citizen Engagement – 1) Proposals for a 90-minute session focusing on engaging citizens in fun but meaningful watershed activities, whether they be via formal volunteering or through stewardship activities that help with the goals of the Chesapeake Bay Agreement.

2) Proposals for a 45-minute session envisioned to touch on the importance of including a diversity of cultural narratives when communicating about environmental history, education, and action. The goal here is to elevate stories that are not normally told that add to our traditional understandings and experiences of the environment. Note: Presenters may be limited to a 15 min. presentation.
Communications and Advocacy – 1) Proposals for a session that teaches participants how to define their audience and message, craft and deliver this message, and employ the most effective tool(s) in their toolbox to reach this audience.

2) Proposals for a session that provides participants with strategies to reach out to diverse and hard-to-reach audiences (including, but not limited to, local officials, state officials, private landowners, corporate entities and youth) to build relationships and increase the involvement of underrepresented stakeholders in Chesapeake Bay restoration efforts.

3) Proposals for a session that provides participants with methodologies and practices for developing and managing an effective outreach, advocacy or educational partnership with another organization, government agency or group of volunteers.

Organizational Development – 1) Fundraising success stories (45 min.). 2) Avoiding Burnout (90 min.); Organizational diversity & inclusion (90 min.)

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.

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.
- 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 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