

April 30, 2015

Via e-mail to agreement@chesapeakebay.net

Mr. Nicholas DiPasquale
Chair, Chesapeake Bay Program Management Board
410 Severn Avenue, Suite 109
Annapolis, MD 21403



**RE: Environmental Literacy, Students, and Sustainable
Schools Management Strategies Comments**

Dear Mr. DiPasquale and Management Board Members:

The undersigned members of the Choose Clean Water Coalition—a coalition of organizations from Delaware, Maryland, New York, Pennsylvania, Virginia, West Virginia and the District of Columbia with the common goal of restoring the thousands of streams and rivers flowing to the Chesapeake Bay—respectfully submit the following comments on the draft Environmental Literacy, Students, and Sustainable Schools management strategies.

The Coalition strongly supports the Environmental Literacy, Students, and Sustainable Schools management strategies. The Chesapeake Bay Program facilitated Education Workgroup meetings, Environmental Literacy Summits, and a series of special meetings to shape the Environmental Literacy Goal and Outcomes.

Broad-based representation from state agencies, regional agencies and non-profits resulted in comprehensive management strategies to be accomplished collectively as a region and within each jurisdiction. The management strategies are designed to meet each jurisdiction where it is, taking into account current resources and funding. This arrangement recognizes that all jurisdictions are working toward a more environmentally literate citizenry but are at different places along the continuum.

We are happy to discuss our comments on the draft Education Management Strategies further. Please contact Jill Witkowski by phone at 443-842-7525 or by email at witkowskij@nwf.org.

Respectfully submitted,

Anacostia Watershed Society

Audubon Naturalist Society

Blue Water Baltimore

Conservation Pennsylvania

Conservation Voters of Pennsylvania

Eastern Pennsylvania Coalition for Abandoned Mine Reclamation

Friends of the North Fork of the Shenandoah River

Friends of the Rappahannock

Izaak Walton League of America

James River Association

Lackawanna River Corridor Association
Maryland Conservation Council
Maryland Sierra Club
Mid-Atlantic Council of Trout Unlimited
National Aquarium
National Parks Conservation Association
Nature Abounds
Neighbors of the Northwest Branch, Anacostia River
NWF Mid-Atlantic Regional Center
Penn Future
Potomac Riverkeeper Network
Rock Creek Conservancy
Sleepy Creek Watershed Association
South River Federation
St. Mary's River Watershed Association
Susquehanna Greenway Partnership
Virginia Conservation Network
Waterkeepers Chesapeake
West Virginia Rivers Coalition