

Urban Waters Federal Partnership (UWFP) Greater Philadelphia Area/ Delaware River Watershed Planning Call

Wednesday May 6, 2020, 11:00AM

Zoom Link: <https://zoom.us/j/98659754895>

1. Welcome & Introductions **11:00 – 11:05**

2. Reflect on Previous Accomplishments **11:05 – 11:25**

Call participants will be invited to report out on previous UWFP projects, including:

- The Wilderness Inquiry Canoemobile
- Regional Brownfields Community of Practice
- Annual All Partners Meeting
- Climate Outreach Roundtable

3. Urban Waters Action Team **11:25 – 11:40**

Call participants will discuss convening an Urban Waters Action Team (including federal partners and at least one representative from each of the cities involved - Wilmington, Chester, Philadelphia, and Camden).

4. Review Potential Future Project Ideas **11:40 – 11:55**

(NOTE: List below includes examples of potential project ideas to help guide discussion. These are not ideas that the Partnership has agreed to take on.)

- a) Urban Waters Federal Partnership track at the 2021 Delaware Estuary Science and Environmental Summit for partners to report out on case studies/projects taking place in the designated cities
- b) Engaging local youth out on the river/provide outdoor, exploratory educational opportunities in nature (recreating or revamping a project similar to the Wilderness Inquiry Canoemobile that took place in 2013 and 2014)
 - Conduct project in partnership with some of the Alliance for Watershed Education centers?
- c) Pursuing environmental justice – ‘challenge area’ listed for this Urban Waters location
 - Current focus for PDE as well as the Delaware Estuary Program right now (staff participating in Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Justice workgroups/training, PDE hiring consultant for training, working with partners to hold period trainings and talks)
 - Making concerted effort to build partnerships with marginalized groups to assist with restoration projects in communities (e.g., rain gardens)
- d) Promoting public access – ‘challenge area’ listed for this Urban Waters location
 - Public access point inventory
 - Identified as a need in the revised CCMP (Strategy C1.3: Protect and enhance natural areas and public access, Deliverable: Development of a public access point inventory)

- Utilize citizen scientists to collect qualitative data for inventory in their local areas (e.g., documentation of current signage at a specific point, current conditions of access points) and then use online/interactive and public-friendly platforms to display the data (e.g., OpenStreetMap, ArcOnline, Carto)
- e) Establish citizen science opportunities for various ongoing projects in the urban corridor (can hit on challenge areas 'enhancing overall waterway health' and 'erosion and flood control' and 'restoring lost habitat')
 - Living shorelines (restoration project monitoring/habitat suitability)
 - Freshwater mussel volunteer surveys (population status/trends)
 - Could include partnership with other water quality monitoring programs and add on freshwater mussel data to their ongoing monitoring projects
 - Stormwater best management practices - Rain Gardens
 - Establishment, assessing, monitoring through working with local communities
 - Help communities learn how to better design/maintain/budget

5. Next Steps

11:55 – 12:00

Adjourn