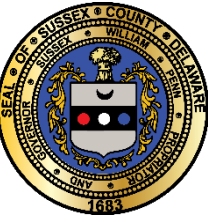




Sussex County Wetlands & Buffers Working Group

Sussex County West Complex Building
22215 N. DuPont Blvd, Georgetown, DE
Wednesday, June 6
2:00 pm – 5:00 pm

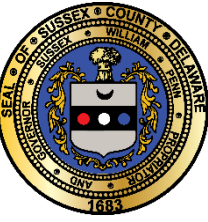




Process Reminders

- Working Group Etiquette
- Role of Audience
- Definitions can be revisited
- Information Distribution

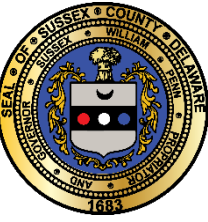




Agenda

1. Review Prior Meeting
2. Homework Outcome
3. Proposed Buffer Approach
4. Additional Definitions
5. Next Meeting

Meeting Objective:
to obtain feedback on
a proposed buffer
approach.



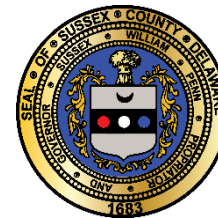
Meeting Outcomes, 5/15

1. Reviewed buffer approaches

2. Discussed:

- Updates to assumptions
- New potential definitions (Ordinary High Water Mark, Delmarva Bays)
- Incentives for exceeding requirements

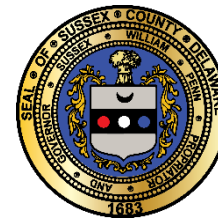




Homework

Participant Selections (10 participants total)

Well-Defined Program	Flexible Program	General Reference	Full System	Indiv. Resource	Both System and Resource	Degraded	High-Quality	Both Degraded and H-Q	Mature Trees	Plant trees pre-construction	Living Shorelines	Perimeter Buffer Exchange	Tiered Restrictions by Land Use	Tiered by Resource Type	Both	Quality of Resource	Site Condition / Drainage	Land Use Type	Topographic/Drainage Conditions	Hardship	Site Size	Averaging	On Site Improvements	OffSite Improvements	Fees to County	Trading Adjacent Lands	Enviro. Learning Centers / Waterfront Uses	Sites <1 acres, <5 acres	Industrial Processes
Program Type			Goal Type		Priority System			Incentive Programs				Mngmnt Zones		Matrices - Widths			Waivers			Offsets			Unique Sites / Uses						
Philosophy																													
1	7	2	3	1	5	1	3	7	6	4	5	8	3	2	2	2	2	4	5	8	9	6	8	5	2	5	6	7	3

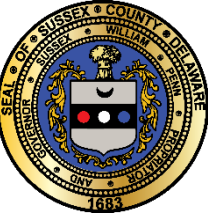


Homework

Items selected by more than half of participants (most participants liked...)

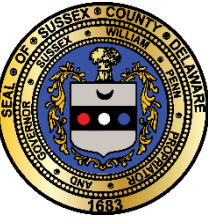
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Proposed Buffer Approach

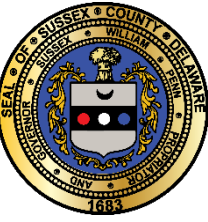




Proposed Buffer Approach

Sussex County challenge to the workgroup

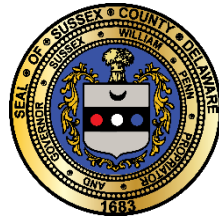




Proposed Buffer Approach

Resource Type	Current Buffer Width (feet)	Proposed Buffer Width Option 1	Proposed Buffer Width Option 2
Tidal Waters	50	50	100
Tidal Wetlands	50	50	100
Perennial Streams	50	50	100
Non-Tidal Wetlands	0	50	100
Isolated Wetlands	0	0	0
Intermittent Streams	0	0	0
Ephemeral Streams	0	0	0

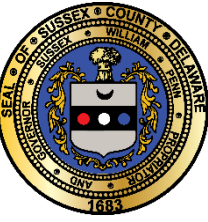




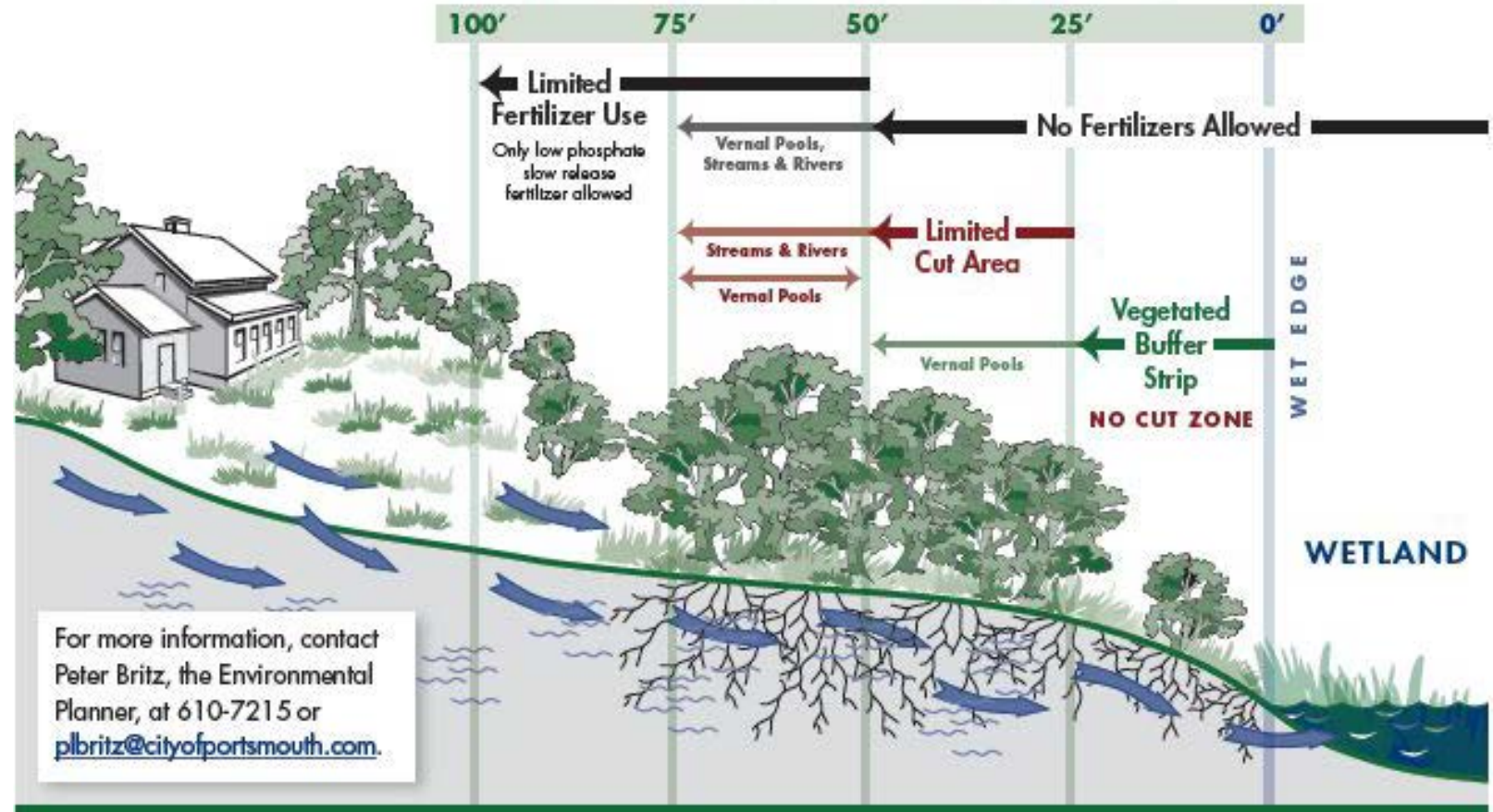
Proposed Buffer Approach

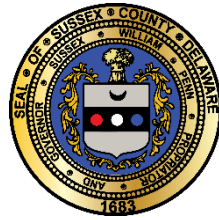


Activity	Zone A	Zone B Without Offset
State and federal permitted disturbances, such as road crossings and fills	Permitted	Permitted
Other road crossings, such as bridges	Permitted	Permitted
Stormwater management outfalls	Permitted	Permitted
Invasive species control	Permitted	Permitted
Planting of native vegetation	Permitted	Permitted
Floodplain Creation	Permitted	Permitted
Wetland creation / enhancement	Permitted	Permitted
Tax ditch maintenance	Permitted	Permitted
Stormwater management BMPs (Water Quality)	Not Permitted	Permitted
Walking trails	Not Permitted	Permitted
Selective clearing for maintenance	Not Permitted	Permitted
Erosion or stabilization measures	Not Permitted	Permitted



Buffer Zone Illustration





Proposed Buffer Approach

Incentive Programs

- Bulk Density Considerations
 - Perimeter Buffer Exchange
- Options within Buffer
 - Mature Trees
 - Plant trees pre-construction
 - Living shorelines/Stabilization

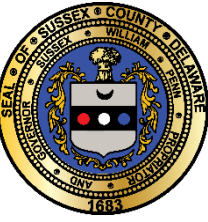
Offsets

- On-site improvements
- Off-site improvements
- Fees to County
- Trading Adjacent Lands

Waivers

- Hardship
- Site Size
- Averaging





New Definitions

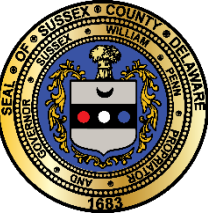
Ordinary High Water Mark

The line on the shore established by the fluctuations of water and indicated by physical characteristics such as a clear, natural line impressed on the bank; shelving; changes in the character of soil; destruction of terrestrial vegetation; the presence of litter and debris; or other appropriate means that consider the characteristics of the surrounding areas.

Delmarva Bays / “Whale Wallows”

Seasonal freshwater wetlands that typically manifest as shallow elliptical depressions aligned northwest to southeast with sandy rims along their southeast sides. Bay trees are usually associated with these types of wetlands.





Next Steps

- Buffer Approach Recommendation
- Status Summary to Council
- Draft Ordinance Revisions
- Final Submission to Council

