

Getting to Know Chad Thompson

Chad Thompson is a Stormwater Specialist with the Watershed Improvement Branch of the West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection (WVDEP). He is based in the Romney office, but travels throughout the 8-county Potomac Basin. He assists with verification of stormwater Best Management Practices that have been reported to the Chesapeake Bay Program, and provides technical assistance to local governments and landowners about stormwater management. He also reviews and edits maps related to the Chesapeake Bay watershed in West Virginia.



At the Eastern Panhandle Watershed Group gathering in May 2017, Chad Thompson shared information about the Chesapeake Land Cover data now available for West Virginia's Potomac Basin Counties.

Given his focus on the Chesapeake Bay cleanup strategy, it is interesting to note that he is from a town called Chesapeake, Ohio! Chad has a BS in Environmental Science with a focus on Policy and Assessment from Marshall University, with minors in Biology and Parks and Recreation.

When asked what he likes about his position at WVDEP, Chad said, "I love the diversity of my job. No two days are the same. One morning I may be meeting with County Commissioners and the same evening I may be talking to landowners about what flowers to plant in their raingarden." He also stated that he is very pleased with the way the various state agencies and local groups work well together in the Potomac region to accomplish their greater goals of cleaning up the Potomac basin and the Chesapeake Bay.

In his spare time, Chad volunteers as a Firefighter and an Emergency Medical Technician with the Fountain Volunteer Fire Department. He also teaches recreational scuba diving as one of his many hobbies and skills.

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By Alana Hartman,
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