



2025 CHESAPEAKE WATERSHED FORUM CALL FOR POSTER SESSION PROPOSALS

Submission Deadline: 11:59 PM on Friday, August 1, 2025

Background and Theme

The Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay will hold the 20th Annual Chesapeake Watershed Forum on November 7-9, 2025, at the National Conservation Training Center (NCTC) in Shepherdstown, WV. This watershed-wide event reaches up to 400 restoration and conservation practitioners annually to inspire and empower local action towards clean water. **The poster session will be held at 7:00 PM on Friday, November 7, at NCTC.** The poster session is a juried event, with awards for best poster in the new professional and professional categories. Winners will receive free registration to the 2026 Chesapeake Watershed Forum.

Our 2025 theme is “Shaping the Future of Conservation with Human-Centered Approaches.”

For two decades, the Chesapeake Watershed Forum has brought together partners to collaborate, innovate, and drive meaningful progress in restoring and protecting the shared waters of the Chesapeake Bay watershed. As we mark this milestone 20th anniversary, we have an opportunity to reflect on the successes and challenges that have shaped our work and the lessons that will guide us forward.

2025 is a pivotal year - both a moment to celebrate how far we have come and a chance to plan for what's ahead. Planning for 2025 and Beyond efforts led by the Chesapeake Bay Program challenge us to think critically about the future of conservation and restoration efforts. While uncertainties exist, by embracing a mindset of resilience and adaptability, we can continue building a strong foundation for the next generation of conservationists in our region.

This year's theme centers on human-centered approaches – ensuring that the needs, well-being, and aspirations of people remain at the core of our work. By prioritizing trust and collaborative decision-making, we create impactful solutions and longstanding outcomes. Our ability to navigate change isn't just about responding to external forces; it's about proactively shaping a future that meets the needs and collective futures for all of us.

Note, posters do not have to fit the Forum's theme.

Poster Session Guidelines

Proposal Evaluation:

Poster abstracts that successfully relate to the field of interest listed below will be accepted. Poster proposals that describe organizational activities or are otherwise incomplete will not be accepted.

Each proposal must include/answer the following:

- Title of proposed poster (15 words or less).
- A short summary/abstract (200 words or less)
- Under which field of interest does your poster fall? You must select one.
 - Environmental Education
 - Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, Justice
 - Outreach (Community Engagement, Stewardship, Volunteerism)
 - Restoration/Conservation
 - Science (Methods, Monitoring, Evaluation)
 - Advocacy
 - Professional Development (Holistic Well-being)
 - Organizational Development
- Which category below best describes yourself, and why?
 - New Professional (post-high school to less than 5 years work experience)
 - Professional (greater than 5 years work experience or volunteer work)

Presenter Expectations:

- Poster dimensions should be 3' x 4'. Presenters are expected to print their own posters and bring them to NCTC. Easels will be provided.
- Remember to keep good design practices in mind when assembling your poster. More resources and examples will be available once proposals are accepted.
- Poster presenters are expected to "host" (stand next to) their poster for at least the first hour of the poster session to interact with and answer questions from attendees.
- For more information about the 2025 Chesapeake Watershed Forum, [click here](#).

Submission Form:

[Click Here](#) to submit your proposal. Please plan to prepare your proposal ahead of submitting via the online portal.

For further information or questions about guidelines, contact Lauren Sauder at lsauder@allianceforthebay.org.