

Proposed Agenda

**JOINT MEETING OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON
AGRICULTURE, CHESAPEAKE AND NATURAL RESOURCES AND
AGRICULTURE, COMMERCE, TECHNOLOGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES
SUBCOMMITTEE OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS**

**OCTOBER 8 AND 9, 2014
NATURAL BRIDGE, VIRGINIA**

October 8, 2014

1. Call to order (1:00 PM - 1:15 PM)

Delegate Ed Scott, *Chairman*

2. Agricultural and Forestry Policies

- A. Ms. Carrie Chenery (1:15 PM - 2:00 PM)

Assistant Secretary of Agriculture and Forestry

- Topics/issues:
Policy priorities; emerging issues; marketing of Virginia products (national/international); update on Agriculture and Forestry Development Service and AFID planning grants; relationship with Governor's Opportunity Fund; update on Virginia Racing Commission and resolution of dispute; implications for agriculture of the Shandong Tranlin Group investment.

- B. Ms. Sandra Adams (2:00 PM - 2:45 PM)

Commissioner of Agriculture and Consumer Services

- Topics/issues:
Agency responsibilities; policy priorities; emerging issues; efforts to preserve farmland (Office of Farmland Preservation); direct on-farm sales of products and farm inspection policies; possible legislative initiatives.

----Break (2:45 PM - 3:00 PM) ----

- C. Ms. Bettina Ring (3:00 PM - 3:45 PM)

State Forester

- Topics/issues:
Agency responsibilities; policy priorities; emerging issues; state of Virginia's forest lands; agency's water quality program; reforestation of timberland; significant research projects; possible legislative initiatives.

October 9, 2014

3. Natural Resources Policies (8:00 AM - 8:45 AM)

A. Honorable Molly Ward

Secretary of Natural Resources

- Topics/issues:
Policy priorities; emerging issues; strategy for attainment of 400,000 acres of open space state; progress in development and implementation of TMDL.

B. Panel Discussion on Preservation of Open Space Lands (9:00 AM - 10:00 AM)

- Secretary Ward to moderate; panel membership includes those agencies/organizations responsible for conservation of open space for the Department of Forestry, the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, the Department of Conservation and Recreation, the Virginia Outdoors Foundation, the Department of Historic Resources, and the Virginia Conservation Legacy Fund;
- Panel members discuss their agency's role, responsibilities, tools, and goals for preserving open space (2-3 minutes each);
- Discussion would include the role of state agencies and private organizations in land preservation; its impact on Virginians; the extent of coordination among agencies/organizations and their land preservation programs; possible incentives and obstacles for preserving open space; emerging issues that may require legislative actions.

C. Mr. Clyde Cristman (10:15 AM - 11:00 AM)

Director of the Department of Conservation and Recreation

- Topics/issues:
State of the state park system, future park development, its costs, and policy for accepting land for state parks; development and implementation of resource management plans, including description of process for reviewing RMPs submitted; procedure for approval of land conservation tax credit for properties placed in easements.

D. State of Virginia's Freshwater and Tidal Fisheries; impact of invasive species

Mr. John Bull, (11:00 AM - 11:15 AM)

Commissioner of the Virginia Marine Resources Commission

Mr. Bob Duncan (11:15 AM - 11:30 AM)

Director of the Department of Game and Inland Fisheries

- Topics/issues:
State of Virginia's commercial fisheries; threats from invasive fish species (blue catfish and snakeheads).

4. Adjourn

House Agriculture, Chesapeake and Natural Resources

Delegate Edward Scott, Chair	Delegate James Morefield
Delegate Robert Bloxom	Delegate Robert Orrock
Delegate David Bulova	Delegate Kenneth Plum
Delegate James Edmunds	Delegate Charles Poindexter
Delegate Matthew Fariss	Delegate Margaret Ransone
Delegate Matthew James	Delegate Mark Sickles
Delegate Mark Keam	Delegate Luke Torian
Delegate Barry Knight	Delegate Lee Ware
Delegate Alfonso Lopez	Delegate Michael Webert
Delegate Daniel Marshall	Delegate Tony Wilt
Delegate Jackson Miller	Delegate Thomas Wright

House Appropriations Subcommittee Agriculture, Commerce, Technology and Natural Resources

Delegate Edward Scott	Delegate Barry Knight
Delegate Kirkland Cox	Delegate Steven Landes
Delegate Rosalyn Dance	Delegate James Massie
Delegate Daun Hester	

DLS Staff:

Martin G. Farber, Senior Research Associate
Scott Meacham, Staff Attorney
Iris Fuentes, Senior Operations Staff Assistant

Barbara L. Teague, House Committee Operations