Please join us for a discussion on the “Farm Bill, Agriculture, and the Chesapeake Bay.” The session will feature presentations by a senior USDA policy official, a USDA program delivery specialist (yet to be confirmed), and an EPA Region III Agricultural Adviser working in the Chesapeake Bay Program Office.

Thursday, February 5, 2015
5:30 pm Registration and Heavy Hors d’Oeuvres; 6:00 Presentations and Discussion; 7:30 Wrap Up

Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments
777 North Capitol Street, NE, Washington, DC. Training Center, 1st Floor
(near Union Station for Metro and MARC) Parking and Directions: http://www.mwcog.org/contact/directions/

Speakers

Ann Mills
Deputy Under Secretary for Natural Resources and Environment
United States Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C.

As Deputy Under Secretary for Natural Resources and Environment, Ann Mills has responsibility for the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), the federal agency with primary responsibility for working with private landowners to conserve, maintain and improve their natural resources. Mills brings to this position 20 years of policy and management experience with government and nonprofit conservation advocacy. Most recently, as a senior executive at American Rivers, Mills led the implementation of programs to develop sustainable solutions for flood and drought mitigation and water quality improvement across the country including urban and rural watersheds in Northern California’s Sierras and Bay Delta; the Columbia, Missouri and Mississippi river basins; the Great Lakes; and the Chesapeake Bay. Mills also served as a senior staff person for Senate Democratic Leader Tom Daschle, chief of staff to California Lt. Governor Leo McCarthy and legislative assistant to then-Congressman Richard Durbin and Congressman James McClure Clarke.

Kelly Shenk
Agricultural Advisor, EPA Region III Water Protection Division
Chesapeake Bay Program Office, Annapolis, MD

Kelly Shenk has served as the Agricultural Advisor for EPA Region III, which is the Mid-Atlantic region of the country including most of the Chesapeake Bay watershed, for the past two years. In her role as Agricultural Advisor, Kelly serves as the key point of contact in the Region addressing policy and programmatic opportunities and challenges facing the region’s agricultural communities. Kelly has a 20-year history with the Agency working closely with federal and state agencies and key stakeholders in the Chesapeake Bay Program on both technical and policy fronts addressing agriculture, toxics, and urban stormwater. Kelly has devoted her last ten years to building partnerships with federal and state agricultural agencies and the agricultural community to find collaborative solutions to achieving the Agency’s shared goals of vibrant agriculture and clean water.

REGISTRATION is only $10 for members and students; $15 for all non-members. Please register by Tuesday, February 3rd by visiting http://state.awra.org/natcap/events.html. Also, become a member by visiting http://www.awrancrs.org/membership.html. Alternately, you may sign up with Mathini at natcapawra@gmail.com and pay at the door. (Make checks payable to AWRA-NCR Section).