

Rivanna River Basin Commission

BOARD MEETING 4/10/25



Administration

- Call to Order
- Attendance
- Welcome New Commissioners
- Determination of Quorum
- Approval of Agenda
- Approval of March 19, 2024, Meeting Minutes

Comments from the Public

LIMITED TO 3 MINUTES PER SPEAKER

Approval of Remote Electronic Participation and All-Virtual Meeting Policy

Legislation from the 2024 General Assembly session ([HB 894/SB 734](#)) makes changes to this policy necessary. There are three changes needed:

- 1) increase from 25% to 50% the maximum number of all virtual meetings that this body can hold per year;
- 2) expand provisions concerning member use of audio and visual technology during all-virtual meetings; and
- 3) require an annual adoption of the policy.

Elections

RRBC CHAIR, VICE CHAIR, & TREASURER



Watershed Implementation Plan Updates

Septic Assistance Program

Who: Supports low-income homeowners (80% AMI) in Albemarle, Fluvanna, Greene, Louisa, & Nelson counties.

What: Funds septic pump-outs, repairs, replacements, and sewer connections.

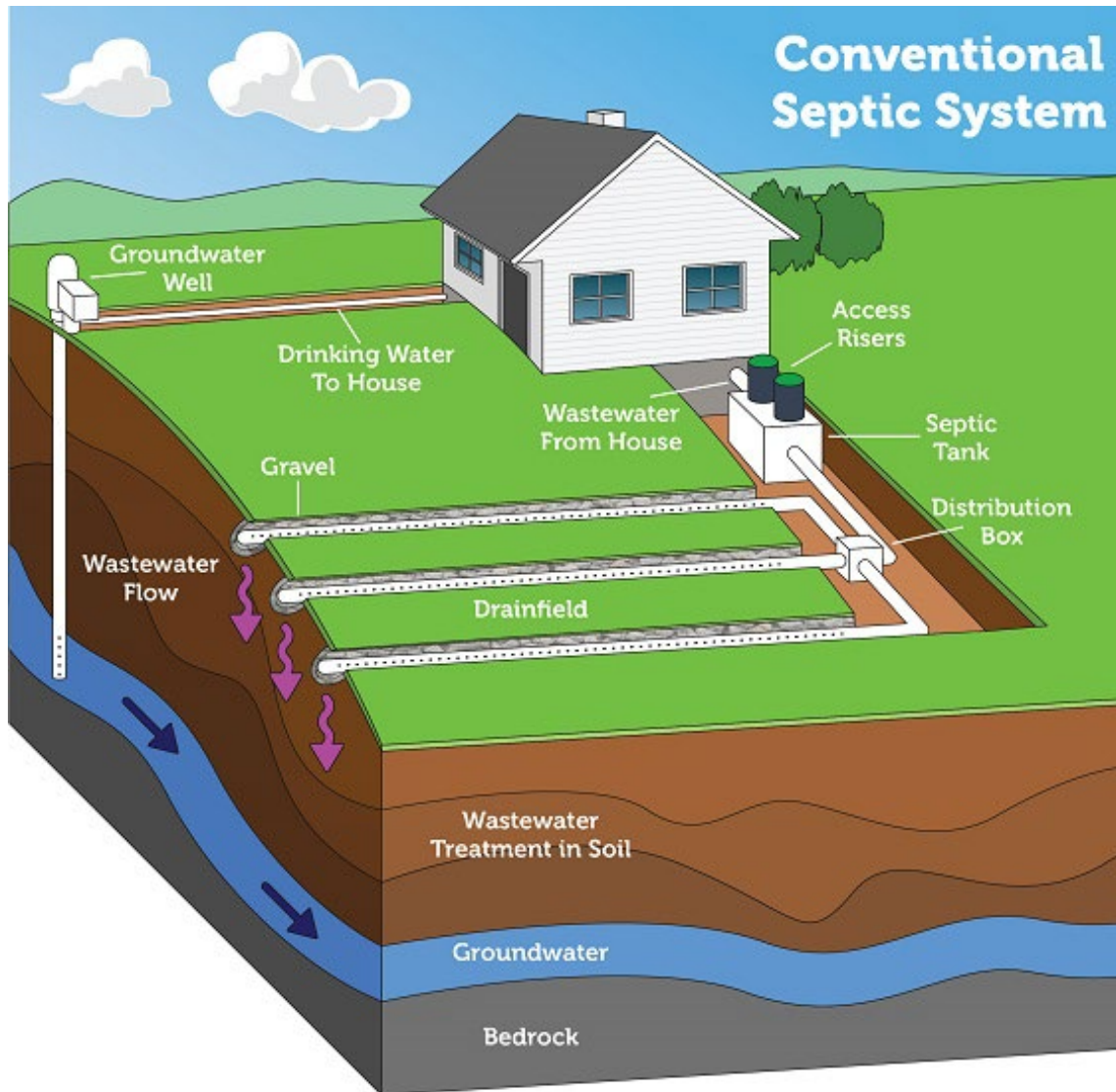
How: \$165,000 in DEQ IIJA funding (2025).

Projected impact: 26 pump-outs, 6 repairs, 2 replacements, 1 alternative system. Actual numbers will adjust to homeowner needs.

Partners: local Housing Foundations and SWCDs.

Results: Reduces water pollution (data submitted to DEQ BMP Warehouse).

Learn More: tjpd.org/our-work/septic-assistance-program/



Please note: Septic systems vary. Diagram is not to scale.

Why?

1. In the Bay region, septic systems are estimated to release 7.8 million lbs. of N a year and are a large portion of household pollution in rural and suburban areas.
2. Over ½ of the approximately 1.1 million onsite sewage systems in Virginia are reaching the end of their usable lifespan.
3. A majority of the over 700,000 private wells in Virginia are not regularly tested for water quality.
4. Low-income homeowners struggle to afford costly repairs required when out of compliance.
5. Failing septic systems pollute groundwater and surface water, leading to illness and disease, while unmaintained wells can become contaminated making water unsafe to consume.

Rain Barrel Workshop Program



8 Rain Barrel Workshops in 2025

- Spring
 - Greene
 - Date: March 6th at Jacks Shop Kitchen
 - Albemarle
 - Date: April 9th at King Family Vineyard
 - Charlottesville
 - Date: May 1st at Starhill Brewery
 - Nelson
 - Date: May 21st at Blue Mountain Barrel House
- Fall
 - Albemarle, Charlottesville, Louisa
 - Dates & Locations: TBD
 - Fluvanna
 - Date: October 3rd at Cunningham Creek Winery

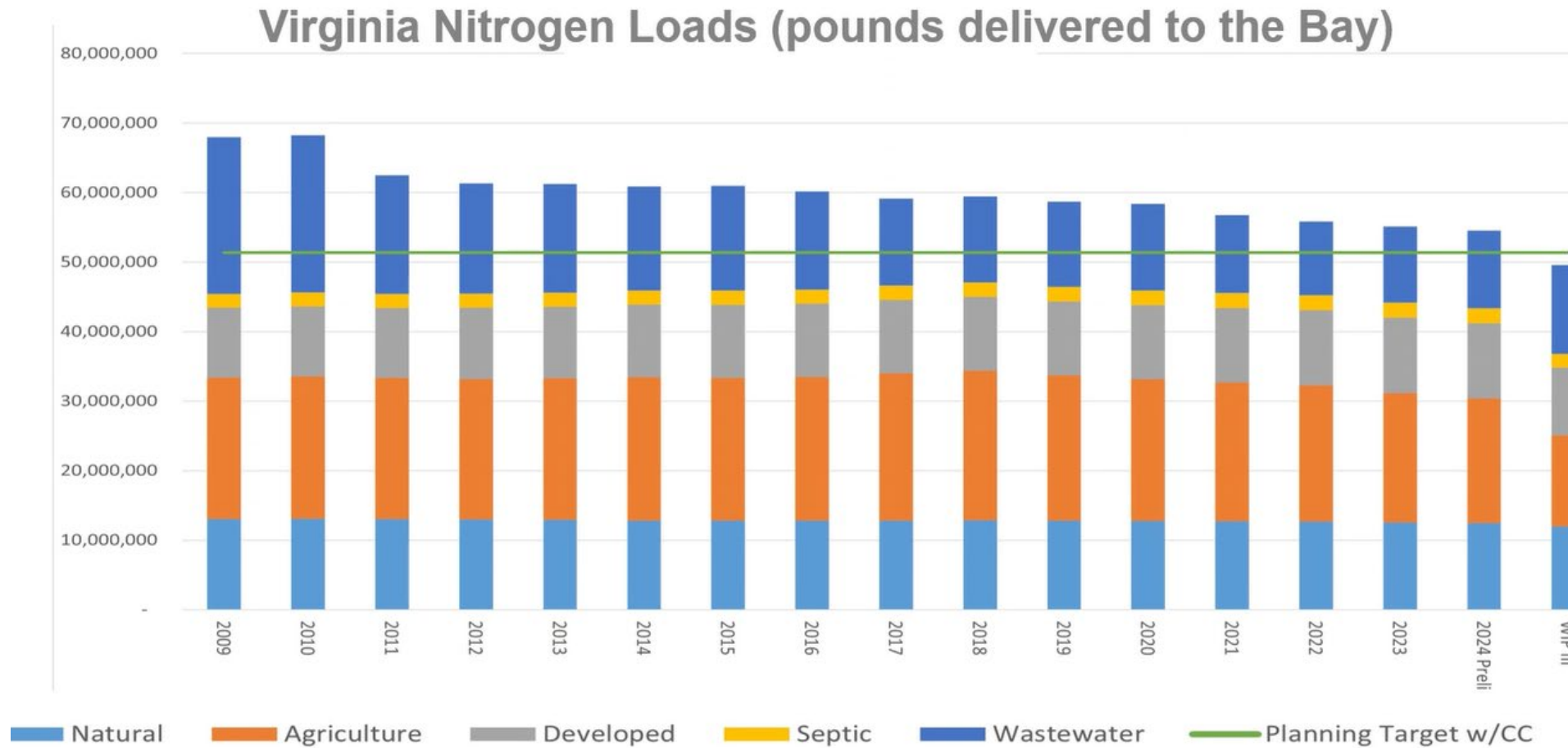
Thanks to partners TJSWCD, CSWCD, James River Association, Master Gardeners, Nelson County P&R, Charlottesville & Albemarle

Regional Environmental Coordination Meetings

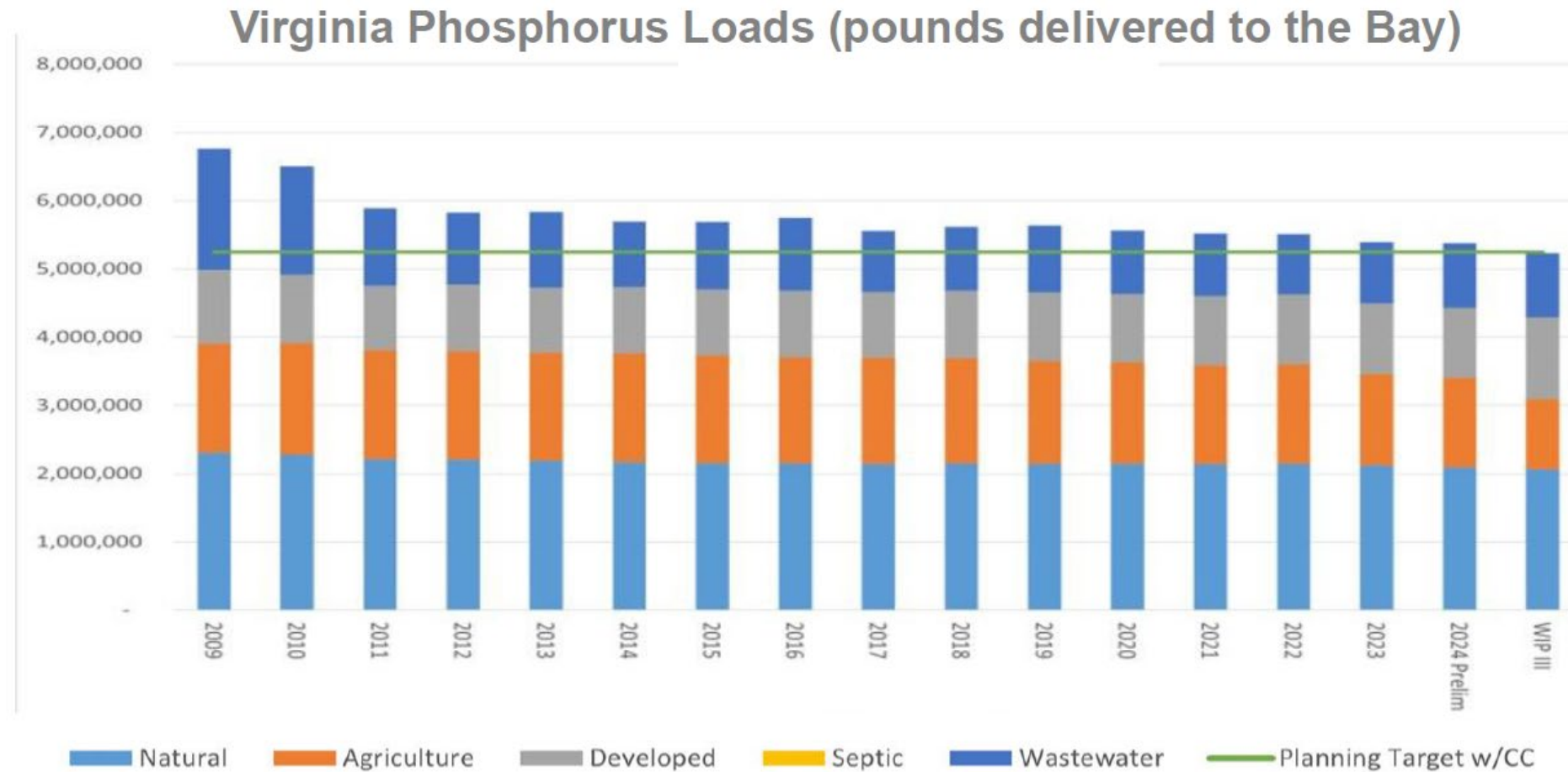
The typical format for these meetings includes:

- Introductions
- Expert presentation
- Updates on TJPDC environmental programs
- Roundtable discussion
 - Updates on current and planned projects, initiatives, questions and concerns

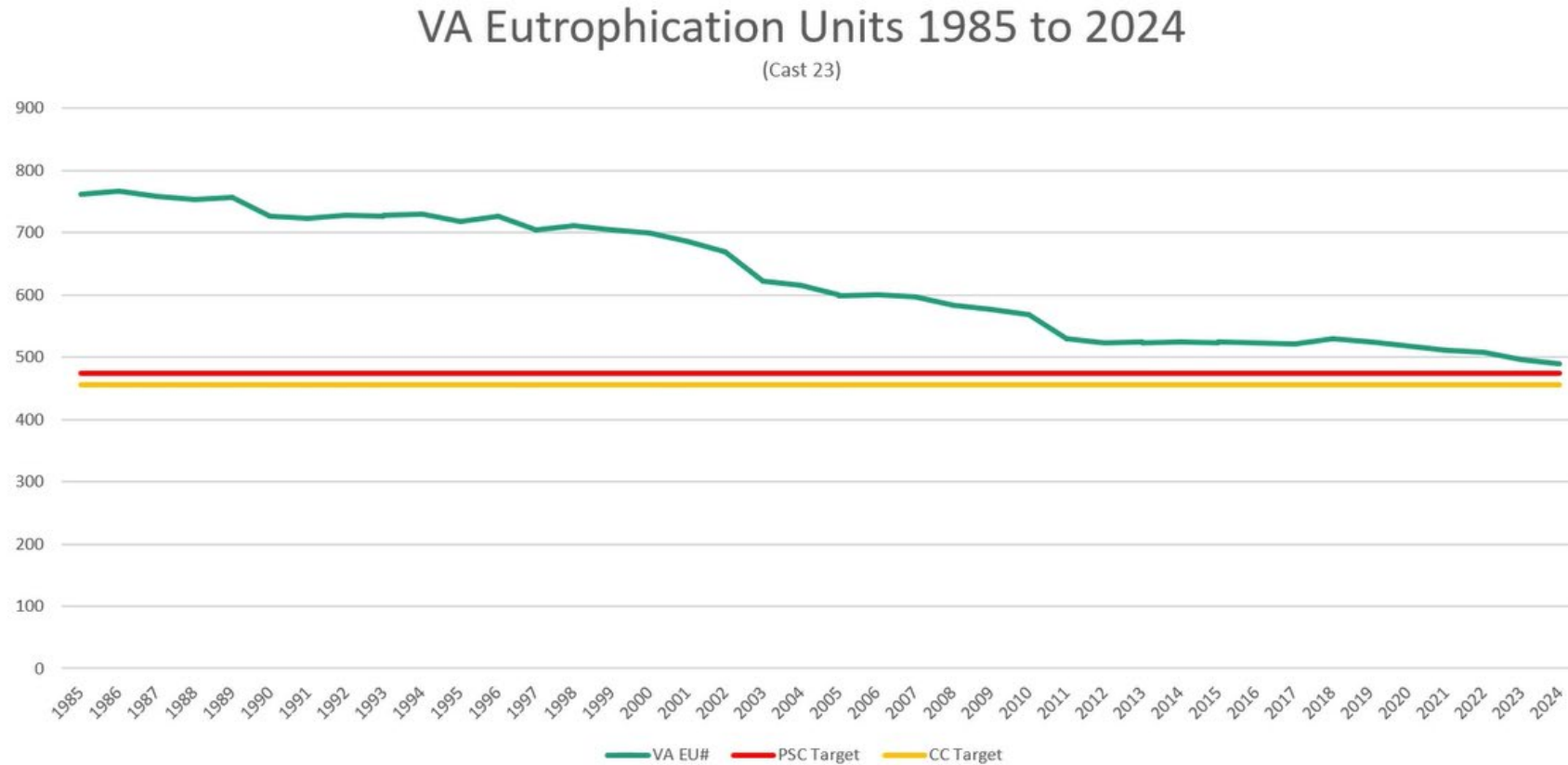
2024 Progress Submission Update - CAST-23



2024 Progress Submission Update (cont.) - CAST-23

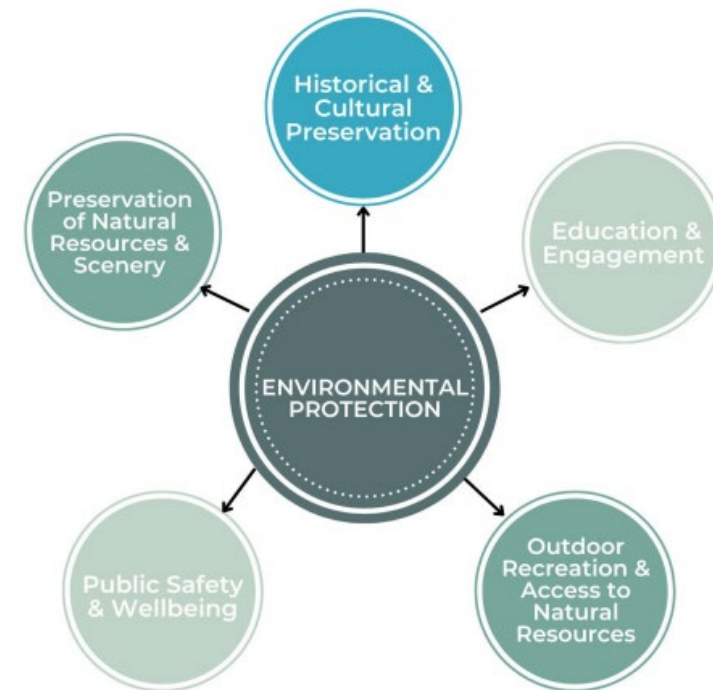


VA Progress Submissions in Eutrophication Units (EU)



RRBC Work Plan

- RRBC's current work plan concludes in 2027
- Accomplishments
 - Updated and modernized the RRBC Website
 - Successful RRBC Conferences
 - Staffing Meetings
 - Information sharing on Facebook
- Next Steps
 - Develop a historical timeline of the Rivanna River as it relates to water quality and environmental justice to help inform cultural and historical preservation along the Rivanna



Strategic Planning

- FY25: Information Gathering and Initial Brainstorming (Following Today's Meeting)
 - Review past work plan
 - Gather feedback from commissioners through a short survey
- FY26: Drafting and Refining the Work Plan
 - Based on the meeting and initial survey responses, draft deliverables to refine at the March 2026 Board Meeting.
 - Draft and refine the work plan
- FY27: Finalization and Adoption
 - Revise the draft work plan based on the Commissioners' input. (Share draft at August 2026 Meeting)
 - Present Final Work Plan for Approval: Bring the revised work plan to the RRBC Board meeting for adoption. (March 2027 Meeting)

Questions

1. What do you see as the *unique and most valuable role* the RRBC can play within the Rivanna River Basin moving forward?
2. What are the *most pressing water resource issues or needs* within the Rivanna River Basin that you believe the RRBC should prioritize in the next strategic plan?
3. Who are the *key stakeholders* (beyond the current board) that the RRBC should be engaging with more effectively to achieve its goals? Is there anyone we want to engage with while we develop the next work plan?
4. The annual conference has been a key aspect of our work. How can we ensure it remains relevant and impactful? Are there potential *partnerships or new formats* we should explore for the conference?
5. What are your thoughts on the *current structure of the RRBC Board meetings*? Are there ideas for more effective ways to utilize your time and advance the Commission's work?

RRBC Roundtable

- Identifying Items for Next Meeting:
 - Executive Committee Meeting in Early Summer
 - Board Meeting August 19th, 2025
- Identifying Topics for fall RRBC Conference
 - 2022: Solar
 - 2023: PFAS
 - 2024: Urban Rivanna Corridor
- Each Commissioner is invited to share updates related to the jurisdiction.

