



Innovative Reuse Committee 2021 Workshop Series
New Friends, New Tools, and Burning Questions

Tuesday, May 25, 5:30 pm – 7:00 pm

WORKSHOP NOTES

The following notes provide key highlights from the workshop, including summaries of presentations, group polling, and discussions. Additional information can be found in the attached appendices.

Workshop Objectives - to present a list of participant-identified groups for outreach opportunities; to preview the new innovative reuse and beneficial use (IRBU) draft website tool; and to develop a list of frequently asked questions (FAQs).

Welcome, Introductions, and Ground Rules- *Jim Eisenhardt, Sari Rothrock, and Kim Troiani, RK&K*
Mr. Eisenhardt welcomed participants to the workshop and reviewed the agenda. Sari Rothrock reviewed the list of attendees (**Appendix A**), read the ground rules, and reviewed Microsoft Teams functionality.

Innovative Reuse Program Updates- *Kristen Keene, MDOT MPA*
Ms. Keene provided an update on the Ridgley’s Cove Project, stating that MDOT MPA has collected confirmation samples of the blended material which was hauled to the Ridgley’s Cove site. The sample results have been found to be favorable. MDOT MPA and project partners will work to obtain MDE approval of the confirmation sample results. Ms. Keene also shared the new Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) confirmation of suitability (COS) video that explains the process and forms that may be utilized for seeking regulatory approval and tracking dredged material from the supplier to the end user. Ms. Keene’s slides can be found in **Appendix B**.

One participant inquired about the threshold between a “small” and “large” project and at which point a project/entity should use the forms. Ms. Keene responded that small and large projects are not specifically defined; it is recommended that anyone wanting to reuse material should seek input from MDOT MPA and/or MDE. Another IRC member responded with [a link to the MDE flowchart](#) that provides more information.

New Friends- *Jim Eisenhardt and Sari Rothrock, RK&K*
In advance of the workshop, participants were asked to submit potential partners for future outreach and stakeholder engagement efforts. Ms. Rothrock provided a summary of the submissions, which fell into seven categories.

CATEGORY	IRC RECOMMENDATIONS
Professional Organizations	American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA), Maryland Association of Counties (MaCO), Maryland Transportation Builders & Materials Association (MTBMA), Maryland Asphalt Association (MAA)
Institutes, Councils, and Universities	Interlocking Concrete Pavement Institute (ICIP), US Green Building Council, Local Universities
State Elected Officials	Johnny Olszewski, Stephen W. Lafferty, Senator Pinsky, Senator Fry-Hester, Oliver Ellsworth



Engineering and Manufacturing Companies	Chaney Enterprises, Northgate Environmental Management
State Agency Programs	DNR Waterway Improvement Fund
Nonprofits and Religious Organizations	Churches, Safe Bays Organizations
Unions / Union Representatives	N/A

Participants were encouraged to submit additional “new friends” via email or the chat box. Additional recommendations included:

- Local Departments of Public Works (for projects requiring fill material)
- Local Recreation and Parks Departments (for site reclamation/restoration needs)
- Local Sustainability Offices (for shoreline resiliency projects- site elevation increases or berm creation to protect infrastructure)
- Senior centers (provide information in monthly newsletters)
- Maryland State Builders Association

New Tools- *Walt Dinicola and Jill Oliver, Anchor QEA*

Mr. Dinicola conducted a walkthrough of the new IRBU website tool that was created based on IRC input. The tool provides information about all facets of the innovative reuse and beneficial use program in one location- including forms, informational videos, project descriptions, contacts, and links to other regulatory information. (Previously, this information was scattered among different agencies and websites.) The project descriptions tab includes details about projects that utilize dredge material, including information about the fill volume used. The site is not currently live but will be in the coming weeks. The IRC distribution list will be notified when the site is available for public use.

In response to a participant question regarding whether the site will provide information about cost, Ms. Keene stated that MDOT MPA is not charging for dredged material at this time.

Burning Questions: FAQ Break-out

Participants were broken into three facilitated groups to compile a list of potential “Frequently-Asked Questions” to be used in future outreach efforts. Facilitated breakout groups compiled lists of frequently asked questions. Breakout session notes for each group can be found in **Appendix C**.

FAQ Report-out

All workshop participants convened for report-outs. Each group shared five of their questions with the larger committee. (The criteria for selecting the five questions shared by each breakout group was not standardized.) The full list of questions can be found in the notes in **Appendix C**.

	Main Room (Walt/Sari)	Breakout Room 1 (Jim/Kristen)	Breakout Room 2 (Chris/Dallas)
1	What is the salt content of dredge material?	How much does it cost to reuse dredge material vs. traditional materials for the same applications?	What is dredge material and what does it contain?
2	How can I find products made from dredge material?	What are the social and environmental benefits of using dredge material, and how do	Is there a minimum amount of dredge material that I can request?



	Main Room (Walt/Sari)	Breakout Room 1 (Jim/Kristen)	Breakout Room 2 (Chris/Dallas)
		they factor into costs associated with a project?	
3	How is the material transported from the facility to the application site and how much does it cost?	Why would you blend dredge material with other material?	Are there limitations on where the material can be placed?
4	What is the risk of using material once it's been categorized?	Are there examples of successfully blending dredge material for reuse?	Is dredge material able to be used for agricultural applications?
5	Who owns the risk/liability?	Are there additional requirements for blending dredge material for reuse?	Can dredge material give you cancer or other illnesses?

Appendix D provides a list of the questions that arose multiple times across breakout groups.

Next Steps

Mr. Eisenhardt informed the group that the workshop team would prepare a summary of the notes, including a compiled list of FAQs. The FAQs will be answered and used in future outreach efforts. The next workshop will be held on Tuesday, August 24th and will be focused on marketing and branding.

Adjourn

Appendix A

Participant List

Innovative Reuse Committee Members:

Anne Arundel County Dept. of Public Works: Chris Phipps
Baltimore City Planning: Bruna Attila
Chesapeake Bay Foundation: Doug Myers
Cox Creek Citizens Oversight Committee: Gary Gakenheimer
Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE): Matt Rowe
Maryland Department of Transportation State Highway Administration (MDOT SHA): Darren Swift
MDOT, The Secretary's Office (TSO): John Denniston
Northeast Maryland Waste Disposal Authority: Andrew Kays
Stancills, Inc.: Chris Siciliano
Turner Station Conservation Teams (TSCT): Larry Bannerman
US Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District (CENAB): Kevin Brennan

IRC Support Staff and Observers:

Facilitators: Jim Eisenhardt and Sari Rothrock (RK&K)
Anchor QEA: Walter Dinicola, Jill Oliver
Biohabitats: Elena Stachew
Bulldog Group: Ano Mugwagwa
EA Engineering, Science, and Technology, Inc.: Chris Overcash
EcoLogix Group: Steve Pattison
MDOT Maryland Port Administration (MDOT MPA): Katrina Jones, Kristen Keene
MDOT The Secretary's Office (MDOT TSO): Sandy Hertz
Maryland Environmental Service (MES): Dallas Henson
Northgate Environmental Management (NGEM): Sam Merrill
Patapsco/Back River Tributary Team: Stuart Stainman
RK&K: Kim Troiani, Jared Jackson
Straughan Environmental: Dirk Lueders
University of Maryland Center of Environmental Science (UMCES): Elizabeth Price
Additional Participants: Eleanor Lawrence

Appendix B

Innovative Reuse Program Update

INNOVATIVE REUSE PROGRAM UPDATES

KRISTEN KEENE





Ridgely's Cove Demonstration Project

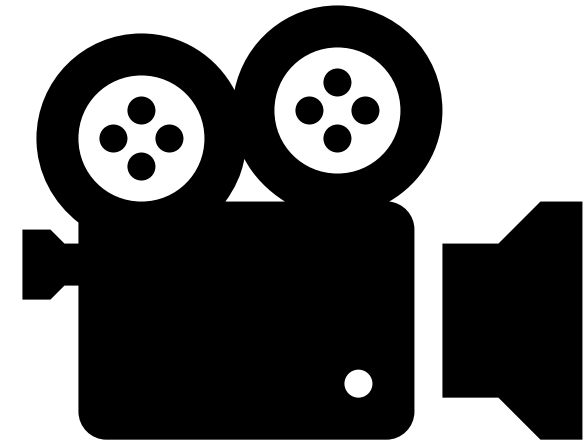
- ✓ Establish a DM Blend to Meet Recreational Fill Standards
- ✓ Initial Material Sampling
- ✓ Material Hauling/Blending
- ✓ Confirmation Sampling
- ✓ Initial Review of Sample Results



Ridgely's Cove Demonstration Project

- ✓ Establish a DM Blend to Meet Recreational Fill Standards
- ✓ Initial Material Sampling
- ✓ Material Hauling/Blending
- ✓ Confirmation Sampling
- ✓ Initial Review of Sample Results
- MDE Approval of Confirmation Sample Results

New MDE COS Video





Confirmation of Suitability (COS) Forms

for the Innovative Reuse
and Beneficial Use of
Fill and Dredged Material

Appendix C
Breakout Group Notes

MAIN ROOM; Facilitator: Walt Dinicola; Note-Taker: Sari Rothrock

General

- What is the IRC? What is its role in relation to dredge material? (Uses, applications beyond normal Port activities?)
- What interactions does the IRC have with MDE in vetting the use of dredge material?
- What is it suitable for?
 - What are the applications in natural and nature-based features? (Shoreline stabilization?)
- Where does the material come from?
- What is the salt content of dredge material?
- How can I find products made from dredge material?
- What are other ports using their dredge material for?

Requesting Dredged Material

- Transportation of material to and from where it will be used? (Build tool with DNR- recipient sites for thin-layer application)
 - Cost
 - Logistics
 - Is there a minimum amount?
- Is there a tool similar to the Dept of Ag's phosphorus management tool? ("Online dating app" for dredge material)
- Availability for requesting material?

Regulatory Requirements

- What is the risk of using material once it's been categorized?
- Who owns the risk? (What happens if it's re-categorized at a later date? Future liability)
- Blending bio char with dredge material- what is the role of the IRC?
- How much blending does the material need for any given application? How does it compare to other available resources?
- Is the material certified or clean where you want it to go?

Perception and Myths

- Is dredge material safe to use?
- What is the process to make it safe?
- What is the impact of the dredge material on vegetation?
 - How suitable is material for different vegetation? (Demonstration projects can support answer!)
- How could years of pollution from Bethlehem Steel be eliminated through the process? (Must use the word "clean" or "certified" in front of the words "dredge material" and include "tested by MDE")

BREAKOUT ROOM #1; Facilitator: Jim Eisenhardt; Note-Taker: Kristen Keene

General

- How much does it cost to reuse dredged material, compared to traditional upland placement?
- Is there any information about the environmental and social benefits related to reuse of dredged material?
- Where does dredged material come from?
- How frequently does dredging occur?
- What are the other ways in which dredged material can be used (besides fill applications)?
- Define IR and BU.
- Why is MPA trying to reuse DM, compared to traditional upland placement in a containment facility?

Requesting Dredged Material

- How often is material available, and at what quantities?
- Where is the available dredged material located?
- Who do I contact if I want to reuse dredged material or consider it for a project?
- Why would you blend dredged material, for what purpose? Are there examples of successful blends/recipes?

Regulatory Requirements

- Are there additional requirements if the material is used for blending?
- What are the regulations that govern the reuse of dredged material?
- How do I get material tested and where? How much does it cost (ballpark) to test the material per the MDE Guidance Document?
- Who is responsible for testing the material?

Perception and Myths

- Is dredged material toxic?
- How safe is the material; can it be placed in a recreational setting?

BREAKOUT ROOM #2; Facilitator: Chris Overcash; Note-Taker: Dallas Nicole Henson

General

- What is DM and what does it contain?
- What is IR/BU?
- Is the material clean/safe/tested?
- What is clean DM? How is clean defined.
- If I don't use all of the requested material, can I return it?
- Who are the points of contact for environmentally safe reuse, etc.?
- What does SHA think?
 - Does SHA have a spec on DM?
- Can you request certified DM?
- As the receiver of the DM what are my responsibilities?
- How can reuse be scaled up?
- How can the material get to the market cost effectively?
- What can the DM not be used for?
 - What should I avoid doing with it...what are the don'ts?

Requesting Dredged Material

- How can I get DM?
- Is there a min amount of DM that I can request?
- Is there a cost for the DM?
- Is now the best time to get your material as there may be a cost in the future.
- Should it be noted that while the material is free, there would be a cost to haul/pick up the material.
 - What about additional requirements for the hauler?

Regulatory Requirements

- At what stage would you determine that the DM would need to be blended to meet the end use requirements.
 - Would there be an additional cost associated with the additional blended material.
- Are there any limitations to where the material can be placed (outside the Harbor area)?
 - If there are limitations what would create the limitations (contaminates)?
- Can there/will there be long term site monitoring requirements.
 - Does it need to be noted in property records.
- Do you need to account for DM nutrients under the Bay TMDL?

Perception and Myths

- Is DM able to be used for ag uses?
- Can DM give cancer or other illness?
 - Is it really safe to use?

Appendix D

Questions/Topics Identified with the Greatest Frequency Across Breakout Groups

General

Sub-Topic: Definitions

- What is dredged material?
- What is innovative reuse/beneficial use?

Sub-Topic: Origin

- Where does dredged material come from?

Sub-Topic: Content

- What is in dredged material?

Sub-Topic: Suitability/Applications

- What can dredged material be used for?
- What can't dredged material be used for?
- What are some specific applications for dredged material for [habitat restoration, shoreline stabilization, agricultural uses, recreational uses, anything but traditional fill]?

Requesting Material

Subtopic: Logistics

- How can I get dredged material?
- When is the material available?

Subtopic: Cost

- How much does the material cost?
- How much does it cost to pick up/haul the material?

Subtopic: Quantity

- Is there a minimum request limit?
- How much material is available?

Regulatory Requirements

Subtopic: Blending

- What are the requirements associated with blending dredged material with other material?
- How much blending is required for [a specific application]?

Perception & Myth

Subtopic: Safety

- Is dredged material safe to use? (Is dredged material toxic/contaminated/harmful to human health?)
- How is dredged material processed to make it safe?

Subtopic: Certification

- Can you request certified clean dredged material?