CAD BULLETIN CONTACT AUGUST 2024

Introducing the CAD Bulletin

Welcome to the Maryland Port Administration (MPA) Confined Aquatic Disposal (CAD) Bulletin. We are creating this newsletter to provide timely and accurate information about CAD, upcoming meetings, and regulatory updates. Each issue will be filled with the latest information about how MPA works to find innovative solutions to dredged material capacity needs. We hope you find this information helpful. If you have any questions, comments, or topics you'd like us to cover in upcoming issues, please contact **Rachael Gilde at rgilde@marylandports.com**

CONFINED AQUATIC DISPOSAL (CAD) OVERVIEW

What Is CAD?

CAD is a technique used successfully in other ports in the US that involves placing and containing dredged material underwater. In 2011, the DMMP Harbor Team recommended that MPA consider a pilot study to determine if CAD is feasible in Baltimore Harbor.





Why Is MPA Exploring CAD?

MPA is responsible for the flow of waterborne commerce in Maryland, which requires significant maintenance dredging of the navigation channel system. Finding new placement capacity is a challenge in the Baltimore region. CAD is being investigated as a potential dredged material management solution for maintenance material dredged from Baltimore Harbor (see map) shipping channels.

CONFINED AQUATIC DISPOSAL (CAD) OVERVIEW (Con't)

Where Is Dredged Material Currently Stored?

MPA currently stores material dredged from Baltimore Harbor at Masonville and Cox Creek dredged material containment facilities. These facilities are active and undergoing expansion, but in the next 20 years, they will be near capacity, so it is important to plan for the future.



How Else Is Dredged Material Used?

In addition to storage, the MPA also uses dredged material to rebuild ecosystems throughout the Chesapeake Bay through Beneficial Use (BU) of dredged material and is partnering with companies for Innovative Reuse of dredged material to create new products.



CERAMIC BRICKS

CONCRETE BARRIERS

SHORELINE STRUCTURES

SOD WITH ENGINEERED SOIL

How Does CAD Work?

- Engineers design a CAD cell to reliably contain dredged material. The design is engineered using extensive modeling and scientific information gathered about the site location and the material to be placed.
- First, a depression (or cell) is excavated into the sand layer of the river bottom.
- Excavated sand is used in a beneficial or innovative way such as wetland creation or structural fill.
- The depression is then filled with dredged material.

LATEST NEWS

Currently, **all CAD design efforts remain paused.** During this time, MPA is expanding its community engagement efforts to reach more people, create opportunities for more dialogue, and ensure all feedback is incorporated into the planning process in the ongoing consideration of CAD as an innovative solution to dredged material management. We have also updated our engagement materials to reflect this change—check them out here on the **CAD webpage.**

Legislative Update: Despite strong MPA support for CAD Task Force legislation, the bill did not emerge from committee. Nevertheless, MPA remains committed to dedicating the necessary resources to achieve the objectives of the CAD Task Force as a sub-committee working under the Dredged Material Management Program's (DMMP's) Bay Enhancement Working Group (BEWG). Learn more about the BEWG on the **BEWG webpage**. The BEWG will be the foundation for the CAD Subcommittee as the BEWG consists of a suite of scientific and technical advisors, including those from resource agencies, that can support the CAD Subcommittee investigation.

CAD Subcommittee Creation: This new subcommittee's membership and objectives are modeled after those outlined in the CAD Task Force legislation. The members will explore technical aspects of a second pilot project, including environmental impacts and benefits, location selection, associated regulations, and socioeconomic benefits and impacts, to aid in meeting the state's long-term dredged material placement needs.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

August 21 BEWG Meeting [Virtual] 10:30 am - 11:30 am

The BEWG comprises technical personnel with expertise relevant to environmental issues in the Chesapeake Bay region. They advise MPA and its DMMP partners on environmental and social issues related to dredged material placement. This meeting will delve deep into the technical aspects of the project and include an update on the establishment of the CAD Subcommittee, a review of the Innovative Reuse and Beneficial Use (IRBU) Guidance Document, and the formation of a BU Subcommittee.

September 12 CAD Subcommittee Meeting [Hybrid] 1 pm - 3 pm

In-person at the Cox Creek Operations and Maintenance Building This newly formed CAD Subcommittee is established under the BEWG to explore technical aspects of a second CAD pilot project including environmental impacts and benefits; location selection; associated regulations; as well as socioeconomic benefits and impacts.

September 25 Citizens Advisory Committee Meeting

The Citizens Advisory Committee represents communities, local governments, recreational and commercial users of the Bay, and environmental interests. It is a communication link between the citizenry and MPA's Harbor Development staff. The CAC advises MPA and its DMMP partners on a wide array of dredging-related topics and issues, including CAD.

October 19 Cox Creek Open House

MPA is pleased to offer the public the opportunity to explore Cox Creek DMCF, only accessible a few times a year, including during this family-friendly Open House with opportunities to engage with MPA project managers and enjoy tours, educational games, snacks, and more!

RECENT EVENTS

June 1: Friends of Downs Park Family Day in Pasadena

May 1: Stoney Beach Condominium Association Meeting and Tour

Hosting an Information Session

Organizations around the region can invite MPA to present information showcasing the most recent information about CAD. If you'd like to schedule a session for your group, please complete the inquiry form HERE.

For More Information

- The most up-to-date information about CAD is available on the **MPA website**.
- MPA will be presenting CAD information and updates at the upcoming meetings listed on left. All of these meetings are open to the public.

CONTACT

MPA CAD Project Manager: Rachael Gilde rgilde@marylandports.com