

Mid-Atlantic Breakout Report
NIWR Fall Webinar Oct 29, 2024
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The NIWR Mid-Atlantic region includes the water research institutes at the District of Columbia, Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey/Rutgers, New York/Cornell, Pennsylvania University, Virginia Tech, and West Virginia in Morgantown.

Delaware: Jerry Kaufman and Andrew Homsey from the University of Delaware Water Resources Center reported the top research concerns involving water in the First State are PFAS in drinking water, harmful algal blooms (HABs) in lakes and reservoirs, and coastal/riverine flooding in the lowest lying state in the Union,

New Jersey: Lisa from the NJ Water Resources Research Institute at Rutgers reported student researchers are investigating PFAS, harmful algal blooms, and green stormwater infrastructure in the Garden State.

Maryland: Kaye from the MD Water Resources Research Center recommended acknowledging senator Ben Cardin for his support of the Water Resources Research Act and is trying to collaborate with UDWRC on joint research on the DELMARVA peninsula. In Maryland Kaye reported that road salt, water budget regarding climate, and drought are specific concerns.

West Virginia: Melissa from the WV Water Research Institute reported working with the Northern Brownfield Center on acid mine drainage coming from coal fields, stream reforestation, and habitat recovery are important areas of research in the Mountaineer state.

New York: At Cornell, Caleb and Ben from the NY State Water Resources Institute reported research on climate resilience and aquatic invasives in the Empire State. Watershed planning collaboration with the NYDEC supports 30 full-time scientists at Cornell.

Virginia: Kevin reported the VA Water Resources Research Center has 3 research associates and five graduate students at Virginia Tech. Areas of water research are PFAS, harmful algal blooms especially in Smith Mountain Lake near Blacksburg, data centers which have high water use demands in Northern Virginia around DC, and sea level rise in the Coastal Plain on the Eastern Shore of Virginia and Chesapeake Bay,

District of Columbia: Tolessa from the University of District of Columbia Water Resources Research Institute reported that PFAS, stormwater reuse, and water quality in the Potomac River for drinking water are specific research problems.