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For immediate release

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Chesapeake Research Consortium Executive Director is Expert Panelist for Maryland Public Television's Chesapeake Bay Summit 2024

One-hour special premieres at 8 p.m. on April 23 as part of MPT's 20th anniversary Chesapeake Bay Week

Progress toward Chesapeake Bay restoration goals has been slower than expected, raising important questions about the path forward. [Chesapeake Research Consortium's](#) Executive Director, Denice Wardrop, joins four other expert panel members and host, esteemed journalist [Frank Sesno](#), for the [Chesapeake Bay Summit 2024](#) to discuss the state of Chesapeake Bay restoration and changes needed to achieve a healthier system.

Wardrop represents findings of the groundbreaking report, "Achieving Water Quality Goals in the Chesapeake Bay: Comprehensive Evaluation of System Response (CESR)" developed by the [Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee \(STAC\)](#) to the Chesapeake Bay Program. She and Kurt Stephenson, Virginia Tech, are co-editors of the CESR report, which includes the contributions of more than 60 respected Bay scientists.

As 2025 approaches, the goal year for achieving pollution reduction targets, CESR authors dug into the science to understand what has worked, what hasn't, the size of the challenges ahead, and potential new approaches in support of a healthier Chesapeake Bay.

Frank Sesno, former CNN correspondent, anchor, and Washington bureau chief, and current director of strategic initiatives and professor at the School of Media and Public Affairs at George Washington University, leads the insightful conversation with expert panelists:

- Karl Blankenship, Editor-at-Large, Chesapeake Bay Journal
- Adam Ortiz, Mid-Atlantic Regional Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency
- David Sligh, Conservation Director, Wild Virginia
- Carmera Thomas-Wilhite, Vice President for Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Justice, Chesapeake Bay Foundation
- Denice Wardrop, Executive Director, Chesapeake Research Consortium

The hour-long premiere of *The Chesapeake Bay Summit 2024: Course Correction* airs on MPT-HD and [MPT livestream](#) on Tuesday, April 23rd at 8 p.m. EST. MPT's [online video player](#) and the free [PBS App](#) will also have the program available to stream live.

Additional information and resources on the broadcast can be found at mpt.org/bayweek/summit.

The Chesapeake Research Consortium (CRC), celebrating its 52nd year, is a non-profit [501(c)(3)] organization comprised of seven research and education institutions across the Chesapeake Bay watershed. CRC aspires to fully enable its member institutions and the broader scientific community in the region to contribute effectively toward better understanding and management of the Chesapeake Bay and its watershed. Each of CRC's member institutions has a long history of research within the Chesapeake Bay and its watershed, using that science to inform management, and training the workforce for science-based management.

To learn more about CRC and STAC, visit <http://www.chesapeake.org>.

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