

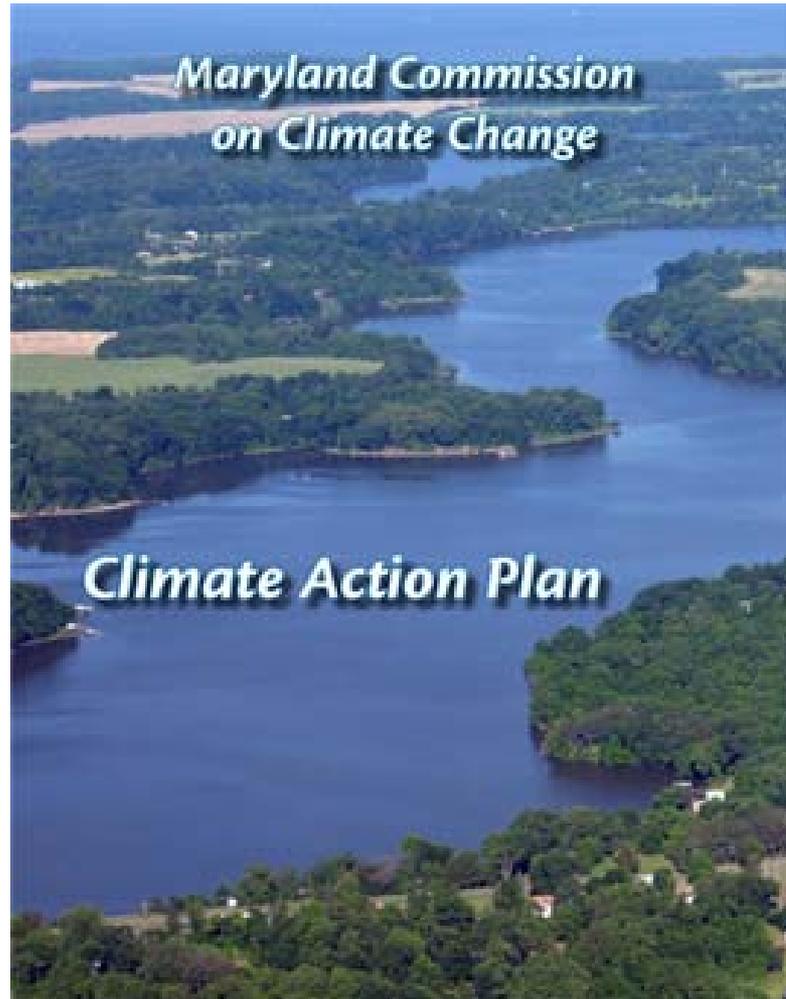
# Maryland Commission on Climate Change Climate Change Action Plan

Presentation to Reducing Environmental Footprint Workgroup  
October 29, 2008

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Still Pond Creek on the Upper Eastern  
Shore  
Ben Longstaff IAN Image Library  
([www.ian.umces.edu/imagelibrary/](http://www.ian.umces.edu/imagelibrary/))

August 2008

# Commission Established April 2007

- Executive Order
- Sixteen State agency heads and six members of General Assembly
- Charge: Develop Plan of Action
  - Address drivers of climate change
  - Prepare for likely impacts in Maryland
  - Establish goals and timelines for implementation

# Three Working Groups

- Scientific and Technical Working Group
  - How and when will climate change affect State?
- Greenhouse Gas and Carbon Mitigation Working Group
  - Develop comprehensive GHG and carbon footprint reduction strategy
- Adaption and Response Working Group
  - Develop comprehensive strategy for reducing vulnerability to climate change

Working Groups had supporting technical work groups

# Scientific and Technical Working Group

- Assessment of likely consequences
  - Review of literature
  - Supercomputer model projections
- Plan for:
  - 1 foot sea rise by mid-century
  - At least 2 feet by late in century
    - Maybe 4 feet

# Mitigation Working Group

- Established science-based goals
  - 2006 is base year
  - GHG reduction goals
    - 10% by 2012
    - 15% by 2015
    - 25% to 50% by 2020
    - 90% by 2050
- 42 strategies
  - Core of the Action Plan's mitigation strategy
  - Analysis of GHG reduction, cost, feasibility, barriers...

# Mitigation Working Group

- Early action is key
- Shrinking GHG footprint will grow the economy
- What Maryland does matters
  - Almost as many GHG emissions as Sweden and Norway

# Adaption and Response Working Group

- Over time, federal, State and local governments unable to assist all in need
- Begin sweeping shift toward sustainable economies
- Avoid assumption of financial risk
  - Development and redevelopment in highly hazardous coastal areas
- Much more

# Next Steps

- Most Early Action legislation already implemented
- State agency heads to begin implementation process
  - For each of the 42 mitigation strategies, and
  - Each of the 19 adaption strategies
- Develop implementation plan for each
  - Will likely involve significant stakeholder processes
- Commission to meet in fall 2008 and Spring 2009
  - Briefed on status of policies and implementation plan
- Build institutional capacity
  - Address climate change comprehensively and systematically

- Questions?