

LOCAL PARTNER UPDATE – A WATERSHED GRASSROOTS APPROACH

PA PHASE 3 WIP STATE TEAM MEETING

INTRODUCTIONS

- > Elizabeth Grant, AICP
 - Cumberland County Planning Specialist
 - Former Franklin County Planner
 - 12 years experience planning, grants and land conservation
- > Erin Letavic, P.E.
 - Civil engineer and project manager stormwater/MS4 focus
 - Herbert, Rowland & Grubic, Inc. (Harrisburg, PA)
 - 16 years experience

PROGRESS UPDATE



- > Focused on developing an implementable plan
 - BMPs that make sense
 - Funding matrix with match sources and implementation partners
 - Schedule (2025 deadline)

PROGRESS UPDATE



- > Outreach
 - Local leader small group Zooms
- > Utilize County staff resources
- > Corridors of Opportunity
 - Highest nitrogen per catchment acre
 - Highest ag land use acre per catchment
 - MS4s
 - Stormwater fees/authorities/utilities
 - Preserved farms
 - Plain sect

PARTNERS – WORK IN PROGRESS













- > MS4 Workgroup (multi-county)
- > County Municipal Advisory Board
- > Master Watershed Stewards
- > South Mountain Partnership Speaker Series
- > Alliance for Aquatic Resource Monitoring (ALLARM)

Pennsylvania Farm Bureau





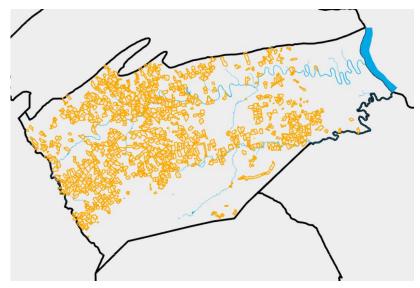
CHESAPEAKE BAY FOUNDATION
Saving a National Treasure

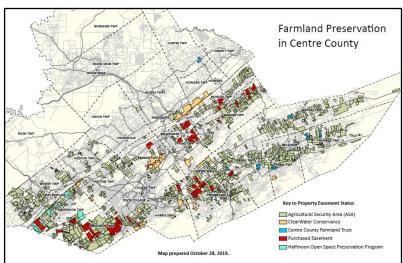






UNIQUE COUNTIES





- > Land use patterns
- > MS4s versus rural versus stormwater fees
- > Employers
- > University
- > Municipal relationships
- > Staff capacity
- > Drainage patterns
- > Water quality (nitrogen, acid mine drainage)

CUMBERLAND COUNTY

- > Warehousing
- > Air quality
- > Farm Preservation
- > Existing farm relationships







CENTRE COUNTY

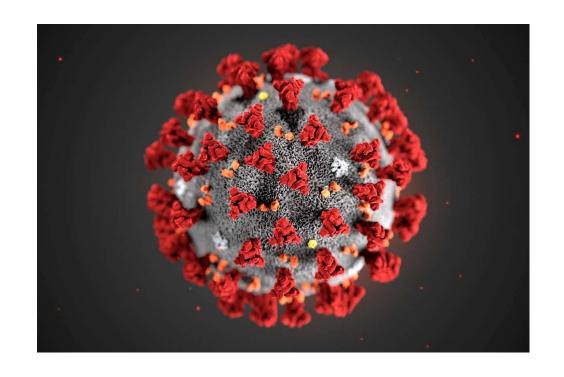


- > Penn State University
- > Only 6 MS4s
- > Communication is divided by geographic valleys
- > Acid mine drainage impacts



COVID CHALLENGES

- > Reaching agricultural community virtually
- > Staff capacity (furloughs)
- More structured dialogue – fewer chance interactions



COVID OPPORTUNITIES



- > Grassroots approach
- > Watershed-level engagement
- > Leverage existing organizational missions

PILOT VERSUS TIER 2 PLANNING

Pilot Planning Experience



- > Staffing capacity issues
- > Unclear roadmap, uncertain flexibility (formerly, the rules were the rules and now we can suggest changes?)
- > Planning versus action challenges
- > Larger-scale analysis than normal
- > Confusion over WIP and MS4
- > Received goal recommendations at the end of the process

PILOT VERSUS TIER 2 PLANNING

Tier 2 Experience



- > Programmatic recommendations are being followed through on
- > Funding for coordinator (A+)
- > Data resources and management (FieldDoc), website dashboard, storymaps
- > Communications resources
- > Chesapeake Bay Office team dedicated team complements our dedicated team

WE NEED YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT!

- > Funding
- > MS4 flexibility
- > Grassroots participation

