



**pennsylvania**

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL  
PROTECTION



Chesapeake Bay Program Office

# **Pennsylvania's Progress: Meeting Our Goal**

Agriculture Advisory Board  
October 22, 2020

Tom Wolf, Governor

Patrick McDonnell, Secretary

# Agenda

- Phase 3 WIP Implementation Strategy
- Implementation
- Local Action
- Reporting
- Communication and Engagement
- Programmatic Actions
- Monitoring and Data Management
- Conowingo Watershed Implementation Plan Update
- Action Items and Next Steps

# Pennsylvania's Phase 3 WIP Implementation Strategy

## Chesapeake Bay Office

Statewide Leadership, Coordination & Support

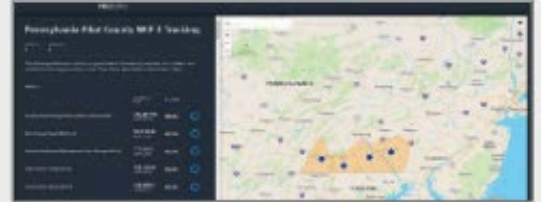
**Implementation  
State Team & Action Leaders**



**Local Action**



**Reporting**



**Communication  
& Engagement**



**Programmatic  
Actions**



**Monitoring  
& Data Management**



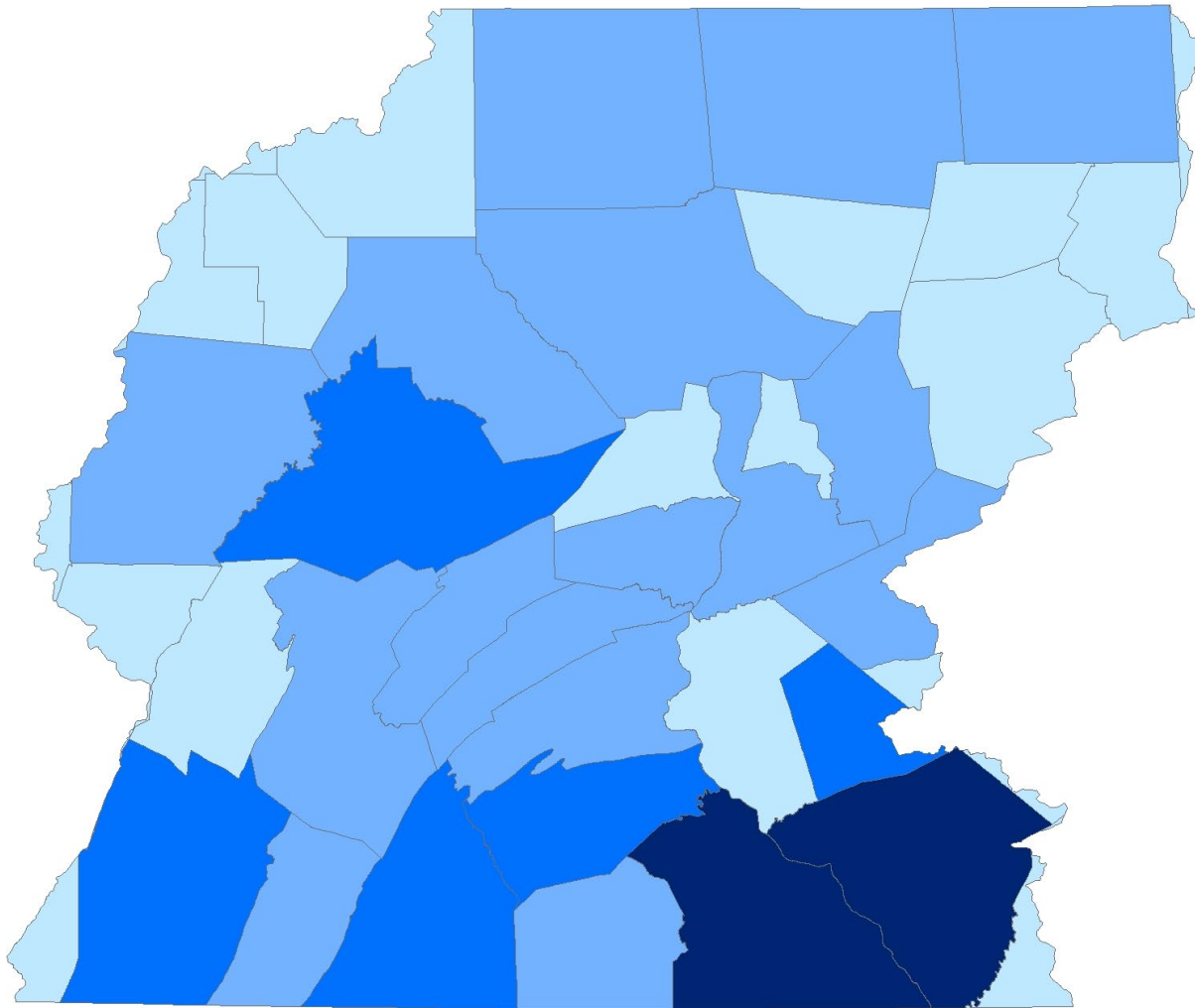
# CBO Phase 3 WIP Strategic Direction

1. What is our current **PROGRESS**?
2. What are our current **CHALLENGES**?
3. How do we **MOVE FORWARD** toward successful implementation?

# Implementation

- Action Leaders – meet quarterly to assess progress and address challenges
  - Agency (DEP, PDA, SCC, DCNR, SRBC) and external parties (CCAP, PMAA, PA Farm Bureau, Penn State, etc.).
  - Includes NRCS and EPA as federal partners
  - Invite-only meeting
- State Team – meets every 6 months (January and July) to provide direction
  - Secretaries of DEP, DCNR, and PDA are co-chairs
  - Action Leaders
  - Public Meeting

# Where Should Efforts be Prioritized?



Tier 1 - First 25% of Reductions



Tier 2 - Second 25% of Reductions



Tier 3 - Third 25% of Reductions



Tier 4 - Last 25% of Reductions

# Local Action

- Working with Tier 1 and Tier 2 County Coordinators on planning and implementation support, developing education and outreach materials and data and reporting tools
  - Additional information sharing and trainings through “Webinar Wednesdays”
    - Guest speakers, County updates
    - Recorded webinars: Closing the Deal, Social Skills for Social Media, Making the Connection, FieldDoc Data Management, etc.
  - First round of Countywide Action Plan (CAP) Implementation Grants currently being put toward practices outlined in the Pilot Counties’ CAPs.
  - Tier 2 Counties’ CAPs are slated to be complete by December 2020
- DEP Regional Offices and Chesapeake Bay Office collaborating to provide outreach to Tier 3 and 4 counties

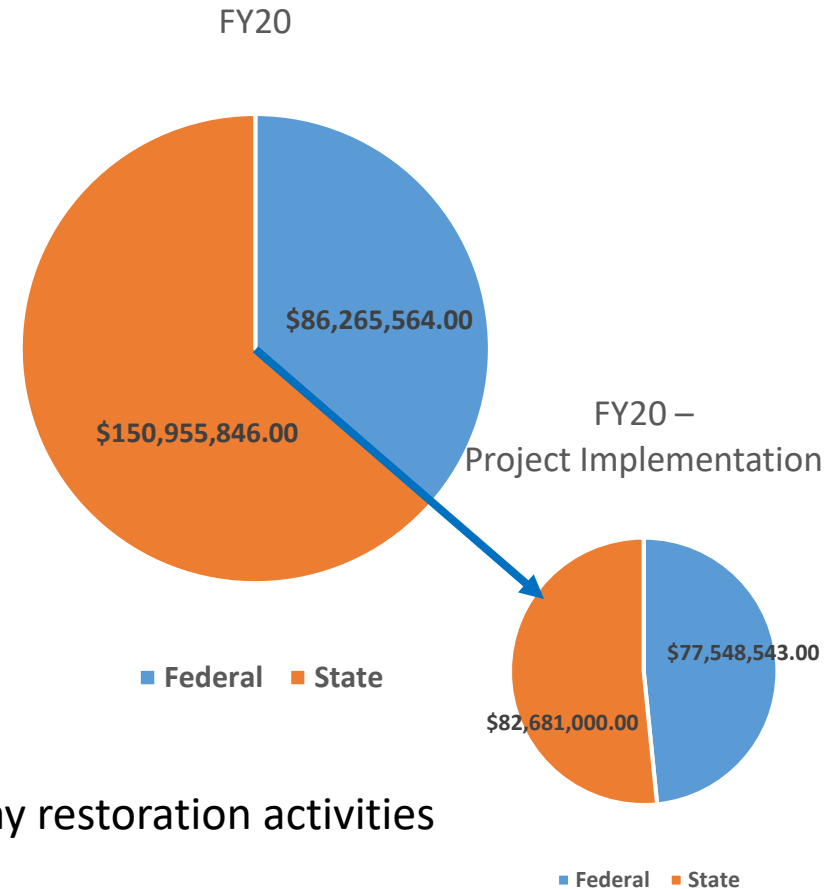
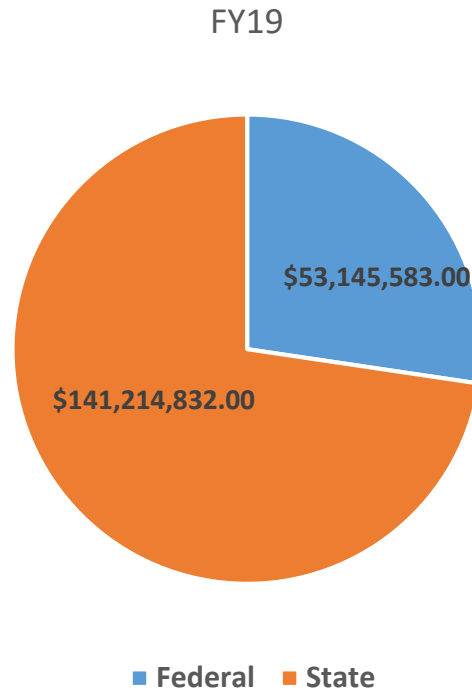
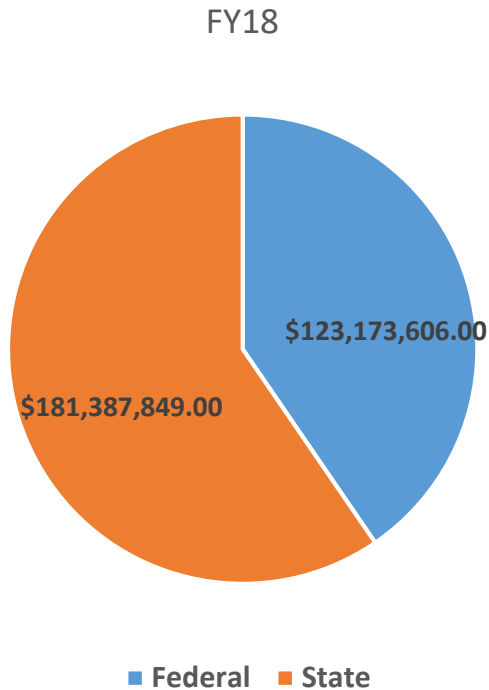
# Reporting

- Final 2020-2021 Programmatic and Numeric Milestones were submitted to EPA
- New Reporting Programs, such as:
  - Oil and Gas – Erosion and Sediment Control and Stormwater Management (ESCGP)
  - Air – Ensuring deposition modeling is current and accurate
  - PennDOT – Erosion and Sediment Control and Stormwater Management
  - DCNR – BMPs (Green Infrastructure, Tree Plantings, etc.) installed as part of county parks rehabilitation program
  - CBF – 10 Million Trees Initiative
- Finalizing joint DEP/SCC LOU with the USGS and NRCS to share data for analysis of reporting overlap (double-counting)
- Collaborating with Chesapeake Bay Program Partners to acquire credit for practices historically not counted or not accurately counted:
  - Streams and wetlands restored through compensatory mitigation
  - Urban and non-urban stream restoration
  - Acid Mine Drainage and Abandoned Mine Land Reclamation



# Chesapeake Bay Accountability and Recovery Act

## Chesapeake Bay Accountability and Recovery Act (CBARA) State and Federal Funding Reporting Requirement



CBARA Reporting includes federal dollars received by state agencies for Chesapeake Bay restoration activities

# Communication & Engagement

- Healthy Watersheds, Healthy Communities story map
- Clean Water Academy – web-based training modules
- Chesapeake Bay Phase 3 WIP Website update
- Education & Outreach materials and training to support local outreach needs
- Phase 3 WIP monthly e-newsletter

# Programmatic Actions

- Climate Change - Finalization of *2020 Climate Change Impacts Assessment*
- Office of Water Programs Reorganization – Chesapeake Bay Office management and oversight
  - Section 319 and Growing Greener
  - Conservation District Support and Regional Field Representatives
  - New Ag Compliance, Inspection and Enforcement Section
- Permitting
  - Chapter 105 Regulatory Revisions
  - CAFO Permit Amendment
  - DEP Southcentral Regional Office Weekly Pre-App meetings with Lancaster and York (Tier 1) Counties
- Compliance, Inspection, and Enforcement
  - Chesapeake Bay Ag Inspection Program
  - NPDES CAFO, Construction Stormwater, Municipal Stormwater, Wastewater

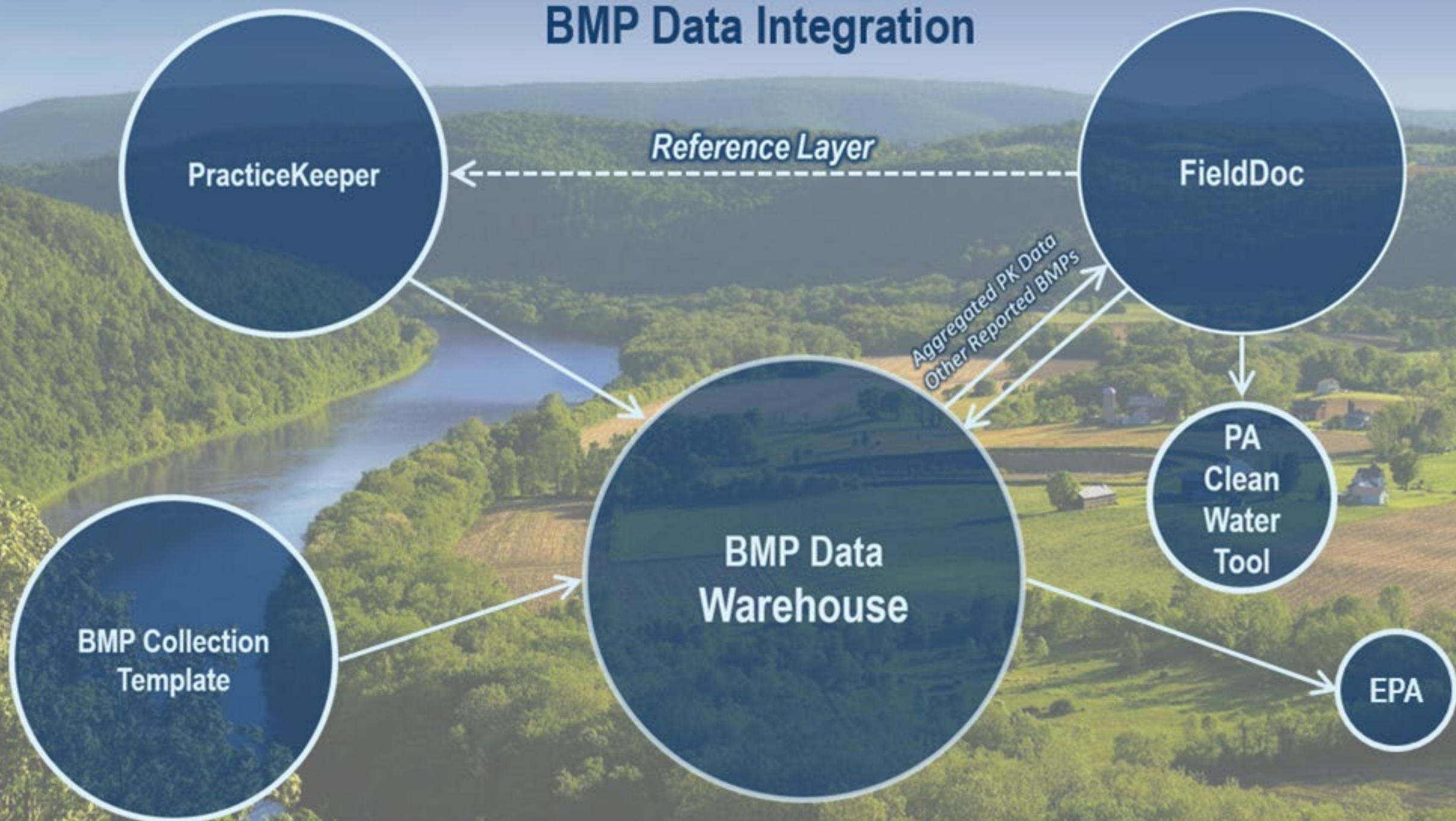
# Programmatic Actions

- Continuing to provide support to conservation districts
  - Chesapeake Bay Technician and Engineer Specialist/Assistant Contracts – CBRAP/CBIG and Chesapeake Bay Nonpoint Source Abatement Fund
  - Watershed Specialist Contracts – Environmental Stewardship Fund
  - Nutrient and Manure Management Delegation Agreements – Nutrient Management Fund
  - Conservation Excellence Grant Program (NEW) – Lancaster, York, Cumberland, Franklin
  - Chesapeake Bay Ag Inspection Program Phase 2 Pilot (NEW) – Lancaster, Chester, Adams
  - Chapter 102 Delegation Agreements
  - Chapter 105 Delegation Agreements
  - Ag Conservation Technician (ACT) and Conservation District Funding Assistance Program (CDFAP)

# Monitoring and Data Management

- Draft 2020 Integrated Water Quality Monitoring Report
- Local TMDL and Alternative Restoration Plan (ARP) development and implementation
- NRCS and USGS – Super Gauge Station in Chiques Creek Watershed, Lancaster County

# BMP Data Integration



# Conowingo WIP

- The goal of the Conowingo WIP is to reduce and additional 6 million pounds of nitrogen, due to the infill at the Conowingo Dam.
- Multi-jurisdictional approach, with Steering Committee co-chaired by Maryland and Pennsylvania
- Cost-effectiveness and sector equity are key elements
- Geographic scale primarily based in Susquehanna River Basin and nitrogen-effective basins
- Seeking Principal Staff Committee (PSC) decisions to proceed
- Draft may be released for public comment this Fall



# Moving Forward



**Action Items and Next Steps**



# 2020-2021 Milestone Commitments

- 2-year Numeric and Programmatic Milestones
- Published to the CBO Website here:
  - [DEP](#) > [Businesses](#) > [Water](#) > [Pennsylvania's Chesapeake Bay Program Office](#) > Track Pennsylvania's Progress

# 2020-2021 Numeric Milestone Commitments

60% Reduction in Nitrogen	Best Management Practices
	Nutrient Management - Core Nitrogen
	Soil Conservation and Water Quality Plans
	Cover Crop - Rye, Normal, Drilled (Traditional)
	Cover Crop - Rye, Normal, Drilled (Traditional with Fall Nutrients)
	Tillage Management - Continuous High Residue Management (>60% Residue)
	Animal Waste Management Systems
	Grass Buffers
	Forest Buffers
	Forest Buffers with Streamside Exclusion Fencing
<b>10-fold Increase in Implementation</b>	Grass Buffers with Streamside Exclusion Fencing
	Prescribed Grazing
	Manure Incorporation/Injection
	Urban Stream Restoration
	Urban Nutrient Management
	Bioswales
	Grey Infrastructure - Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination (IDDE)
<b>Additional BMPs</b>	Conservation Tillage (30%-60% residue)
	Wetland Restoration
	Non-urban Stream Restoration
	Land Conservation Policy

# Action Item Status

**Green: Completed or on-track**  
**Yellow: In progress with minor hurdles**  
**Red: Not started or in progress with major hurdles**

# Actions Steps and Timeline

## Completed –

- Finalize and release Healthy Watersheds, Healthy Communities Story Map (C&E)
- Review and finalize 2020-2021 Programmatic and Numeric Milestones (Reporting)
- EPA acceptance of PA BMP Verification Program Plan (ver. 8/2019) (Implementation and Reporting)
- Stimulate discussion and elicit support from WQGIT for joint remote sensing BMP verification project with other jurisdictions (Implementation and Reporting)
  - Chesapeake Bay Program Partnership - BMP Verification Ad Hoc committee was formed in May 2020. PA will have three primary and at least one secondary representative on this committee

# Actions Steps and Timeline

## Completed –

- Selection of entity for Center for Water Quality Excellence (Implementation)
- Ag Inspection Program – Phase 2 Pilot (Programmatic and Implementation)
- Conservation Excellence Grant – Pilot (Programmatic and Implementation)
- Release of FieldDoc Tool for CAP Reporting (Data Management and Reporting)
- Conowingo WIP Draft Release (Programmatic and Implementation)

# Actions Steps and Timeline

## Present – October 2020

- Tier 3 and 4 County Outreach and initiate CAP Planning (Local Action and C&E)
- Manure Management and Ag E&S Planning Training (Programmatic and Implementation)
- Draft Phosphorus Index revision for Nutrient Management (Programmatic)
- MS4 Annual Reports (Data Management and Reporting)
- Stormwater BMPs reported in various DEP and State Agency Programs (Data Management and Reporting)
- Compilation and integration of all Pennsylvania data begins for 2020 Annual Progress Reporting (Data Management and Reporting)

# Actions Steps and Timeline

## 3 Months – January 2021

- Wastewater Plant Performance Technical Assistance (Implementation)
- Pass the Fertilizer Bill (Implementation)
- Collaborate with CBP Partnership and EPA to further credit BMPs (Data Management and Reporting)
- Collaborate with CBP Partnership and EPA to establish creditable practice or combination of practices for implementation of advanced soil health strategies in the CB Watershed Modeling tools (Data Management and Reporting)
- Install additional monitoring stations on the Susquehanna River (Monitoring)
- State Agency Action Plans with nutrient reduction goals from state-owned lands (Programmatic)
- Completion of PRP/TMDL Plan Reviews for MS4s (Programmatic)

# Actions Steps and Timeline

## 6 Months – April 2021

- Engage with other jurisdictions regarding interstate trading and cross-jurisdictional financing (Implementation)
- Continue to engage with the Chesapeake Bay Program Partnership to ensure that CAST-2021 incorporates the recommendations from the jurisdictions (e.g. address nutrient management BMP relative to full-season soybeans, address BMPs that have not been adequately credited, address BMP Verification recommendations from CBP Partnership Ad Hoc Committee) (Reporting)
- Investigate the potential for and implementation of short-term, low-interest, loans and other financing streams for agricultural projects (Implementation)
- Develop funding opportunities for turf conversion programs (Implementation)
- Continue to work with Tier 1 and 2 counties on CAP Implementation (Local Action and Implementation)
- Continue to work with Tier 3 and 4 counties on CAP Development (Local Action)



# Updates

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