

Bay is dying, scientists warn

By Michael Wentzel Evening Sun Staff

From May through most of September, 25 percent of the Chesapeake Bay in Maryland-from the Bay Bridges to just south of the Potomac River - is dead.

At a depth below 30 feet, this 65-mile stretch of the bay is exyges-starved, choked with poisonous hydrogen sulfide and uninhabitable. No crab, no fish, no oyster can ve there. Only rugged anaerobic bacteria can survive.

"This deepwater oxygen loss has occurred in the past. 's a natural phenomenon but not on such a scale," said y Taft, a research scientist with the Johns Hopkins esapeake Bay Institute

"Since 1960, it has extended over a wider area and for onger period of time. The increase in intensity has been matic. Man's activity in the watershed has helped to

Little has changed since the first reports of problems the Chesapeake Bay

e these increases. This is the strongest single indicawe have that the bay has changed in the last 20 years my feeling is that it is for the worse.

aft's findings, along with those of a wide range of stists under the federal Environmental Protection ncy's \$27 million Chesapeake Bay Program, etch a nitive portrait of a bay undergoing extensive and ntially calamitous changes.

reviously conservative scientists like Taft and Kent rice, a marine biologist at the University of Delae, who five years ago believed the bay was a healthy y of water, have found the portrait so alarming they e decided to speak out.

Before this research began, I felt the bay was fairly stine," Price said. "I no longer feel that. At least onerd of the bay is stressed. If something is not done, it e't be long - perhaps 10 years - when two-thirds of the y will be stressed. If society desires to preserve the bay it is now, we must do something soon.

The research details the steadily increasing presence toxic chemicals and metals and the growing domiance of minute plant and animal life that cut off light and suck oxygen from the bay waters.

The studies also appear to refute the theory that the changes in the bay-the dwindling number of rockfish and the disappearance of the grasses that once covered the bay floor - are part of a natural cycle.

"This is a portrait of a body of water on a decline." said-Price, who works on the program's staff.

"The decline continues to accelerate. Any prudent individual reviewing the information would have to conclude that we must apply increased controls. Just to hold things as they are now, we will have to do something."

Completing almost five years of work, the bay program staff and scientists will produce by the end of this year at least 40 technical reports, a series of summary articles called "synthesis papers," a report characterizing the state of the bay and a management report outlining strategies for improving the bay

The Evening Sun interviewed a dozen scientists who worked in the bay program, which has been one of the broadest and most thorough examinations ever of a single body of water. The major findings of the program re-

. The amount of nitrogen and phosphorus flushed out of sewage treatment plants and skimmed off fertilized farmlands into the bay has doubled in the last 20 years. The two chemicals act as nutrients, accelerating growth of minute plant and animal life that have a variety of ef-





Darkened area shows parts of bay poisoned and oxygen-starved 30 feet below surface.

Bay action awaits review by EPA

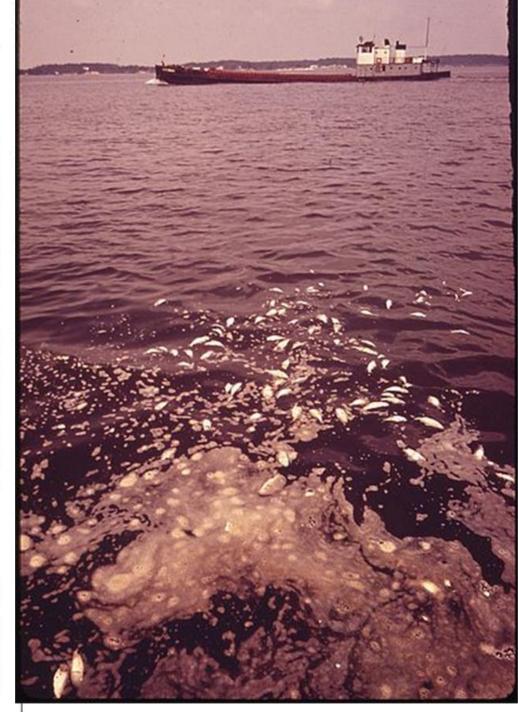
By Michael Wentzel Evening Sun Staff

With only five months left in the life of the Chesapeake Bay Program-the federal Environmental Protection Agency's \$27 million effort to study the state of the nation's largest estuary-no one has a plan to translate the program's scientific findings into governmental action.

Scientists and state officials agree on the high caliber and uniqueness of the work of the program which they say provides some startling assessments of the state of the bay and establishes a valuable data base for future study and management.

But no action apparently will be taken until the EPA reviews and publishes the scientific findings and then presents a series of management options to improve the bay. Those options could include increased and more costly levels of sewage treatment, tougher air pollution and

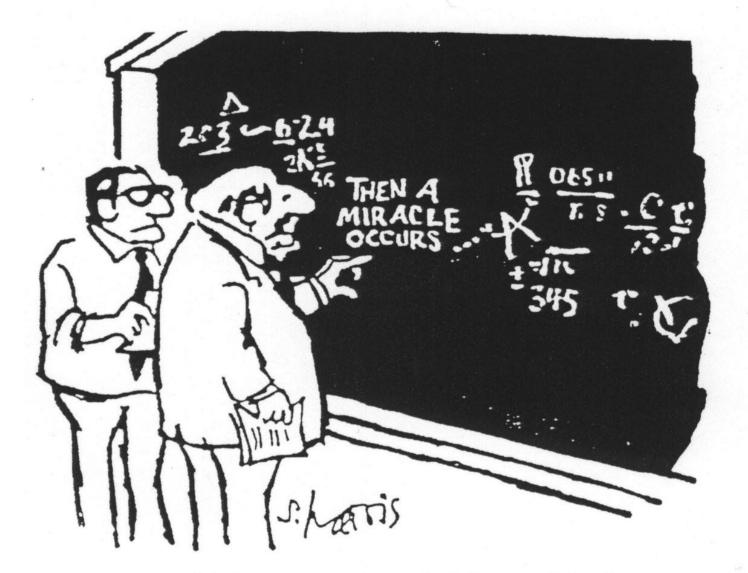
[Continued, Page A 8, Col. 1]











I think you should be a little more specific, here in Step 2

Est. 2010

Chesapeake Clean Water Blueprint

Goal: 2025

WHAT IS THE BLUEPRINT?

It's a unique agreement between the six Bay states, Washington D.C., and the EPA, designed to ensure pollution is reduced and local waterways are restored.







IT ENSURES
SHARED
RESPONSIBILITY.



IT SETS INCREMENTAL POLLUTION-REDUCING GOALS.



IT IMPOSES CONSEQUENCES FOR FAILURE.

AND IT IS WORKING.

The progress we are making shows what can be done when businesses, governments, and individuals work together. But much more needs to be done.

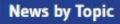
With 2025 Chesapeake Bay goal out of reach, region plans for what's next

Karl Blankenship

■ BAY JOURNAL

Oct 7, 2022 25











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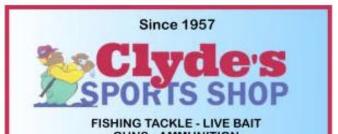
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No doubt: The Chesapeake Bay is improving

DOUG DOMENECH Jul 29, 2012 Updated Sep 19, 2019 💂 0

Scientists say they're confident Chesapeake Bay health is 'significantly improving'

By SCOTT DANCE

THE BALTIMORE SUN | JUN 15, 2018 AT 10:30 AM





Good news for the Bay, and some challenges



OPINION

Chesapeake Bay's got a friend in Pennsylvania | STAFF COMMENTARY



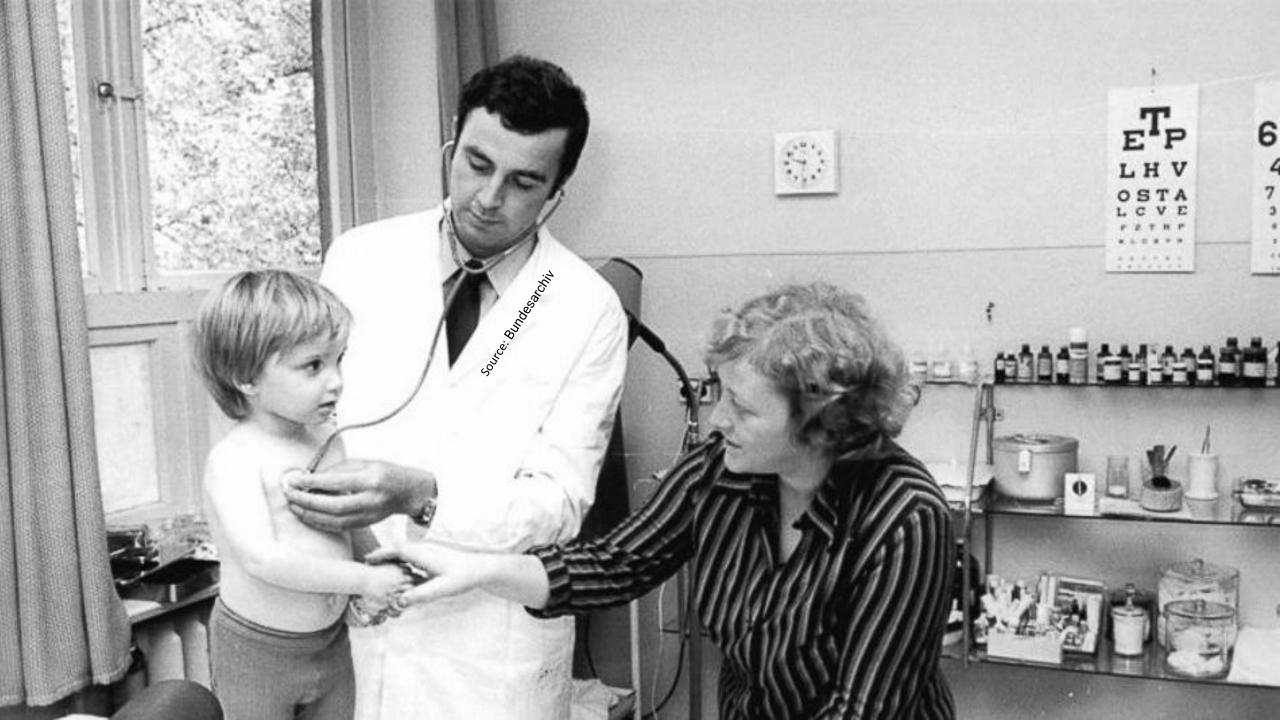
MOST POPULAR











Focus on Outcomes

Promote Innovation

Confront Impacts of Climate Change

Build & Strengthen Partnerships

Center around People

CBF'S VISION

A HEALTHY AND RESILIENT CHESAPEAKE BAY ECOSYSTEM

where people, plants, and animals thrive together PRIORITY

1

Drive the necessary policy and accountability actions.

Build the next generation of environmental leaders.

MISSION:

Save the Bay and its waterways by educating, uniting, and inspiring people to take action

PRIORITY

2

SHARED RESULT

RESTORING AND PROTECTING
THE CHESAPEAKE BAY, ITS
WATERWAYS, LANDS, AND WILDLIFE
IS A SHARED PRIORITY OF
INDIVIDUALS, BUSINESSES,
AND GOVERNMENTS.

SHARED RESULT

THE CHESAPEAKE BAY ECOSYSTEM IS HEALTHY, RESILIENT, AND PROTECTED FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS IN A CHANGING CLIMATE.

SHARED RESULT

ALL PEOPLE WHO LIVE,
PLAY, OR WORK IN THE
CHESAPEAKE REGION HAVE
EQUITABLE OPPORTUNITIES TO
EXPERIENCE, AND BENEFIT FROM,
A THRIVING CHESAPEAKE BAY.

SAVE THE BAY CHESAPEAKE BAY FOUNDATION

CORE VALUES:

We are connected, credible, and courageous in every facet of our work.

PRIORITY

Advance restoration of the Bay's natural Infrastructure.











CHESAPEAKE BAY FOUNDATION















CHESAPEAKE BAY FOUNDATION

Saving a National Treasure

PENNSYLVANIA







How ACAP Sets Pennsylvania Farmers up for Success

State, Federal, or Private Funding



State Conservation Commission

Resources are distributed based on number of:

- Impaired Agricultural Stream Miles
- Farms
- Cropland Acres
- Livestock and Poultry

Penn State Extension

(or other entity)

Supports Local Outreach and Education





\$220M Clean Streams Fund package

\$154M (70%) for ACAP

\$22M to Clean Water Procurement Program \$22M to Nutrient Management Fund \$8.8M to Act 167 planning \$8.8M to Keystone Tree Account \$4.4M to Abandoned Mine Drainage

Drive the necessary policy and accountability actions

1









Pennsylvania Stormwater Best Management Practices Manual

Chapter 1
Introduction and Purpose



Policy

Finalized

December 2006

18 years

Orive the necessary policy nd accountability actions









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Saving a National Treasure

















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Plans

Comprehensive, Collaborative, & Innovative

Places

High impact precision locations

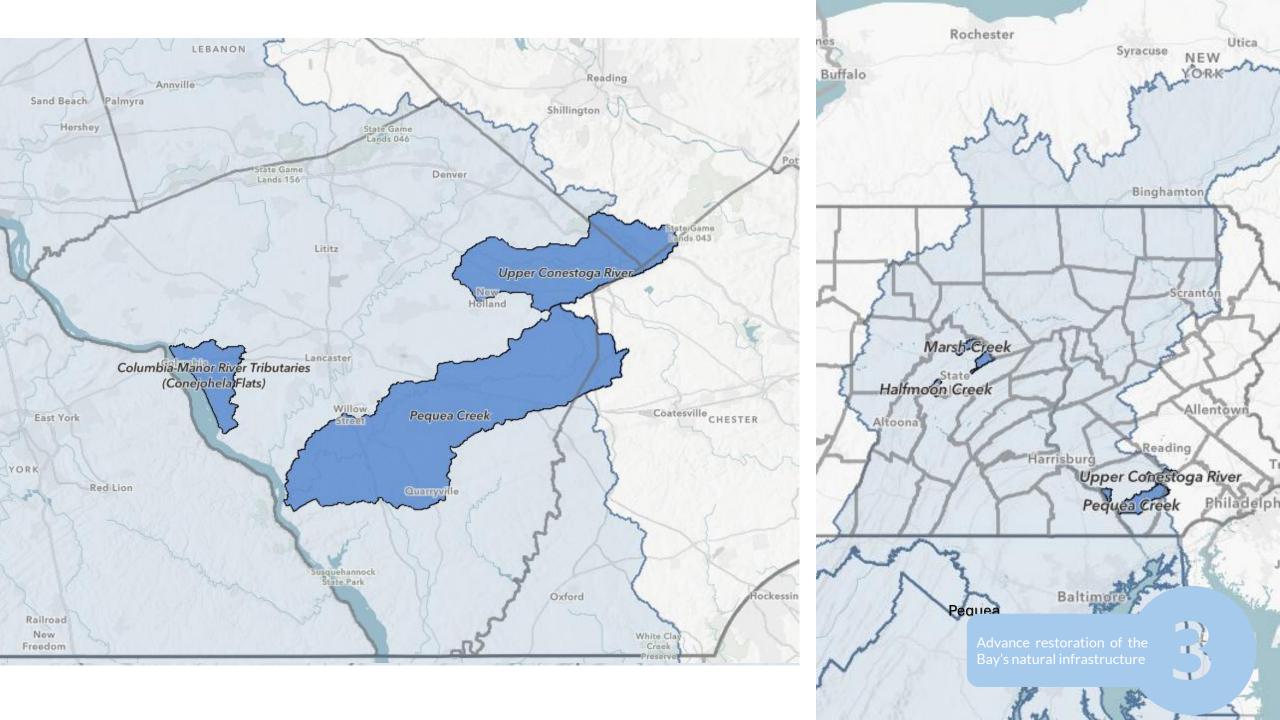
Practices

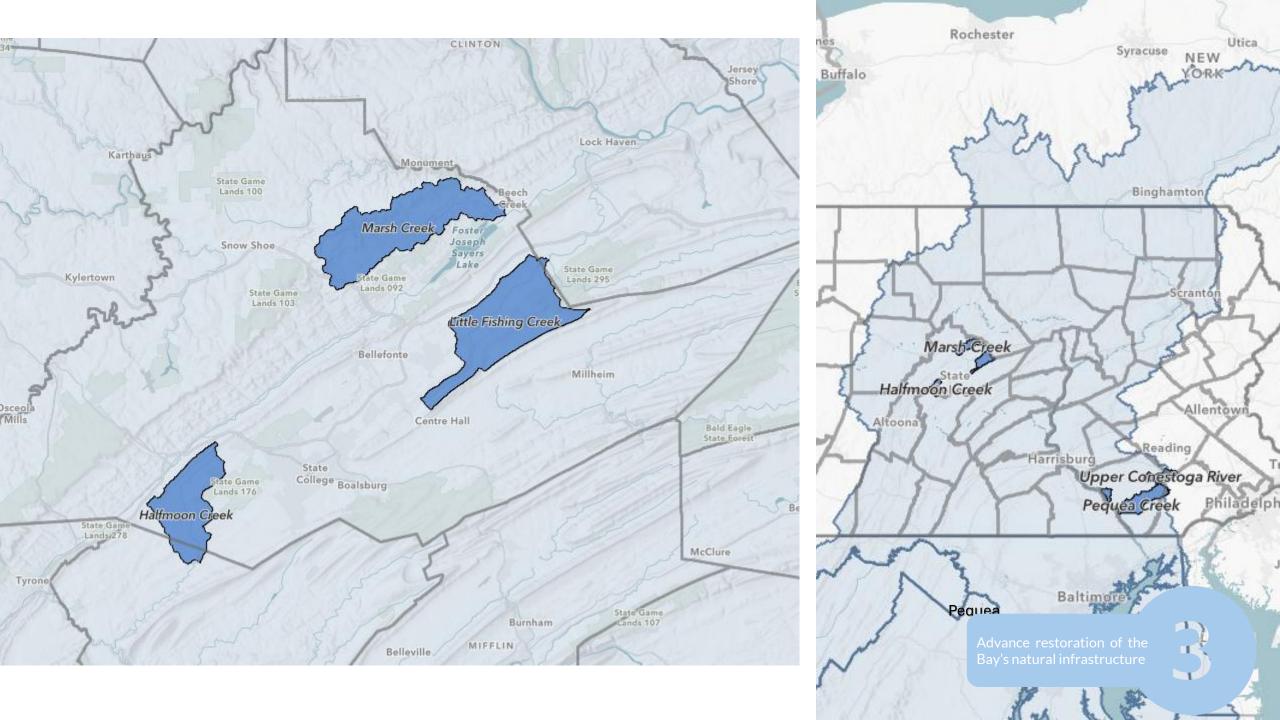
High impact ecological value, public welfare, etc

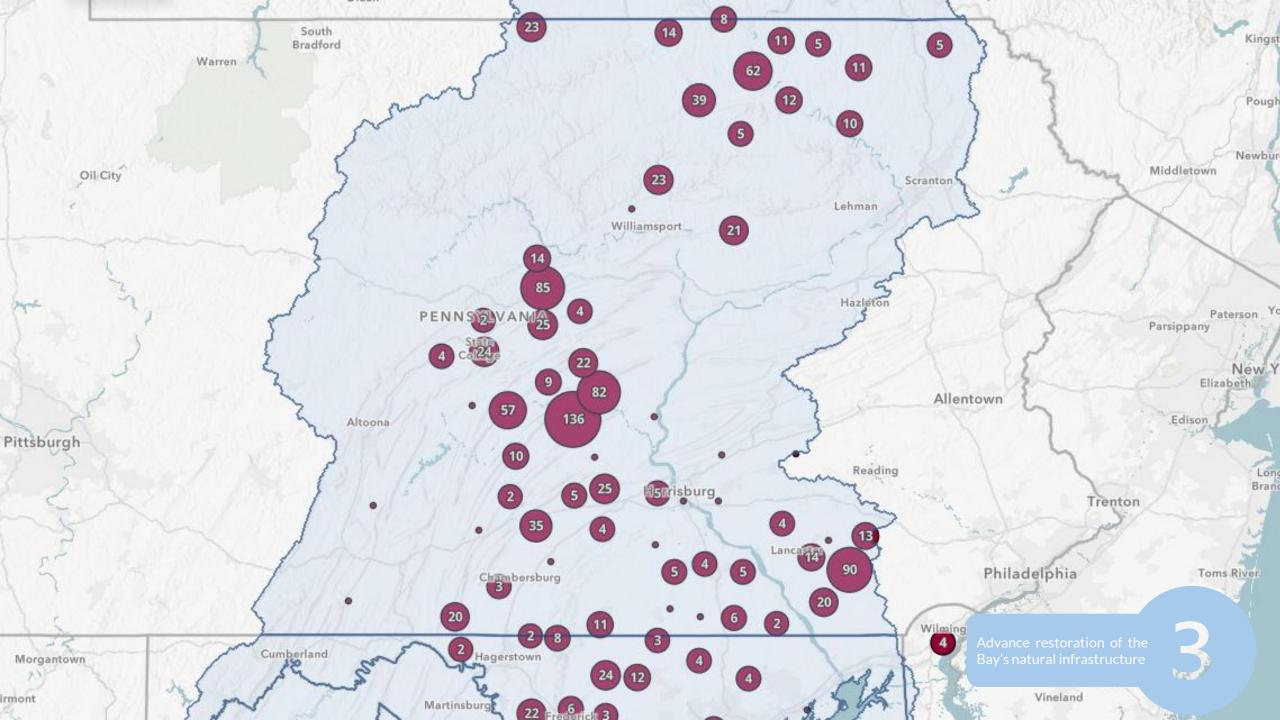
Partners

A diverse array of local, state, & regional

















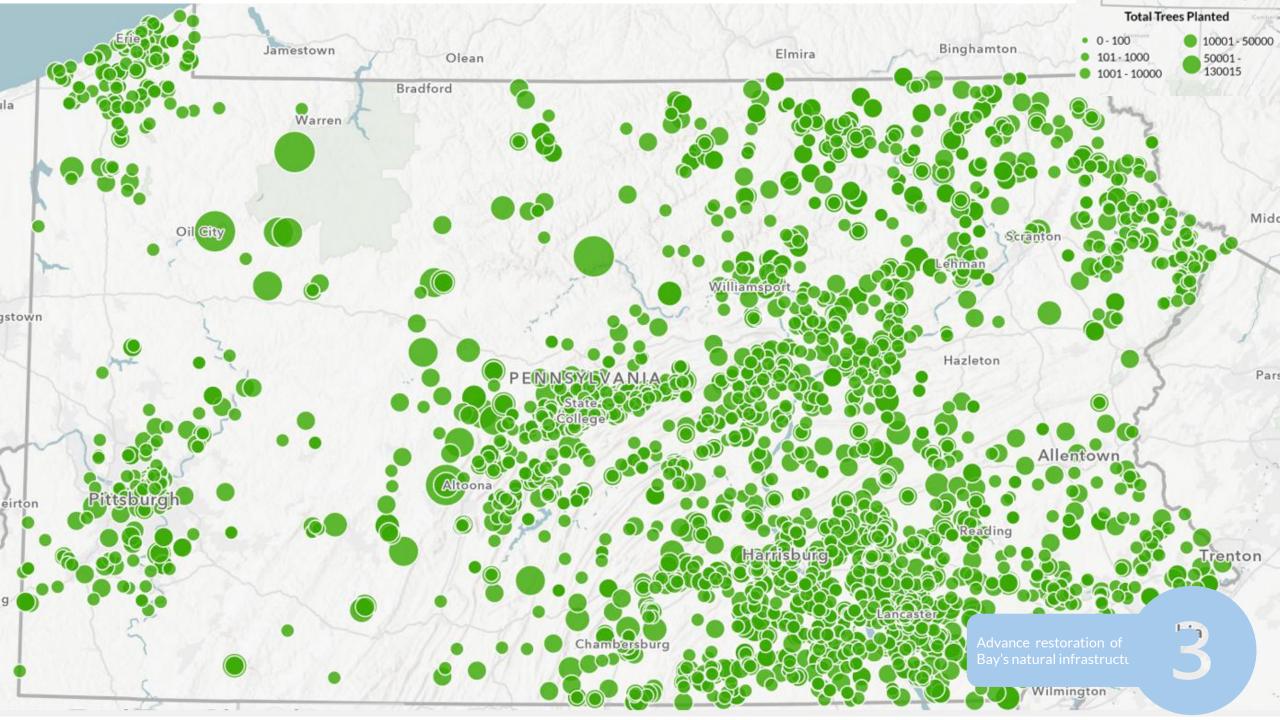








In 2018, we set an eight year goal to plant ten million trees across Pennsylvania. That goal launched a movement that has involved collaborating with national, regional, state, and local agencies, conservation organizations, outdoors enthusiasts, businesses, and citizens – including you!

























Participate in an Education Program

For more than 40 years, CSF has provided meaningful watershed experiences to more than one million students. Join us out in the

READ MORE!



Volunteer

Whether growing systems, planting trees, or heiging in our offices. there are plenty of ways you can contribute.

READ MORE



More Things You Can Do

You can stand up for the Chesanesias Bay and its rivers and streams In your daily (Yel Check out these Ideas of what you can do.



More Ways to Give

make a difference!

READ MORE!



Take Action

Send a message to your representative, sign a petition, and raise your voice for clean water!

READ MORE (



Stay up to date about the Bay!

Sign up here to be the first to know the latest Chesapeake Say Issues and how you can help in the fight to save the Bay and its rhyers and streams.

READ MORE,

JOIN US

Whether it's signing up to join us in the field on an education or volunteer experience, speaking out on behalf of clean water, or making a gift to support the Bay, rivers, and streams we all love, there are lots of ways to join us!

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