Phase 3 Watershed Implementation Plan (WIP) Programmatic Recommendations Template
Milestone Update – Adams County
==Highlight== changes for 2022-2023 milestone period

Action #	Description	Performance Target(s)	Expected Timeline	Potential Implementation Challenges	Potential Recommendations on Improvement	Resources **Needed**				Reason for Change to Action Item (2022-2023 milestone period)
						Technical	Suggested Source	Financial	Suggested Source	
Programmatic Recommendation 1:										
1.1	Improve permitting processes at state level	Streamline permitting processes to allow for increased implementation efforts specifically chapter 105	2019/Ongoing	Evaluation of current permitting process required. Staff resources would be needed to accomplish.	Reduce time necessary to produce permit packages from partners and install CAP projects.	State staff required.				
1.2	~~Improve funding program requirements~~ Maintain, and expand flexible funding programs	~~Simplify~~ Maintain, CAP Implementation Grant program to allow for more flexible use of funds, i.e., block grant model and simplify other grant programs	2019/Ongoing	Evaluation of existing grant programs needed for improvement and efficiency.	Use CAP Implementation Grant Program as a simple model. Coordination among all funding sources to reduce administration and enhance implementation.	DEP staff (#? FTE)			DEP State/Federal funding	Grants such as the CAP Implementation Grant have been very helpful and will remain an essential piece of CAP implementation efforts moving forward. Thus, this funding program must be maintained.
1.3	Allowance for work outside of MS4 jurisdictions, and throughout their local watersheds to increase nutrient reductions. Especially when collaborating with other municipalities.	Provide for credit for BMP's implemented by MS4 municipalities outside their jurisdiction to enhance cost effective nutrient reduction.	2020/Ongoing	Change in regulations is required. Limited BMP funding.	Any changes in regulation must be accompanied by the resources necessary to achieve the desired objective.				State/Federal grant assistance	The one-mile buffer zone needs to be larger or classified differently. County MS4 Engineer Statement: "In my opinion the 1-mile buffer isn't really a good way to govern as in many cases it's based on an urban density outline or a municipal boundary which in many cases have no correlation to watershed boundaries and therefore have no scientific backing. Removing this 1-mile handcuff could give municipalities some flexibility to maximize the bang for the buck. It just doesn't make sense to not allow two municipalities to collaborate on a project that might be say 3 miles away from the one municipality, but still within the same impaired stream/ or creeks watershed."

1.4	Expand staffing resources to conduct additional work described in CAP plan	Provide appropriate staffing levels as needed to achieve CAP goals	Ongoing	Implementation of the county recommendations cannot be accomplished with existing staff and expertise. Additional staffing may also be needed in other agencies to support county implementation. E.g. NRCS staff typically write the conservation plans in Adams County. If additional plans are needed, either NRCS staffing needs to be expanded, the Conservation District needs to hire a dedicated plan writer, or a private sector plan writer needs to be hired.		Ag Technicians (2FTE)		$150,000/yr		
1.5	Enhance local water quality monitoring	Improved tracking of Adams County specific pollution levels	Ongoing	Upgrades to the East Berlin, and Bridgeport MD USGS Monitoring Stations. Recognition of local data collection efforts.	Rely more on water quality data rather than the model and allow for local data collection to be recognized	USGS		**$650,000 (4 Years)**		Cost estimate is based on information given by USGS in early 2021.
1.6	Improve statewide tracking	Improved tracking is needed by DEP related to existing data and BMPs/infrastructure across the spectrum including ag and urban sectors.	Ongoing	Local cooperation with the state is needed in addition to possible funding for staffing resources.	Clarification on information being documented.				DEP	
1.7	~~Evaluate current system of incentives/implementation for agricultural practices and define enhanced incentive program for BMPs with greatest impact on nutrient loads to get landowner buy-in~~	~~Ensure programs are more efficient, flexible and user friendly with incentives where possible to encourage landowner buy-in.~~	~~2025~~	~~Landowner buy in is a challenge, existing incentive programs don't pay for certain parts of implementation (e.g. maintenance).~~ ~~Cover crop practices involve costs for equipment, pest management, etc. Incentive programs should account for more than planting alone.~~	~~CREP program has not been a sought-after program in Adams County because of the lack of flexibility. Additional flexibility needed to make the program successful~~	~~Additional staff: Ag Technicians (2 FTE)~~	~~New County Employees~~	~~$150,000/yr~~	~~State/Federal grant assistance and possible technical provider circuit rider assistance~~	Adams County no longer feels this is necessary to be included in the CAP documents.

1.8	Assist county partners with putting innovative fruit growing practices into the model once they are developed.	Allow specific practices to be considered as BMPs in the model	2020	Nitrogen and phosphorus numbers for orchards and associated assumptions need to be reviewed for accuracy and completeness. Additional monitoring of innovative BMPs is necessary. ~~DEP/NRCS/Penn State Extension staff required.~~	~~Allow~~ <mark>Identify</mark> practices unique to the fruit growing industry ~~to~~ <mark>that could</mark> be validated for use in the model	3 (FTE)	State and local staff	~~$150,000~~ <mark>$225,000</mark>	State/Federal grant assistance	BMPs for the fruit growing industry have not been established at this time. They must be established and will then need to be reviewed and approved for use in the bay model.
1.9	~~Expand state agricultural workgroup representation~~	~~Seek orchard representation on the state agricultural workgroup~~	~~2019~~	~~Orchards are unique and the industry should have representation on the state workgroup~~	~~Identify potential representative(s) through standard selection procedures~~					Item removed from programmatic recommendations because the state agricultural workgroup has since been dissolved.

Phase 3 Watershed Implementation Plan (WIP) Planning and Progress Template

Each county-based local area will use this template to identify:

1. **Inputs** – The statewide and/or federal policies, regulations, initiatives, programs, funding and resources that will help your county meet its goal.

2. **Process** – What are the changes that need to occur for the county to be successful in the process? These are the action items listed under each priority recommendation.

3. **Outputs and outcomes** – Both short and long-term. These are the programmatic recommendations identified by each county. Performance targets identify your county's needed change in order to meet your county goal.

4. **Implementation challenges** – Any potential issues or roadblocks to implementation that could impede outputs and outcomes.

Asterisk: Place an asterisk next to the action number(s) for action items that appear in both the County Planning and Progress Template and the Programmatic Recommendations Template.

For each Programmatic Recommendation: Use the fields, as defined below, to identify the inputs and the process that will be followed to achieve each priority initiative. This is the "what, when and how" of the plan:

Description = What. This may include programs that address prevention, education, or changes to the current policy and regulation. A programmatic or policy effort will allow for the completion of cation items listed in the Planning and Progress Template.

Performance Target = How. This is an extension of the Description above. The performance target details the programmatic change that will enable you to complete the action items identified in the Planning and Progress Template. This can be a further description of the challenge to implementation from the Planning and Progress Template.

Expected Timeline = When. Provide the needed completion date for the programmatic recommendation that will assist your county in meeting its goal. This should be a reasonable expectation, based on knowledge and experience, that will aid in tracking progress toward addressing the Priority Initiative.

Potential Implementation Challenges = This field will note challenges and issues that may delay program implementation (Description). Potential challenges may relate to your county Planning and Progress Template.

Potential Recommendations on Improvement = This field will note recommendations on how to change or improve the program (Description).

Resources Needed: Technical & Funding = This field will note technical and financial resources needed/outstanding to implement the program (Description).

Reason for Change to Action Item = This field will be used for two-year milestone updates. This field allows for your county to adjust your original targets and goals based on progress to date. Your county may adjust goals and targets up or down based on your progress to date. This field requires a reason as to the reason of change, whether up or down.