

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

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Action #	Description	Performance Target(s)	Responsible Party(ies) and Partnerships	Geographic Location	Expected Timeline	Potential Implementation Challenges or Recommendations	Resources Available			Resources Needed			Review Checklist Comments
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Priority Initiative 2: Agriculture

2.1	Plain sect farmers outreach and engagement	No specific target, success will be measured by implementation rates of BMPs on plain sect farms <i>One farm-anchor project in 2022</i> <i>Game plan that includes Environmental Education (EE) Grant content details 1st qtr 2022</i>	Chester County Conservation District (CCCD)	All areas with inherent tie to prioritized catchments	On-going with inherent tie to Action 2.3 Game plan development in late 2021 to early 2022 that includes details for an Environmental Education (EE) grant application (game plan intended to detail who, what, where, etc. that forms the basis of an EE application)	Specific individual solely focused on plain sect community engagement and assistance (boots-on-the-ground) Organize teams (similar to PSU teams) to target 1 or 2 communities (reference BC efforts in Honeybrook area) "Bay Fisherman to Amish Country" endeavor (bring fisherman up from the Bay for field day) Macros training via Amish schools (Octoraro Watershed Association effort) and kits Funding for outreach individual is necessary to improve probability of finding the right individual*	CCCD		EE Grant Envirothon (being used for kits)	DEP	Individual with a blend of technical knowledge, experience, and ability to successfully engage the plain sect community	TBD (retired farmer?)	\$35,000/year (assuming part-time individual to start)	
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2.2	General ag-focused education and outreach	No specific target, success will be measured by implementation rates of BMPs across the ag sector <i>Game plan 1st qtr 2022</i>	CCCD, Chester County Water Resources Authority (CCWRA), Technical Service Providers (TSPs), Penn State Extension, NRCS, watershed groups	All areas with emphasis provided towards prioritized catchments	On-going, with inherent tie to Action 2.3 Game plan in late 2021 to early 2022	Digital and paper support materials (comparing compliance vs. stewardship) Series of publications outlining individual BMPs (build off CCCD initial efforts) One-on-one engagements with individual farmers. Funding for outreach individual is necessary to improve probability of finding the right individual*	CCCD, CCWRA, Penn State Extension, TSPs, NRCS, Ag Preserve Board		EE Grant	DEP	Individual with a blend of technical knowledge, experience, and ability to successfully engage the ag. community		See Financial Need for Action 1.1 for proposed individual	
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2.3	Catchment Targeting Initiative	Metrics inherently tied to other action items (needs will be established on a catchment-to-catchment basis)	Ag Action Team (AT), Data Management (DM) Action Team (AT), Catchment Targeting (CT) Action Team (AT), Municipal Action Team (AT), watershed groups, local municipalities, Brandywine Conservancy, CCCD, CCWRA, Environ. Advisory Committees (EACs)	Prioritized catchments (TBD)	Late 2021 launch with inherent tie to Priority Initiative (P.I.) 1- Catchment Targeting Initiative (with funding: 4 catchments in 2021, 20 in 2022)	Partner with Catchment Targeting (CT) AT during catchment prioritization efforts to identify individual catchment needs, BMP probabilities, etc. specifically for the ag sector	Practice Keeper (PK)						See P.I. 1 for overall catchment targeting financial needs	
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2.4	Focused Ag BMP implementation	<i>Soil Conservation and WQ Plans – 26,210 total acres</i>	CCCD, NRCS, TSPs	All areas with emphasis provided towards prioritized catchments	On-going with inherent tie to Action 2.3	Promote broad slate of BMP types across ag industry and based on individual farm conservation needs based on initial implementation scenario	Farm survey, CCCD Bay Implem. Plan, Penn State Extension, NRCS, TSPs, CCCD, Ag Preserve Board		REAP, CEG, EQIP, RCPP, Most Effective Basin Funding (MEBF), State Reimb. Program, PennVEST, PL566	Various	Practice Keeper (PK) entry/ mgmt at CCCD		\$110,000/yr – 2 persons (PK mgmt- individual dedicated to PK; verifications person/field)	TBD (various existing programs may need to be augmented with other sources)
		<i>Nutrient Management Core N – 12,000 total acres</i>				Future scenario adjustments based on rates of implementation realized and progress under BMP reconciliation efforts								
		<i>Nutrient Management Core P – 8,000 total acres</i>				Assume increased realized and/or capture of unreported acres through catchment targeting								
		<i>Barnyard Runoff Control – 20 new acres</i>				Farmer/Amish community resistance to buy-in (including farmers indicating they do not want assistance as they are unsure if they will still be in business in 2-3 years)								
		<i>Prescribed Grazing – 1,350 total acres</i>				Partner with Riparian Buffer (RB) AT for potential buffer bonus or buffers implementation								
		<i>Manure Storage Facilities – 11,925 new AUs</i>				Need to separate “inspections” from “verifications” and acquiring info/data from farmers								
		<i>Precision Feeding – 4,000 Dairy Cow AUs</i>												

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2.5	Mushroom Farms Conservation	Metrics inherently tied to other action items	CCCD, TSPs	All mushroom farms	2022-2025 (4 year cycle, via Growing Greener funding)	Continued specific individual at CCCD focused on mushroom industry (plans, assistance, and inspections) Mushroom composting as a delineated and specific BMP would provide reductions*	Mushroom farm resource conserve. on staff (via GG funding), TSPs		Growing Greener (GG) funding for current staff		Resource Conserv. Focused on mushroom industry	GG application submitted (2021)	GG app: \$200,000 (+~\$40,000 match)	DEP	
2.6	BMP Reporting Reconciliation		Ag AT, Data Mgmt AT, Catchment Targeting AT	All areas with focused actions in prioritized catchments	Aligned with Action 2.3 activities	Partner with Data Management AT for reconciliation of BMP reporting numbers (primarily through catchment targeting) Current perception/ organization of BMP targets is a mix of uncaptured/ underreported BMPs and additional BMP implementation. Reconciliation in conjunction with catchment targeting will provide a pathway to delineate (and capture) underreported BMPs and needs for additional BMPs. Transfer of BMPs from NRCS and other entities into local PK platform would streamline process*	CCCD, TSPs, NRCS, Ag. Preserv. Board, County DCIS (Dept. of Computer and Info. Services) PK				See Action 1.4 for technical needs	See Action 2.4 for financial needs			

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2.7	Horse Farms Conservation	<i>Horse Pasture Management – 1,450 total acres</i>	CCCD, TSPs, NRCS	All horse farms with outreach driven by prioritized catchments	Coincides with Catchment Targeting Initiative and Action 2.3 (where horse farms are encountered)	A number of pastures may meet requirements but are not captured at this time. Individual farms may present other opportunities based on conservation needs. Current definition of horse pasture management does not provide nutrient reductions*	CCCD, TSPs, NRCS, PA Horse Breeders Assoc. (PHBA)		Breeders Fund EQIP, etc.				\$521,739 (capital cost only- assuming full implement. required)	
2.8	Road run-off to farms	<i>Game plan early 2022</i>	CCCD, local municipalities, PennDOT, TSPs, EACs	All areas with emphasis on prioritized catchments	Game plan late 2022 that determines method to capture farms and identifies and spells out partners that need to be involved and arena(s) for coordination	Delineate between PennDOT and local roads as distinct approaches required for each type of agency Infrastructure improvements may be required to mitigate impacts from runoff	Local engineers, TSPs, PennDOT, County Planning		Metropol. Planning Org. TIP, American Rescue Plan Act (ARCA) Local Relief Fund, PennVEST	DEP				

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2.9	Farmer's only Roundtable		Ideally minimum of five (5) local farmers	Active farmers located in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed (CBWS)	2022	<p>Extension of previous focus activities providing an arena for farmers ONLY (no others) that report back thoughts, recommendations, etc.</p> <p>Provide topics/talking subjects (e.g. how to create "win-win" scenarios)</p>	Local farmers								
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2.10	Soil Health BMP Implementation	<p><i>Tillage Mgmt High Residue – 11,000 total acres/yr</i></p> <p><i>Tillage Mgmt Conservation – 8,000 total acres/yr</i></p> <p><i>Cover Crop Traditional – 6,000 total acres/yr</i></p> <p><i>Cover Crop with Fall Nutrients – 12,500 total acres/yr</i></p> <p><i>Commodity Cover Crops – 300 total acres/yr</i></p>	CCCD, TSPs, NRCS	All areas with emphasis provided towards prioritized catchments	Coincides with Catchment Targeting Initiative and Action 2.3	<p>Future scenario adjustments based on rates of implementation realized and progress under BMP reconciliation efforts</p> <p>Assume increase on implementation through catchment targeting</p> <p>Limited definition of cover crops and what counts as a reduction*</p> <p>Potential gap between FSA reporting and CAST reported data</p> <p>Lock down and potentially expand transect survey process</p> <p>Funding to launch incentives for</p>	CCCD, Penn State Extension, NRCS, TSPs, transect survey, Penn State AEC/ farm survey		REAP, CEG, EQIP, RCPP, MEBF, PennVEST, PL566	Various			Capital Cost: ~\$1.4 million	\$20,000 for cover crops incentive program start-up	
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						adopting cover crops would remove barriers for certain farmers*									
2.11	Expanded Nutrient Management	<i>NM N Rate – 5,000 acres</i> <i>NM N Placement – 4,000 acres</i> <i>NM N Timing – 4,000 acres</i> <i>NM P Rate – 5,000 acres</i> <i>NM P Placement – 4,000 acres</i> <i>NM P Timing – 4,000 acres</i>		All areas with emphasis provided towards prioritized catchments	Coincides with Catchment Targeting Initiative and Action 2.3	Aim to increase level of organization and understanding of developed, implemented, and back-logged Soil Conservation Plans prior to tackling expanded nutrient management planning and approaches	CCCD, Penn State Extension, NRCS, TSPs, Penn State AEC/farm survey		REAP, CEG, EQIP, RCPP, MEBF, PennVEST				Capital Cost: ~\$230,000		
2.12	Manure Transport	<i>Manure Transport out of Chester County – 1,000 DT/yr</i>	Farmers, haulers, CCCD, TSPs	All areas	On-going	Act 38 reporting	TSPs, NRCS, CCCD						Capital Cost: ~\$20,000		

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

1. Inputs – These are both existing and needed resources, public and private, to implement the identified priority initiative. These include both technical and financial resources, such as personnel, supplies, equipment and funding.
2. Process – what is each partner able to do where and by when. These are the action items listed under each priority initiative.
3. Outputs and outcomes – both short and long-term. These are the priority initiatives identified by each county. The performance targets are the intermediate indicators that will measure progress.
4. Implementation challenges – any potential issues or roadblocks to implementation that could impede outputs and outcomes.

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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 Priority Initiative or Program Element: 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 “who, what, where, when and how” of the plan:

Description = What. This may include programs that address prevention, education, or as specific as planned BMP installations that will address the Priority Initiative. A programmatic or policy effort will require some ability to quantify the anticipated benefits which will allow calculation of the associated nutrient reductions.

Performance Target = How. This is an extension of the Description above. The Performance Target details the unique BMPs that will result from implementation of the Priority Initiative and serves as a benchmark to track progress in addressing the Priority Initiative. Performance Targets may be spread across multiple Responsible Parties, Geographies, and Timelines based on the specifics of the Initiative.

Responsible Party(ies) = Who. This is/are the key partner(s) who will implement the action items through outreach, assistance or funding, and who will be responsible for delivering the identified programs or practices.

Geographic Location = Where. This field identifies the geographic range of the planned implementation. This could extend to the entire county or down to a small watershed, based on the scale of the Priority Initiative, range of the Responsible Party, or planned funding/resources. *NOTE: Resource limitations alone should not limit potential implementation as additional funding may become available in the future.*

Expected Timeline = When. Provide the expected completion date for the planned activity. This should be a reasonable expectation, based on knowledge and experience, that will aid in tracking progress toward addressing the Priority Initiative.

Resources Available: Technical & Funding = This field will note technical and financial resources secured/available to implement the program (Description). This is the total of the resources identified in the County Resources Inventory Template below allocated to the priority initiative as a whole; or, if available, to each action.

Resources Needed: Technical & Funding = This field will note technical and financial resources needed/outstanding to implement the program (Description). This is the total of the additional resources projected and identified as needed in the County Resources Inventory Template below allocated to the priority initiative as a whole; or, if possible, to each action.

Potential Implementation Challenges/Issues = This field will note challenges and issues that may delay program implementation (Description).