



Countywide Action Plans

Who leads implementation efforts?

The Pennsylvania Phase 3 Watershed Implementation Plan focuses on finding local solutions to pollution in PA waterways. Counties are using Countywide Action Plans (CAPs) to organize that work and bring people and partners together for clean water projects. CAPs are connecting funding opportunities to projects that support collective efforts and make a difference. Read on to hear what others say about CAPs. For more detailed information about Countywide Action Plans, visit: <https://www.pa.gov/agencies/dep/programs-and-services/water/bwrnsm/bay-restoration/healthy-waters-pa>

Partners and Coalitions Leading Clean Water Efforts

"Our district has always prided itself on strong partnerships. Before the CAP, we relied on volunteers and whatever support we could scrape together. Now, we've been able to strengthen existing relationships and build new ones that work more smoothly."

-Erica Tomlinson, Tioga County Conservation District Manager



"I don't know what CAP will look like in the future, but the principles behind it—strong partnerships, strategic funding, and real on-the-ground impact—will always be relevant."

-Josh Glace, Multi-county CAP Coordinator Larson Design Group

"It's becoming easier to get clean water projects done because we've had success and people are recognizing that success. Practice makes perfect—we're getting projects in the ground, building repetition, experience, and trust, all of which make the process smoother over time."

-Josh Clark, CAP Program Manager, HRG



"Lancaster has a diverse network of partners who have been doing conservation work for a long time. The CAP has helped us scale up those efforts and take them even further."

-Allyson Gibson, Executive Director, Lancaster Clean Water Partners



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CAP Coordinators Getting the Work Done

"I don't have the capacity to keep moving this work forward at the same level on my own, which is why our CAP coordinator is essential. They make the effort to connect us with technical resources, funding opportunities, and partner organizations we wouldn't have otherwise engaged with."

-Elizabeth Grant, Planning Specialist, Cumberland County Planning Department



"Getting clean water projects done has become easier because we have dedicated staff—our CAP coordinator—fostering new partnerships, strengthening existing ones, and advancing project goals across the county."

-Rachel Stahlman, CAP Coordinator, York County



"If this funding coordination were left entirely to the conservation districts, they wouldn't have the capacity to do it alone. The CAP coordinators play a crucial role in making sure this side of the puzzle works."

-Adrienne Hobbins, Program Manager, Chesapeake Conservancy



"DEP has set up a framework that allows us to plug in our expertise. The CAP coordinators have financial resources, the counties have action plans, and we have the technical know-how to help make those plans a reality. That alignment has been key."

-Tyler Neimond, Habitat Manager, PA Fish and Boat Commission