

LYCOMING COUNTY CLEAN WATER PLAN NEWSLETTER

June, 2021

BMP Showcase: Tree Planting

Angela Brubaker, farmer in Mifflintown, PA, planted a riparian buffer along Lost Creek thanks to a combination of grants and donations. This effort was done as part of the Statewide initiative to reduce nutrient pollution in its waterways, Watershed Implementation Plan (WIP). Lamont Garber, watershed restoration coordinator at Stroud Water Research Center, notes that tree planting along streams provides runoff filtration, stream bank and soil stabilization and restoration, cools water, and provides habitat. These benefits coupled with the potential for profitability for farmers will ultimately help PA with

its
WIP.
Learn
more
[here!](#)



Farm Sustainability Goes Retail

Since 2018, the Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay has partnered with the Maryland & Virginia Milk Producers Cooperative Association, operating under the umbrella of the Turkey Hill Clean Water Partnership.

This month they added a retail grocer, Giant, which joined the effort to create a dairy product supply chain that prioritizes and supports environmentally responsible practices on farms. The Giant Clean Water Partnership is supporting the effort to advance on-farm conservation, transparency and animal welfare for up to 400 MDVA (Maryland & Virginia Milk Producers Cooperative Association) member farms throughout Pennsylvania, Maryland and Virginia.

"We're focused on local impact, greater purpose," said Steven Jennings, who heads Giant Food's health and sustainability initiatives. "We're committed to creating a better world and that starts with being a leading voice for a healthy, sustainable food supply chain."

With funding assistance from the National Resources Conservation Service, Lancaster County dairy farmer Chris Landis — an MDVA co-op member — installed a larger manure pit and redesigned his calf hutches. "We've been able to save labor and costs with the increased accessibility and efficiencies of the new facilities," said Landis, fifth-generation owner of Worth the Wait Farms. "The end result is a healthier cow, but overall, the payoff is much higher."

- [The Bay Journal, June 18, 2021](#)

CAP News

Our CAST run results from our April submission came back this month. Our projected nitrogen reductions were 4% and our projected phosphorus reductions were 8% based on the best management practices we reported.

Our clean water goal is to reach a nitrogen reduction of 1.2 million lbs/yr by 2025, and to reach a phosphorus reduction of 76,000 lbs/yr by 2025.

While this is less than what we were hoping for, we do have many opportunities to increase our reductions in our next CAST submission in July.

We are currently working on our second CAST submission draft, and we're hopeful to reach an estimated 20% reduction with our new scenarios.

Testimonies

It's a flexible plan that can be adapted to shifting county priorities.

"CAPs are going to look different for everybody. Try not to feel pressured by how others are doing it. Each county is different--their goals are different, their people are different, and the resources available are different. It's okay to put your spin on it and think outside the box. We can all learn from each other!"

-Caitlin Lucas, CAP Coordinator, Franklin County

Announcements

-Future Peer Group meetings will be cancelled and will be replaced with smaller group meetings or one-on-one meetings. We will reach out to schedule these meetings throughout the remainder of the planning phase and into the implementation phase as needed.

-A draft prioritization scoring matrix has been developed and prioritizes "best-bang-for-your-buck" projects and a project's effectiveness at reducing nutrient runoff. We will continue to refine this scoring matrix in the coming months.

Visit www.lyco.org/CWAP for more updates and information!



Cartographer's Notes



Chesapeake Bay Watershed

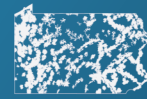


June is *Rivers Month*

Warming weather? No problem!
Cool off in Pennsylvania's many
rivers and streams, including:



Did you know?



3 out of 5
Pennsylvanians live within 10
minutes of a fishing or boating
access point!

Coordinator's Notes

While we did not get the results we were hoping for from our first CAST submission, I still remain the eternal optimist as we have only one way to go from here—UP! We know more now than we did before, and that is a win in my book. As we continue to strengthen our partnerships and expand our knowledge through this CAP process, we gain the intangible benefits that will produce more robust planning that will pay off for years to come.

Eve Adrian, Lycoming County
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About the Map - *Chesapeake Bay Watershed*

Pennsylvania's share of the Chesapeake Bay Watershed spans almost half of the entire Commonwealth and intersects 43 of its 67 counties (almost two thirds)! It includes about 33,000 farms, 4 million homes, 1,000 boroughs, townships, and cities, contains over 49,000 miles of rivers and streams, and encompasses the Susquehanna River Basin and the Potomac River Basin. With all of this land mass it's no wonder around 55% of the nitrogen, 59% of the phosphorus, and 64% of the sediment in the Chesapeake Bay comes from our portion of its watershed about 265 miles away! As shown in this map, land cover can influence how much runoff pollution gets collected in the thousands of miles of local waterways in Lycoming County alone. In our everyday lives, we make an impact on the quality of our natural resources, and it is our choice to make that impact a positive one. Let us choose POSITIVE! - Happy rivers month!

For more information on this map, please visit lyco.org/CWAP! -Amy M. Fry