

Phase 3 Watershed Implementation Plan (WIP) Programmatic Recommendations Template

Action #	Description	Performance Target(s)	Expected Timeline	Potential Implementation Challenges	Potential Recommendations on Improvement	Resources Needed			
						Technical	Suggested Source	Financial	Suggested Source
Programmatic Recommendations: Chester County									
1.1	Expand cover crops (CC) definition (Action 2.10)	Added scenario for cover crops (Yes fall nutrients and yes spring harvest)	2022	Traditional CC: No fall nutrients and not harvested in the spring; Traditional CC w/fall nutrients: Yes fall nutrients but not harvested in spring; Commodity CC: No fall nutrients and is harvested in the spring; Missing classification: Yes fall nutrients and harvested in the spring.	Create a cover crops classification that allows the application of fall nutrients and is harvested in the spring.	Added definition in BMP Quick Reference Guide (or similar)			
1.2	Cover crop incentive program (Action 2.10)	Dedicated and separate funding mechanism	Prior to fall 2022		Create a dedicated fund to assist farmers with initial costs for implementing cover crops			\$20,000 for Chester County (pilot)	
1.3	Separate funding program for farmer engagements (Action 2.1 and Action 2.2)	CCD Stewards Funding Program	Prior to 2024	Most ag-related funding and efforts are compliance driven. A dedicated program to allow more thorough engagements as it relates to conservation needs and stewardship should be established to separate the two considerations. An ability to provide payment/fees to an individual (even if part-time) in lieu of pro-bono will significantly increase applicant pool	Expand funding and resources solely focused on ag-related engagements driven by stewardship and conservation needs.	Retired and/or experienced farmer that can appropriately engage with multiple other farmers		\$35,000/year (to start)	
1.4	Transfer of NRCS generated Soil Conservation Plans into local PracticeKeeper (PK) platform (Action 2.6)	Ag BMPs transferred into local PK platform	ASAP would be ideal	Significant resources will be required for capture and entry of Soil Conservation Plans (and corresponding BMPs) into PK that were generated by entities other than CCCD (e.g. NRCS)		NRCS-DEP			
1.5	Mushroom composting definition (Action 2.5)	Added (or more clear) definition for mushroom composting			Create a separate definition (or a sub-category of existing manure composting definitions) specific to mushroom composting, including how to track.				
1.6	BMP reconciliation parameters for urban/developed BMPs (Action 4.6)		Early 2022 for list of minimum parameters Prior to 2025 for reporting mechanism	Through catchment-to-catchment analyses, it is anticipated that uncaptured or underreported BMPs will be captured. This is primarily associated with Ch. 102/land development BMPs. Intent is to capture these BMPs in an inventory. Understanding the parameters, attributes, etc. that need to be part of the data and information captured up-front will provide consistent processes.	1) Establish a list of the minimum parameters and attributes that should be noted when underreported Ch. 102/land development BMPs are captured. 2) Establish a reporting mechanism(s) for captured Ch. 102/land development BMPs.	DEP			

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1.7	Horse pasture nutrient reductions (Action 2.7)	Nutrient reductions tied to horse pasture management		Current definition of horse pasture does not include nitrogen reductions. A significant amount of pasture in Chester County is dedicated to horses.	Clarification to why no nutrient reductions are awarded or update the horse pasture management definition to include nitrogen reductions.				
1.8	Accelerated permitting for CAP identified projects of regional importance (Action 1.1)			Several “large-scale” projects and opportunities exist that provide benefits above and beyond significant nutrient and sediment reductions (e.g. localized flood reduction). Permit approval timeframes can be inhibiting factors between design and implementation.	Provide arena and processes for accelerating permitting requirements for priority projects.	DEP			
1.9	Buffers sub-categories (Action 3.2)	NRCS codes for buffers not exclusive to the riparian corridor		Forest and grass buffers are not exclusive to the riparian corridor (applied to crop land/hay land uses). Forest and grass buffers can be applied in areas other than the riparian corridor (e.g. field borders)	Creation or establishment of a recognized set of codes (sub-codes) or definitions for forest and grass buffer locations that can be incorporated into Soil Conservation Plans.	DEP, NRCS			
1.10	Fertilizer Legislation (Action 4.11)		Prior to 2023	Urban nutrient management reductions are highly dependent on passing state legislation.					

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 action 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.

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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).