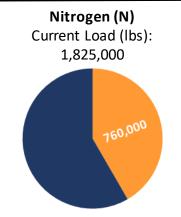
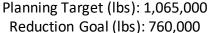
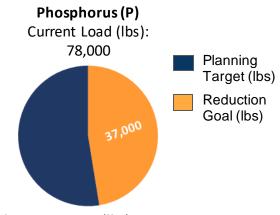
# Chester County, Pennsylvania

#### **Current Conditions**

Chester County is one of 34 counties in Pennsylvania's Chesapeake Bay Watershed that have developed Countywide Action Plans. Current loading rates are 1.83M lbs of nitrogen and 78K lbs of phosphorus annually. By 2025 Chester County needs to reduce 760K lbs of nitrogen and 37K lbs of phosphorus.





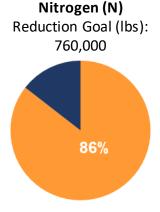


Planning Target (lbs): 41,000 Reduction Goal (lbs): 37,000

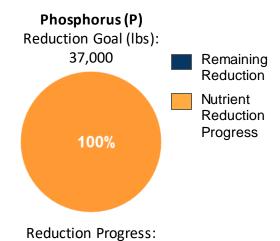
39,000 lbs

## **Pollutant Reduction Progress**

By 2025, Chester County needs to reduce 760K lbs of nitrogen and 37K lbs of phosphorus. Chester County has developed a plan to reduce 650K lbs of nitrogen, which is 86% of the goal and 39K lbs of phosphorus, which is over 100% of the goal.



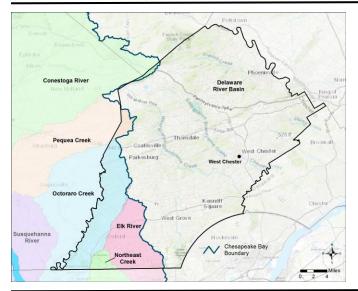
Reduction Progress: 650,000 lbs



#### **Sector Reductions**

Chester County has identified reductions within four sectors within their planning template: agriculture, developed, septic, and natural. Projected land use changes and population changes results in increases within the wastewater sector. Chester County has identified practices that result in total reductions of 650K lbs of nitrogen and 39K lbs of phosphorus.

Sector	Nitrogen (lbs.)	Phosphorus (lbs.)
Agriculture	-579,000	-29,000
Developed	-19,000	-1,000
Natural	-20,000	-9,000
Septic	-44,000	-
Wastewater	+12,000	+400
Total Reductions	-650,000	-39,000

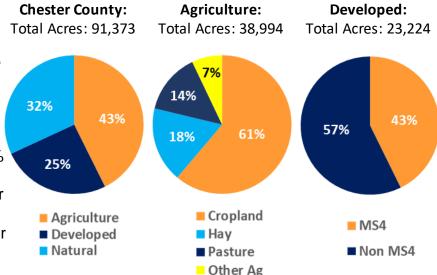


#### Information About the Watersheds

Chester County contains 4 major watersheds that drain to the Chesapeake Bay: Octoraro Creek, Elk River, Northeast Creek, and Pequea Creek. Watersheds in Chester County have elevated levels of nitrogen, phosphorus, and sediment. Of the 280 total Chesapeake Bay watershed stream miles in Chester County, approximately 93% have degraded aquatic communities due to causes such as disturbance, siltation (excessive sediment), nutrient pollution and others.

### **County Land Use:**

Chester County has a total acreage of 91,373 acres in the Chesapeake Bay watershed. Agricultural land represents 43% of the total land with 38,994 total acres. Developed land represents another 25% of the total land in Chester County. Natural land, which is made up of forests, stream, and wetlands, represents the remaining 32% of the land in Chester County. Cropland makes up a majority of the Agriculture sector with 23,852 acres. The developed sector is mostly Non-Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems (MS4s) (57%) 13,296 acres and a small portion of MS4s (43%) 9,928 acres.



#### **Local Benefits:**

Storm events are the number one way for nutrients and sediment to enter waterways. Increased runoff impacts: flooding, water quality, habitat, etc. Pollutants enter the waterways by two methods: overland runoff or leaching into groundwater.



Flooding affects safety, property, infrastructure, and economics.



Chester County relies on local water sources to supply drinking water to its residents.



Just like humans, Chester County's live stock depend on clean water.

#### **Learn more and Get Involved**

To learn more about the Countywide Action Plans, visit DEPs Countywide Action Plans website: <a href="www.dep.pa.gov/pacountywideactionplans.org">www.dep.pa.gov/pacountywideactionplans.org</a>
To learn more about how to get involved, go to the Join In website

(www.dep.pa.gov/joinpacap.org) to find a contact person for each county.

