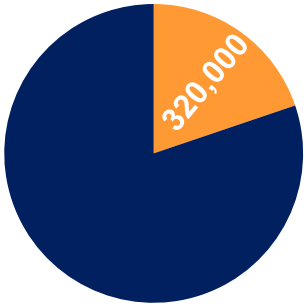
Potter County, Pennsylvania

Current Conditions

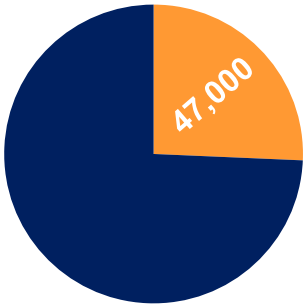
Potter County is one of 34 counties in Pennsylvania's Chesapeake Bay Watershed that have developed Countywide Action Plans. Current loading rates are 1.62M lbs of nitrogen and 183K lbs of phosphorus annually. By 2025 Potter County needs to reduce 320K lbs of nitrogen and 47K lbs of phosphorus.

Nitrogen (N)
Current Load (lbs): 1,616,000

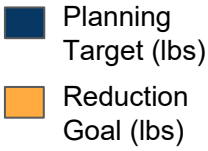


Planning Target (lbs):1,296,000
Reduction Goal (lbs): 320,000

Phosphorus (P)
Current Load (lbs): 183,000



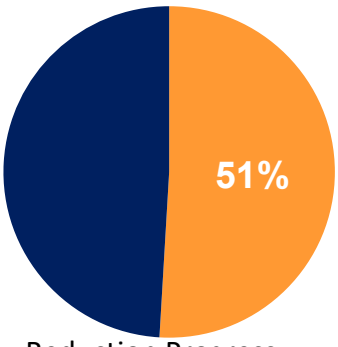
Planning Target (lbs): 136,000
Reduction Goal (lbs): 47,000



Pollutant Reduction Progress

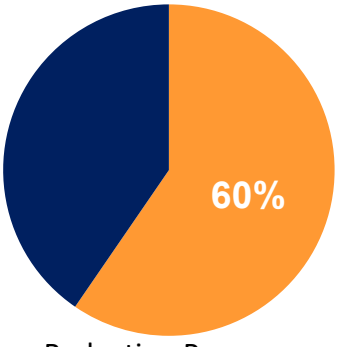
By 2025, Potter County needs to reduce 320K lbs of nitrogen and 47K lbs of phosphorus. Potter County has developed a plan to reduce 163K lbs of nitrogen, which is 51% of the goal and 28K lbs of phosphorus, which is 60% of the goal.

Nitrogen (N)
Reduction Goal (lbs): 320,000

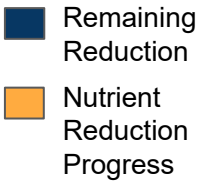


Reduction Progress: 163,000 lbs

Phosphorus (P)
Reduction Goal (lbs): 47,000



Reduction Progress: 28,000 lbs

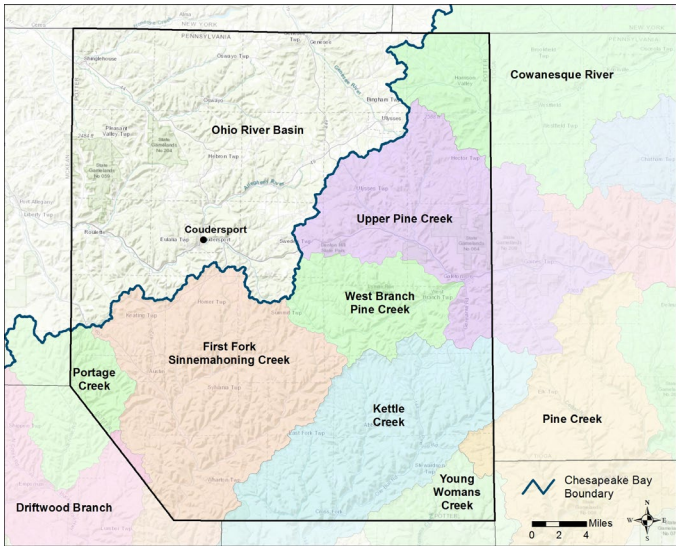


Sector Reductions

Potter County has identified reductions within three sectors within their planning template: agriculture, developed, and natural. Projected land use changes and population changes results in increases within the wastewater sector and no change in the septic sector. Potter County has identified practices that result in total reductions of 163K lbs of nitrogen and 28K lbs of phosphorus.

Sector	Nitrogen (lbs.)	Phosphorus (lbs.)
Agriculture	-135,000	-15,000
Developed	-3,000	0
Natural	-29,000	-13,000
Septic	0	0
Wastewater	+4,000	0
Total Reductions	-163,000	-28,000

Potter County Watershed Map



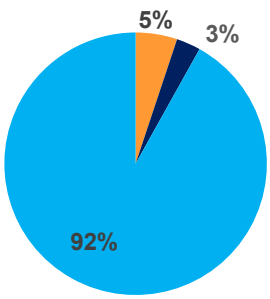
Information About the Watersheds

Potter County contains 8 major watersheds: Cowanesque River, First Fork Sinnemahoning Creek, Kettle Creek, Portage Creek, Pine Creek, Upper Pine Creek, West Branch Pine Creek, and Young Womans Creek. Watersheds in Potter County have elevated levels of nitrogen, phosphorus, and sediment. Of the 1,358 total stream miles in Potter County, approximately 2% have degraded aquatic communities due to causes such as siltation (excessive sediment) and nutrient pollution.

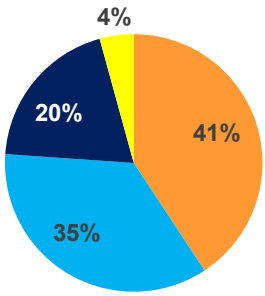
County Land Use:

Potter County has a total acreage of 434,596 acres in the Bay watershed. Agricultural land represents 5% of the total land with 22,248 total acres. Developed land represents another 3% of the total land in Potter County. Natural land, which is made up of forests, stream, and wetlands, represents the remaining 92% of the land in Potter County. Cropland makes up a majority of the Agriculture sector with 9,062 acres. The developed sector is mostly Non-Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems (MS4s) (98%) 12,681 acres and a smaller portion of MS4 (2%) 273 acres.

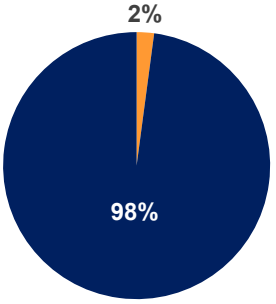
Potter County:
Total Acres: 434,596



Agriculture:
Total Acres: 22,248



Developed:
Total Acres: 12,954



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.

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

Just like humans, Potter County's livestock depend on clean water.

Learn more and Get Involved

To learn more about the Countywide Action Plans, visit DEPs Countywide Action Plans website: dep.pa.gov/cap

Clean water: Great for PA Good for the Bay