

2025 Adams County

Clean Water Progress Snapshot

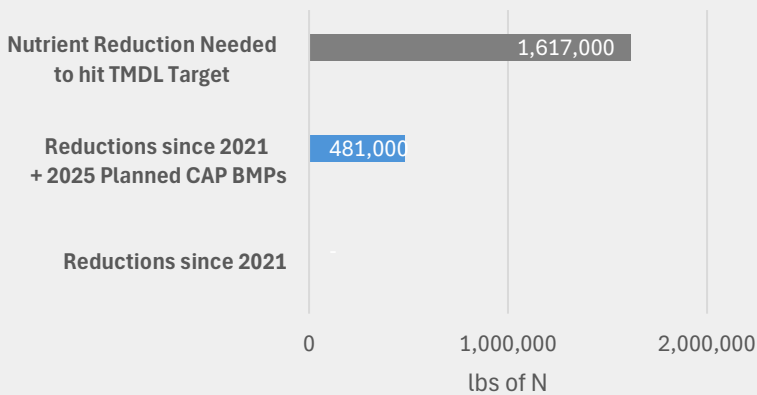
Adams County is one of 34 counties in Pennsylvania’s Chesapeake Bay Watershed that have developed a voluntary Countywide Action Plan (CAP). The goal of each CAP is to reduce nitrogen, phosphorus, and sediment loads generated within the county. Mitigating these nutrient loads benefits not only the health of the Chesapeake Bay but also improves local water and soil quality. This Snapshot provides an overview of the county’s current nutrient loading rates, the county identified nutrient reduction goals, and the progress made to date.

Current Conditions

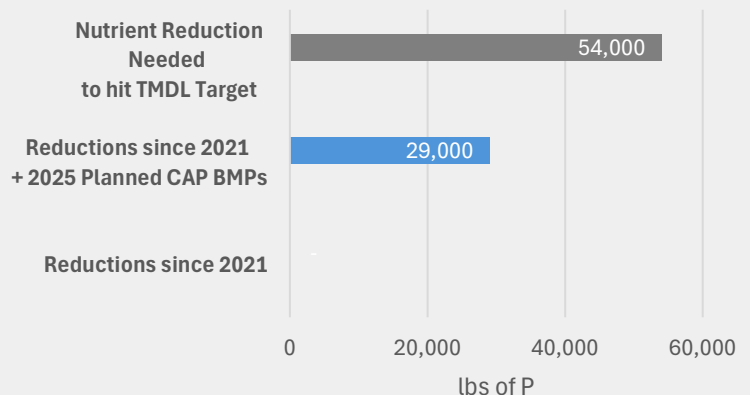
Adams County’s current nutrient loading rate is approximately 4.9 million pounds of nitrogen and 358,669 pounds of phosphorus per year. To meet the requirements established under the Chesapeake Bay Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL), the county must reduce these loads to 3.28 million pounds of nitrogen and 304,669 pounds of phosphorus annually. Achieving this target will require total reductions of 1.6 million pounds of nitrogen and 54,000 pounds of phosphorus.

Adams County has been working on implementation efforts related to the CAP since 2021 resulting in on the ground project completion. Due to technical changes in the Chesapeake Assessment Scenario Tool (CAST), nutrient loading rates to the county have increased affecting results below. This change is not necessarily reflective of on-the-ground implementation or monitoring efforts in the county. Additionally, in its 2025 CAP BMP Entry Form, the county set a goal to reduce nutrient loads by 481,000 pounds of nitrogen and 29,000 pounds of phosphorus.

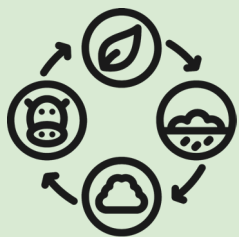
Nitrogen Reduction Progress



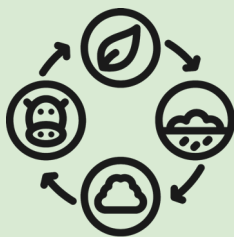
Phosphorus Reduction Progress



Adams County’s Top 3 Most Implemented Best Management Practices of 2024



#1
Nutrient
Management Core N



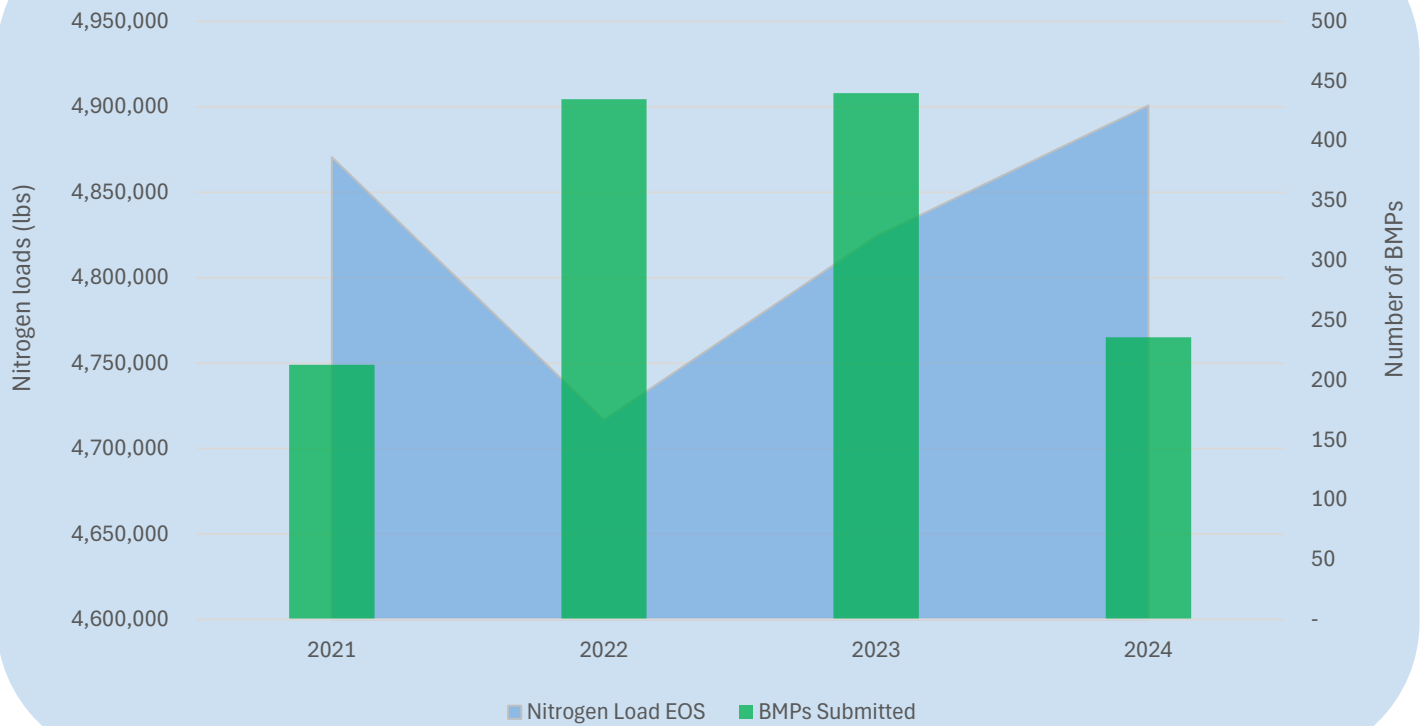
#2
Nutrient
Management Core P



#3
Grassed Waterway

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Adams County Progress 2021-2024



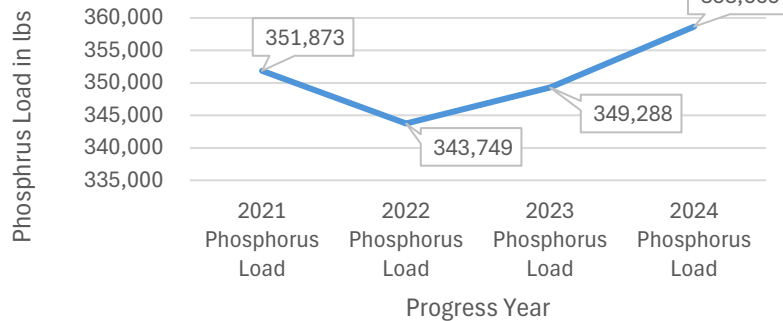
Adams County contains 7 major watersheds: West Conewago Creek, South Branch Conewago Creek, Conococheague Creek, Marsh Creek, Rock Creek, Toms Creek, and the Monacacy River. Watersheds in Adams County have elevated levels of nitrogen, phosphorus, and sediment. Of the 1,270 total stream miles in Adams County, approximately 24% are impaired.

607

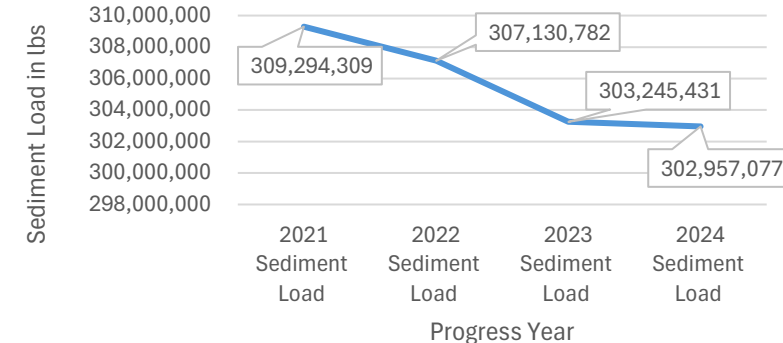
Nutrient Impaired Stream Miles in Adams County

As you review the information provided in this Snapshot, it is important to keep in mind that several influencing factors are beyond the control of the local organizations participating in the CAP process. These include population growth, land use changes, and limitations within the Chesapeake Assessment Scenario Tool (CAST).

Adams County Phosphorus Load EOS 2021-2024



Adams County Sediment Load EOS 2021-2024



Disclaimer: This dataset represents the original information submitted to NEIEN/CAST and does not reflect all active Best Management Practices (BMPs) currently in the CAST system. It may not include subsequent updates, corrections, or additions. Furthermore, this data does not account for BMP credit durations or lifespans as defined within the CAST model.

Population Change from 2020 to 2024

