

2025 Chester County

Clean Water Progress Snapshot

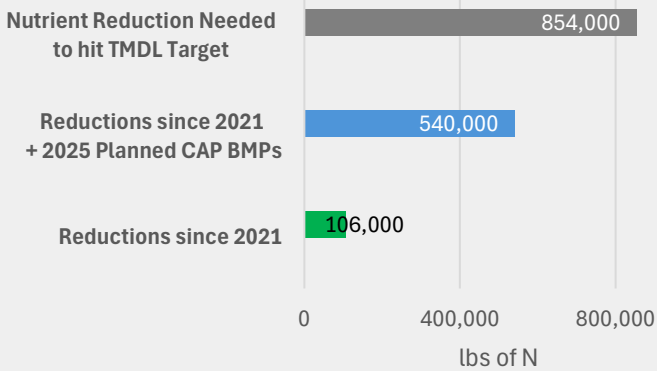
Chester County is one of 34 counties in Pennsylvania's Chesapeake Bay Watershed that have developed a voluntary Countywide Action Plan (CAP). The goal of each CAP is to reduce nitrogen, phosphorus, and sediment loads generated within the county. Mitigating these nutrient loads benefits not only the health 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

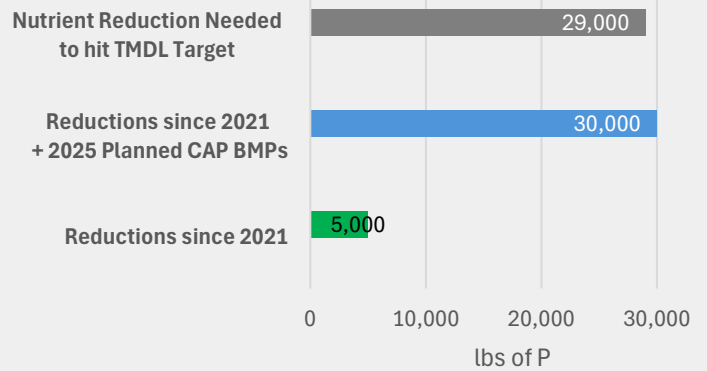
Chester County's current nutrient loading rate is approximately 1.73 million pounds of nitrogen and 74,000 pounds of phosphorus per year. To meet the requirements established under the Chesapeake Bay Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL), the county must reduce these loads to 876,000 pounds of nitrogen and 45,000 pounds of phosphorus annually. Achieving this target will require total reductions of 854,000 pounds of nitrogen and 29,000 pounds of phosphorus.

Since 2021, Chester County's implementation efforts have resulted in reductions of 106,000 pounds of nitrogen and 5,000 pounds of phosphorus. Additionally, in its 2025 CAP BMP Entry Form, the county set a goal to further reduce nutrient loads by 434,000 pounds of nitrogen and 25,000 pounds of phosphorus.

Nitrogen Reduction Progress



Phosphorus Reduction Progress



Chester County's Top 3 Most Implemented Best Management Practices of 2024



#1

Conservation Crop Rotation



#2

Waste Storage Facility

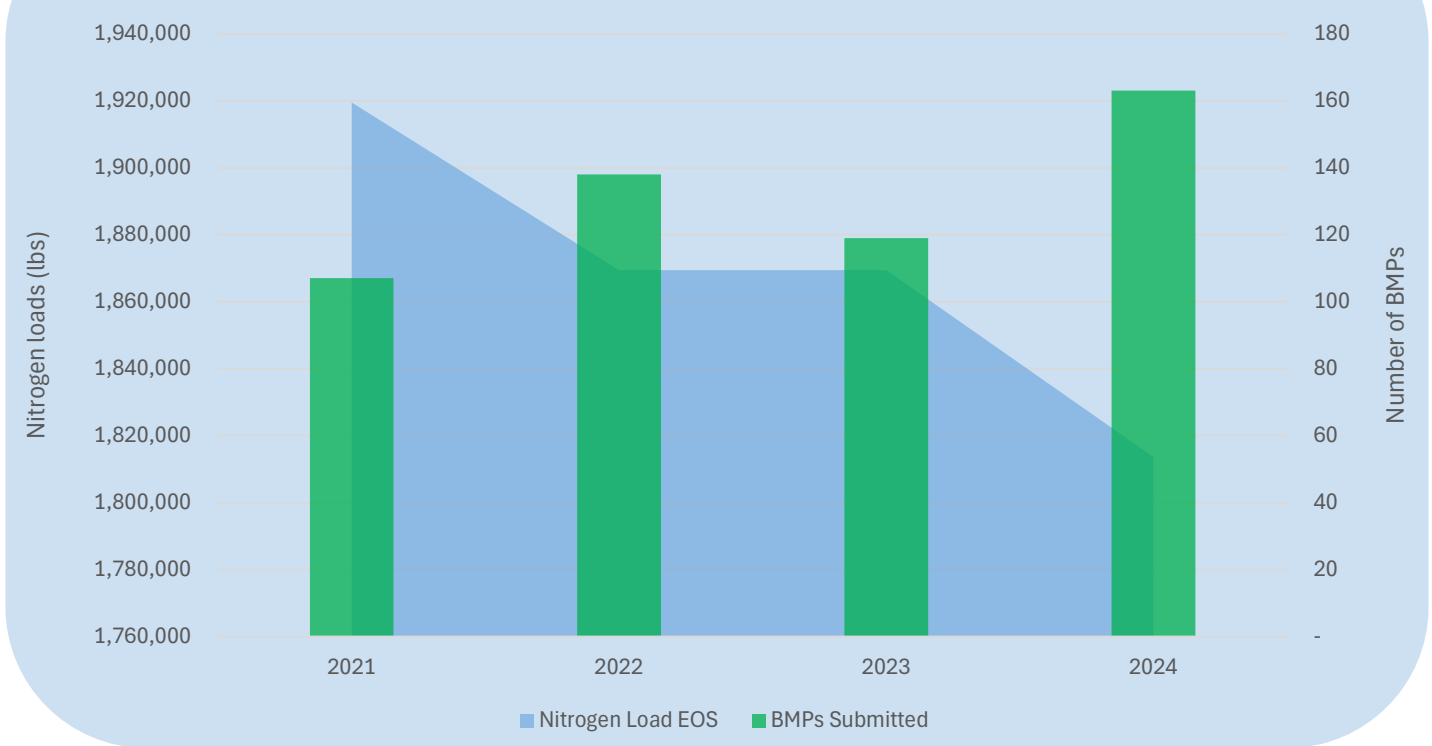


#3

Nutrient Management Core N

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Chester County Progress 2021-2024

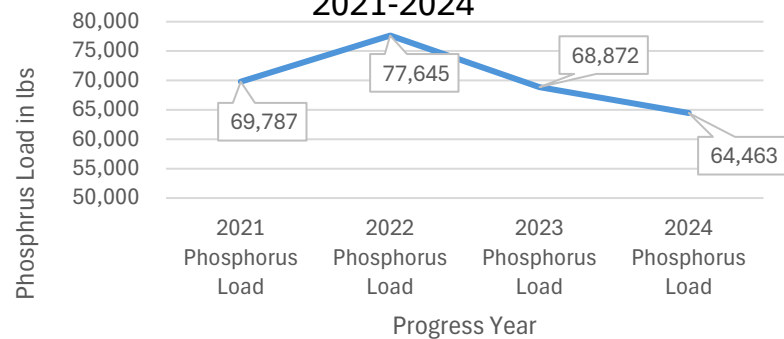


Chester County 4 major watersheds that drain to the Chesapeake Bay: Octoraro Creek, Elk River, Northeast Creek, and Pequea Creek. Watersheds in Chester County have elevated levels of nitrogen, phosphorus, and sediment. Of the 280 total Chesapeake Bay watershed stream miles in Chester County, approximately 93% are impaired.

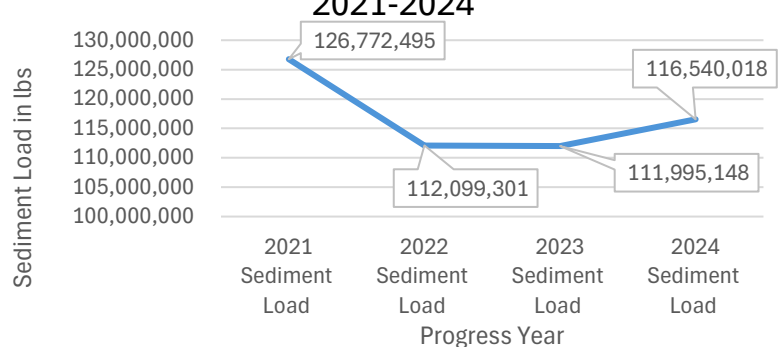
237 Nutrient Impaired Stream Miles in Chester County

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).

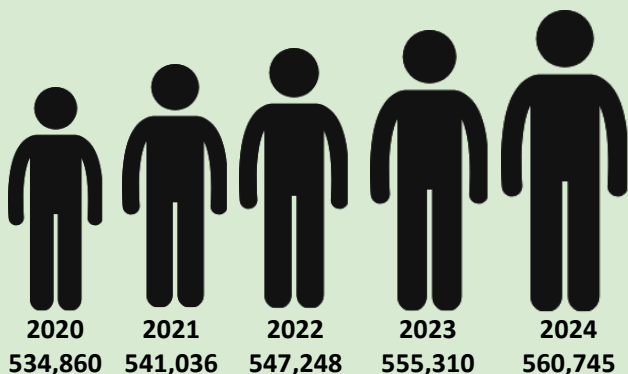
Chester County Phosphorus Load EOS 2021-2024



Chester County Sediment Load EOS 2021-2024



Population Change from 2020 to 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.