

2025 Lackawanna County

Clean Water Progress Snapshot

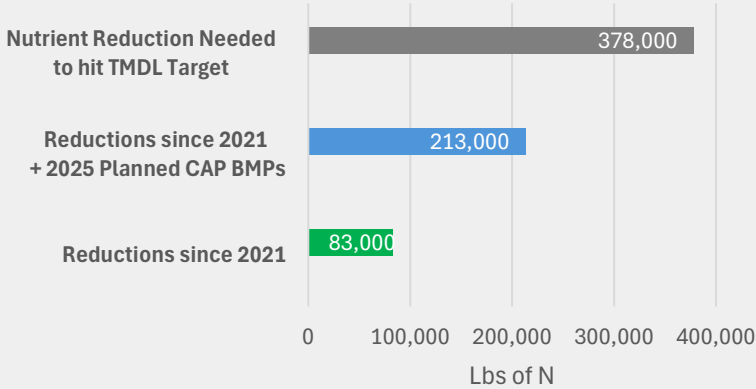
Lackawanna County is one of 34 counties in Pennsylvania’s Chesapeake Bay Watershed that have developed a voluntary Countywide Action Plan (CAP). The goal of each CAP is to reduce nitrogen, phosphorus, and sediment loads generated within the county. Mitigating these nutrient loads benefits not only the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

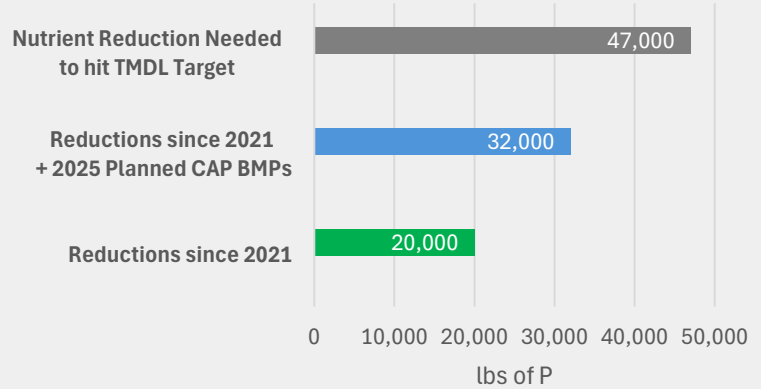
Lackawanna County’s current nutrient loading rate is approximately 2.42 million pounds of nitrogen and 203,783 pounds of phosphorus per year. To meet the requirements established under the Chesapeake Bay Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL), the county must reduce these loads to 2 million pounds of nitrogen and 156,783 pounds of phosphorus annually. Achieving this target will require total reductions of 378,000 pounds of nitrogen and 47,000 pounds of phosphorus.

Since 2021, Lackawanna County’s implementation efforts have resulted in reductions of 83,000 pounds of nitrogen and 20,000 pounds of phosphorus. Additionally, in its 2025 CAP BMP Entry Form, the county set a goal to further reduce nutrient loads by 130,000 pounds of nitrogen and 12,000 pounds of phosphorus.

Nitrogen Reduction Progress



Phosphorus Reduction Progress



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



#1

Forest Buffer on Watercourse



#2

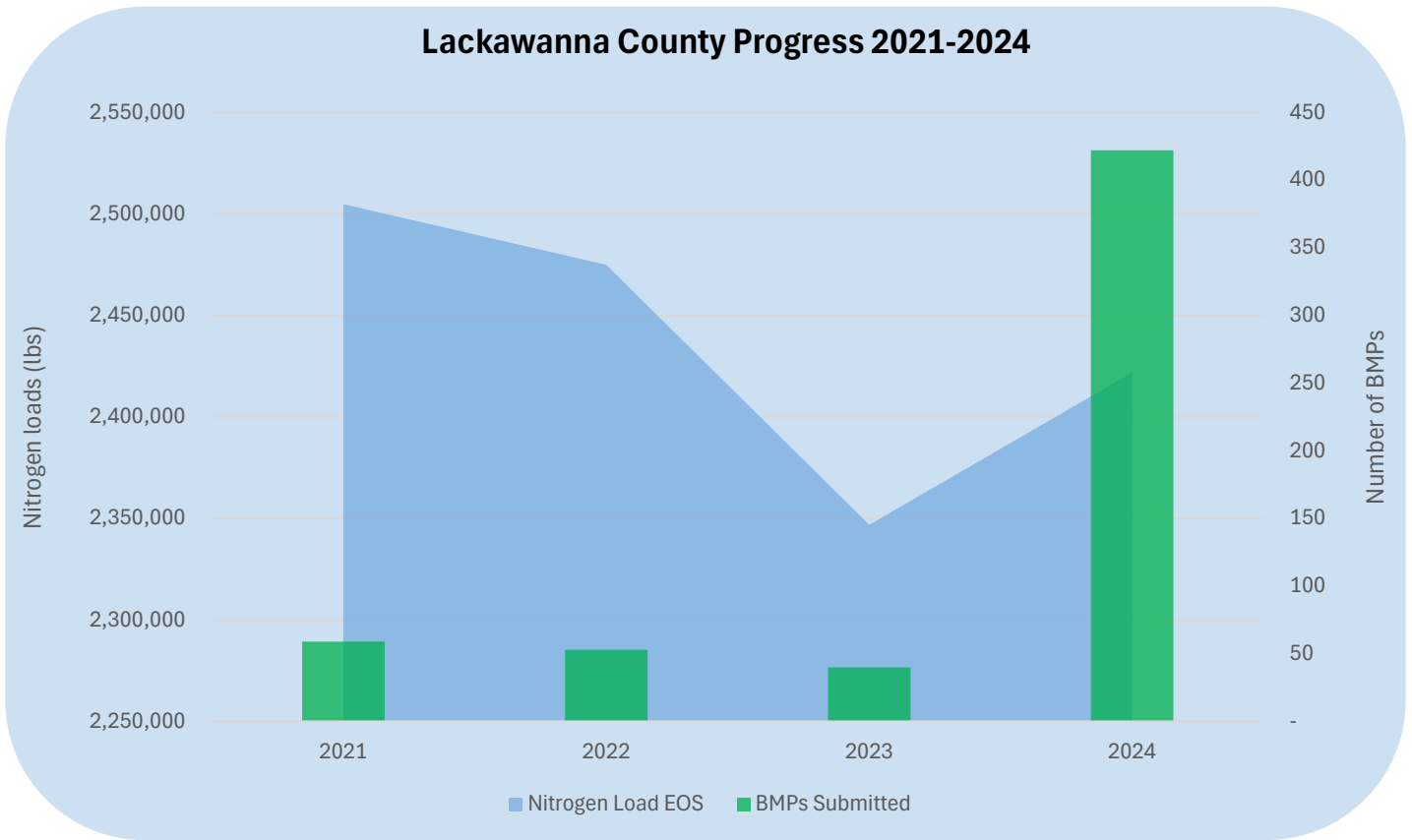
Grass Buffer on Watercourse



#3

Tree Planting

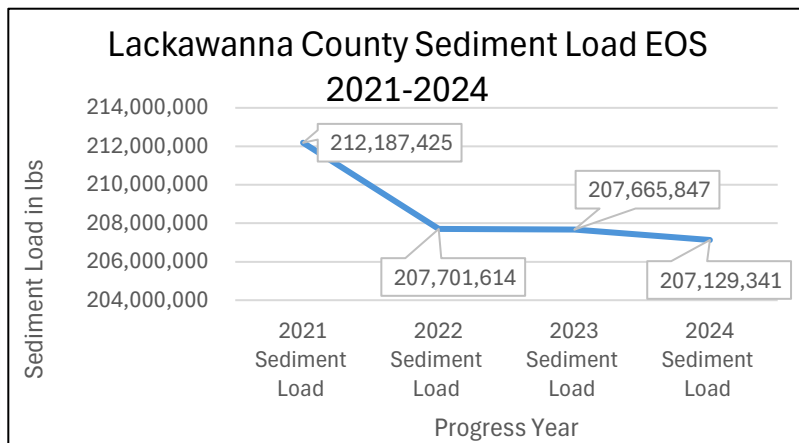
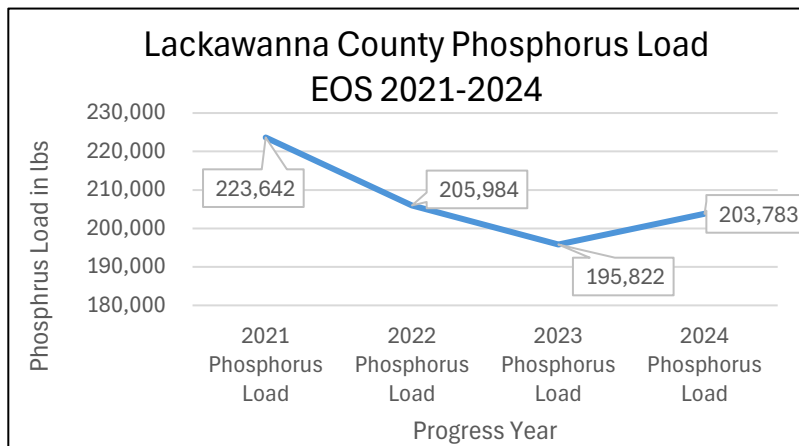
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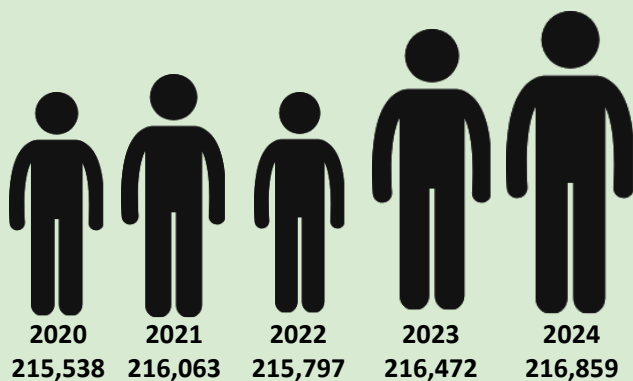
Lackawanna County contains 3 major watersheds: Tunkhannock Creek, Lackawanna River, and Susquehanna River. Watersheds in Lackawanna County have elevated levels of nitrogen, phosphorus, and sediment. Of the 641 total stream miles in Lackawanna County, approximately 22% are impaired.

93 Nutrient Impaired Stream Miles in Lackawanna 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).



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.