

2025 Blair County

Clean Water Progress Snapshot

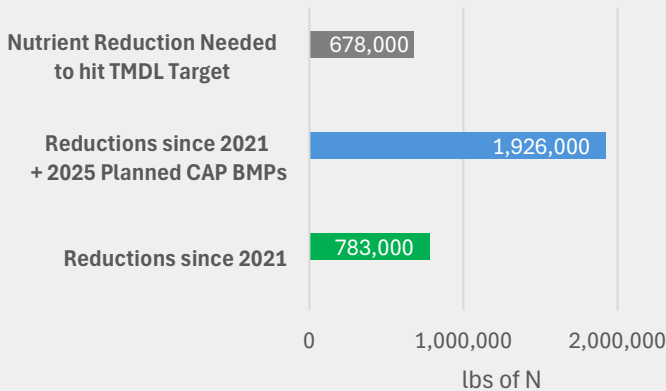
Blair County is one of 34 counties in Pennsylvania’s Chesapeake Bay Watershed that have developed a voluntary Countywide Action Plan (CAP). The goal of each CAP is to reduce nitrogen, phosphorus, and sediment loads generated within the county. Mitigating these nutrient loads benefits not only the health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

Blair County’s current nutrient loading rate is approximately 3.7 million pounds of nitrogen and 331,000 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 3,022,000 pounds of nitrogen annually. Achieving this target will require total reductions of 678,000 pounds of nitrogen.

Since 2021, Blair County’s implementation efforts have resulted in reductions of 783,000 pounds of nitrogen and 18,000 pounds of phosphorus. This implementation reduced the required amount of phosphorus for Blair County to reach the goal in the TMDL. Additionally, in its 2025 CAP BMP Entry Form, the county set a goal to further reduce nutrient loads by 1.14 million pounds of nitrogen.

Nitrogen Reduction Progress



Phosphorus Reduction Progress



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



#1

Conservation Plans



#2

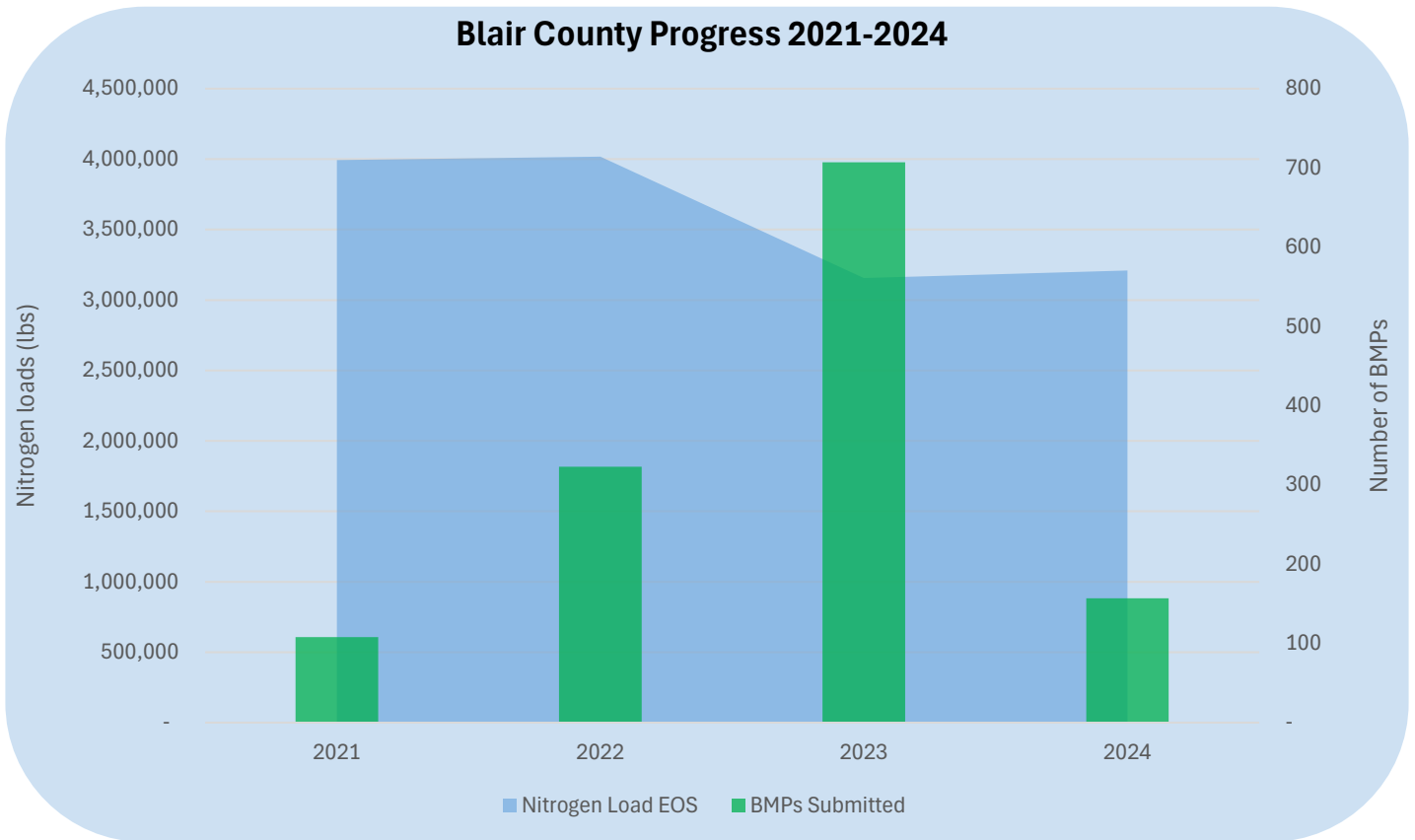
Forest Harvesting Practices



#3

Nutrient Management Core N

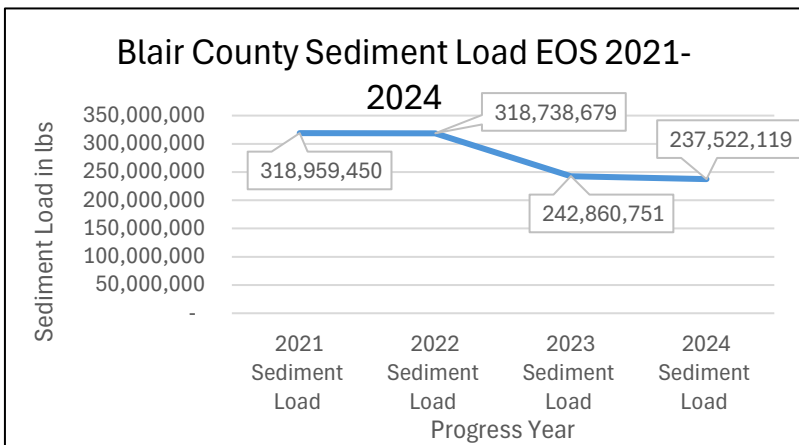
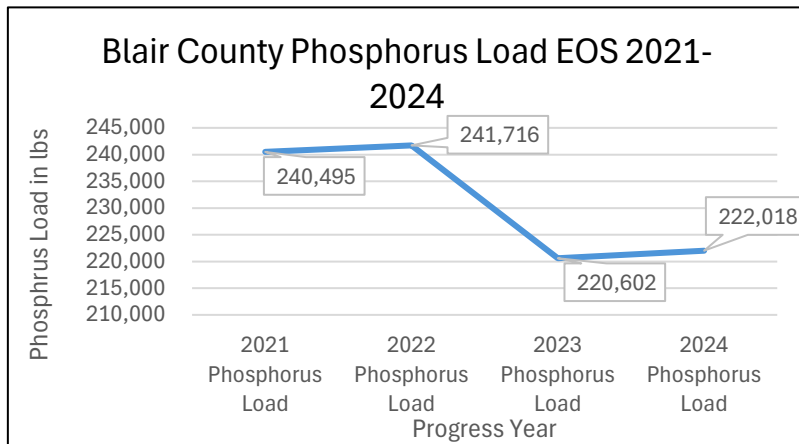
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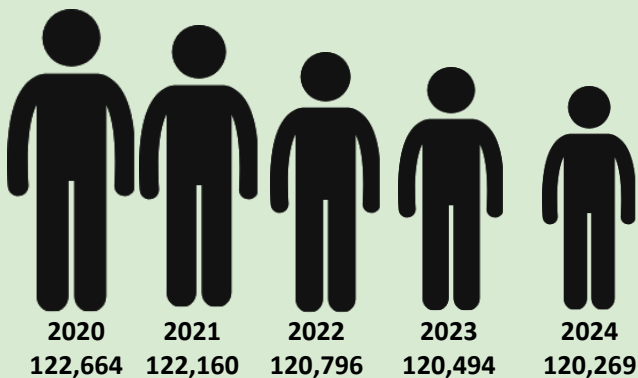
Blair County contains 3 major watersheds: Little Juniata River, Beaverdam Branch, and Frankstown Branch Juniata River. Watersheds in Blair County have elevated levels of nitrogen, phosphorus, and sediment. Of the 1,045 total stream miles in Blair County, approximately 9% are impaired.

81 Nutrient Impaired Stream Miles in Blair 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.