Countywide Action Plan Snapshot

York County, Pennsylvania



York County is the second highest loading county in Pennsylvania's Chesapeake Bay Watershed. Current loading rates are11.99 M lbs of nitrogen and 446.95K lbs of phosphorous annually. By 2025 York County needs to reduce 4.00M lbs of nitrogen and has already achieved their phosphorous goal.



Reduction Goal (lbs): 4,004,187

Pollutant Reduction Progress

By 2025, York County needs to reduce 4.00M lbs of nitrogen and 0 lbs of phosphorous. York County has developed a plan to reduce 3.21M lbs of nitrogen, which is (80%) of the goal and 84.70K lbs of phosphorous, which is (100%) of the goal. There is no planning target for sediment, but York County's plan reduced 354.83M lbs (37%) of the current load.

Nutrient Reduction Progress Remaining Reduction

Priority Initiative Progress

York County has identified 3 priority initiatives: agriculture, stormwater and the watershed program. Agriculture has identified practices that result in a reduction of 3.13M lbs of nitrogen. The developed sector has identified practices that reduce 66.72K lbs of nitrogen. York County's Watershed Program has identified practices that reduce 8.13K lbs of nitrogen. These priority initiatives result in a total reduction of 3.21M lbs of nitrogen.



Initiative	Nitrogen (lbs.)	Phosphorous (lbs.)
Agriculture	3,129,670	72,306
Stormwater	66,724	5,382
Watershed Program	8,127	6,062
Total Reductions	3,213,027	84,702



Information About the Watersheds

York County contains six major watersheds: Yellow Breeches Creek, West Conewago, Codorus Creek, South Branch Codorus Creek, Muddy Creek, and Deer Creek. These watersheds are some of the highest loading watersheds for nitrogen and phosphorous in Pennsylvania's Chesapeake Bay Watershed. However, monitoring shows that conditions for nitrogen have been improving which means nitrogen levels are decreasing. Conditions for phosphorous are degrading, which means phosphorous levels are increasing. Of the 1,670 total stream miles in York County, approximately 30% are impaired.

County Land Use:

York County has a total acreage of 583,850 acres. Agricultural land represents 35% of the total land with 200,909 total acres. Developed land represents another 25% of the total land in York County. Natural land, which is made up of forests, stream, and wetlands, represents the remaining 40% of the land in York County. Cropland makes up a majority of the Agriculture sector with 147,345 acres. The developed sector is almost half Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems (MS4s) (47%) 69,595 acres and half Non-MS4 (53%) 78,105 acres.



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.



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



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



Learn more and Get Involved

To get involved with the Watershed Implementation Plan (WIP) please visit: <u>https://bit.ly/2RE7Dzb</u>