

Project Summary: Nutrient/Sediment Pollution Reduction Initiative

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This project involved working with 3 different farmers within Wyoming County to address nutrient/sediment pollution concerns on their properties. The concerns were addressed by implementing agricultural best management practices.

As we continue to implement our Chesapeake Bay Tributary Strategy, one of biggest challenges continues to be nutrient pollution. Nutrient pollution is a widespread, costly, and challenging environmental problem within Wyoming County. Although nutrients are essential to the growth of aquatic plants, too much nitrogen and phosphorus entering the environment can lead to polluted waterways.

We recently started a stream quality monitoring program to document changes in water chemistry within our freshwater systems. After about 6 months of sampling, it became obvious that we had a problem with nutrients entering the waterways. An even bigger problem was locating the source(s) of this pollution. Upon completing a more thorough stream corridor assessment, we were able to identify 3 farms that were lacking agricultural best management practices to help prevent pollutants from entering the waterways.



The photos above show the 2 heavy use area protection installations.



The above photo shows the livestock fencing installation.

This project has been instrumental for improving Wyoming County's water quality and overall health of the Chesapeake Bay. The implementation of the BMPs will prevent both nutrient and sediment pollution from affecting the water quality.