

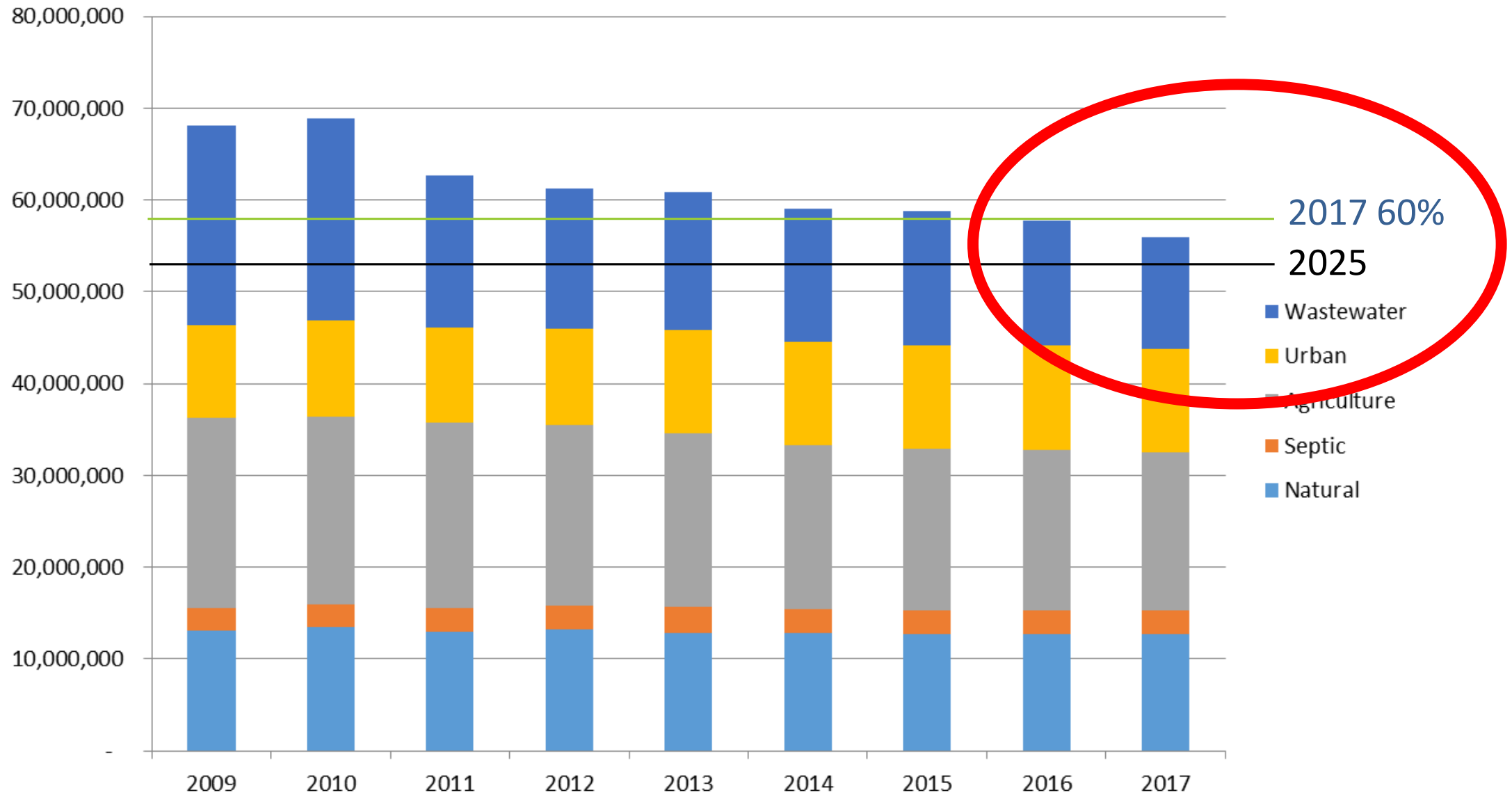
Chesapeake Bay Restoration -- Phase III

ANN JENNINGS

JULY 13, 2018

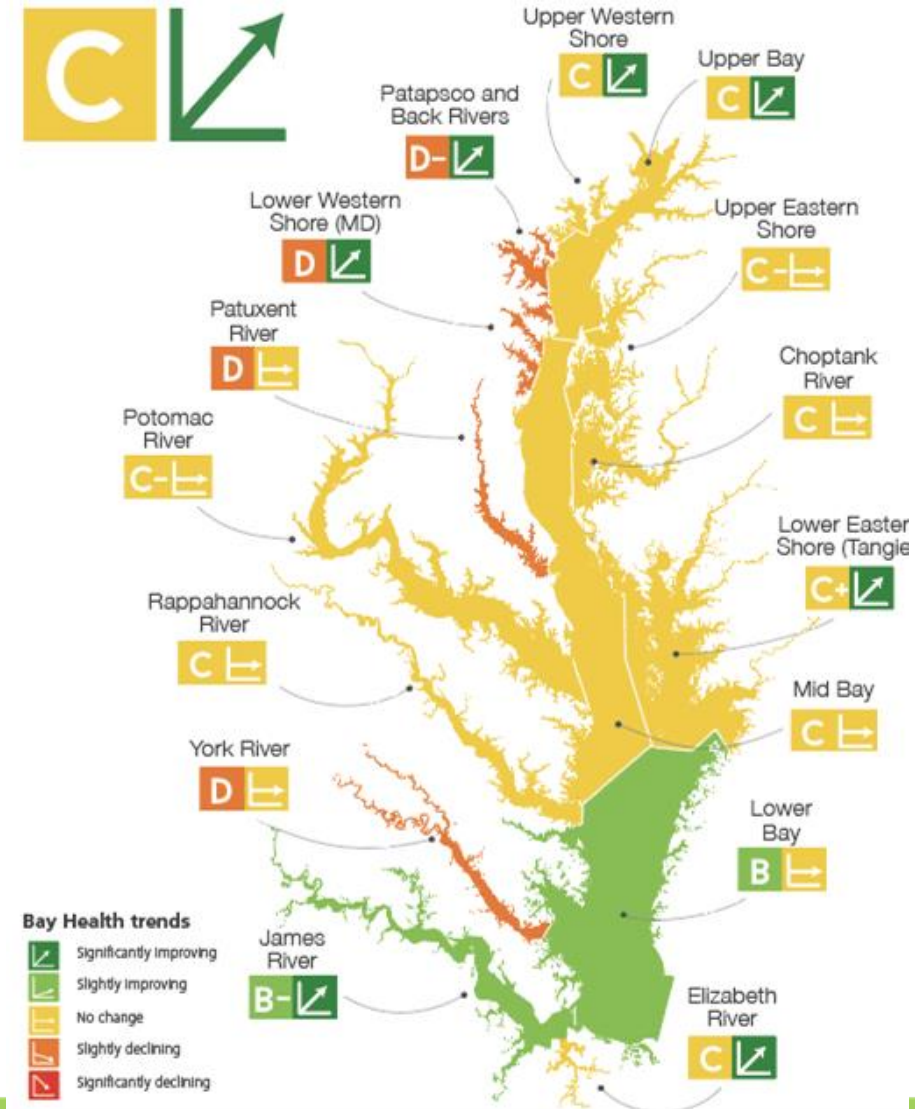
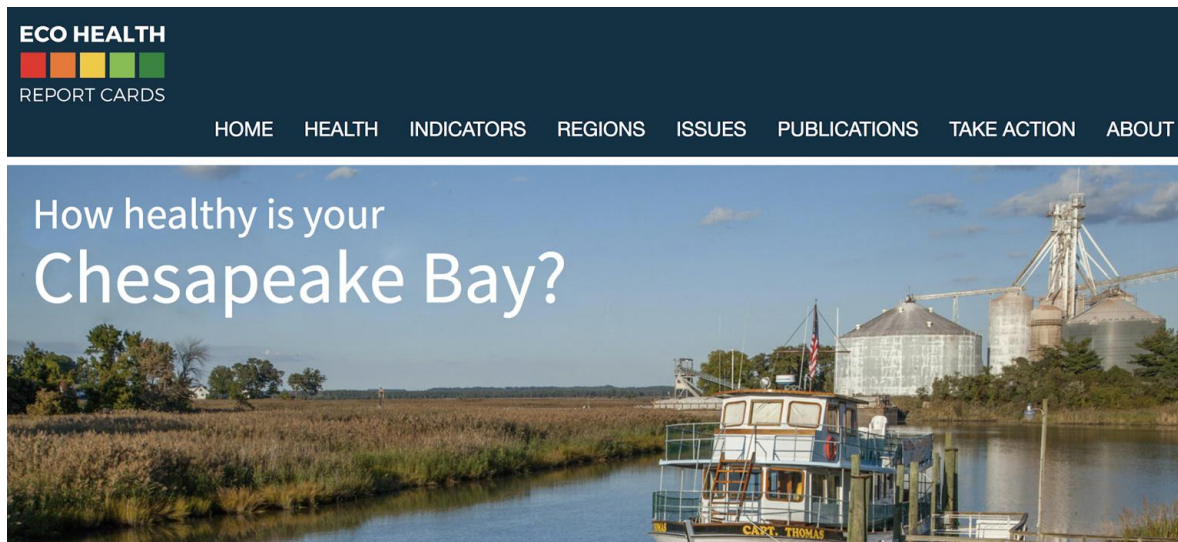
POTOMAC WATERSHED ROUNDTABLE FORUM

Virginia Achieves Midpoint Clean Water Goals



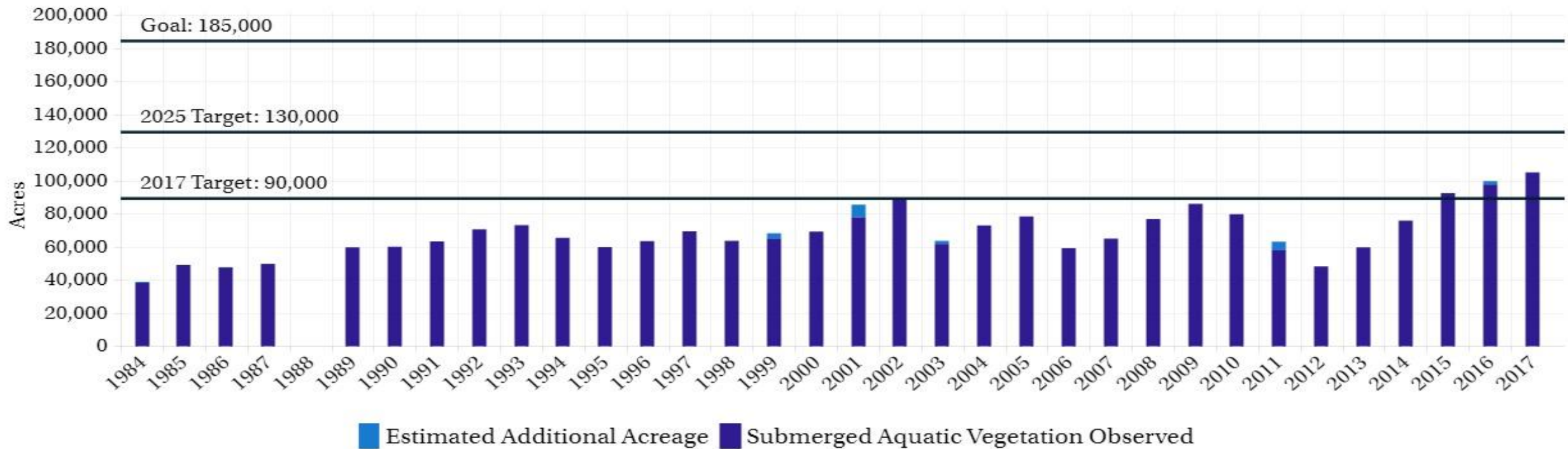
Overall bay health in 2017

- ecoreportcard.org





Submerged Aquatic Vegetation (SAV) Abundance (1984-2017)



The Chesapeake Bay as an Economic Engine



Governor Ralph S. Northam
April 4, 2018, Environment Virginia, VMI

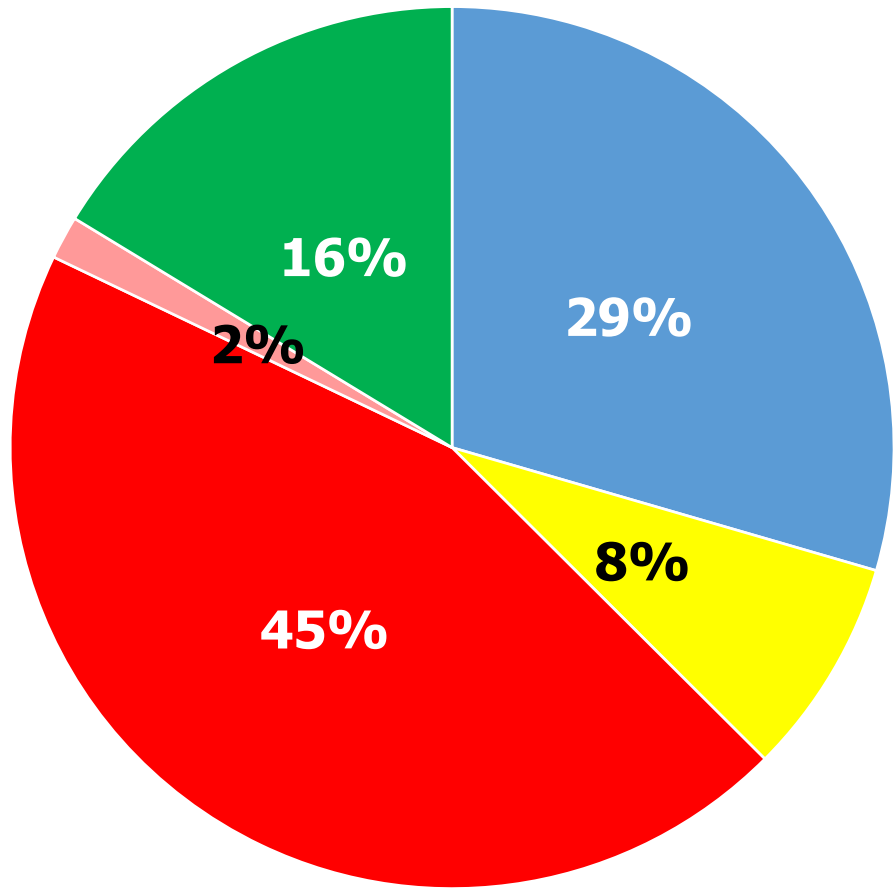
“Our DEQ experts tell us that at our current Bay restoration pace, we will fall millions of pounds short of our goals to reduce nitrogen and phosphorus. So my Administration is committed to preparing a new cleanup plan that incorporates input from local decision makers, prioritizes nature-based solutions, and tackles the impact of climate change on our clean water goals.”



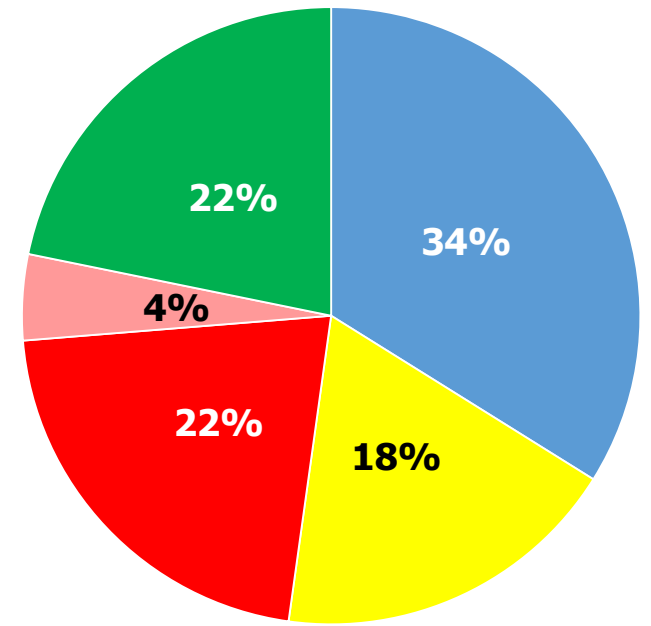
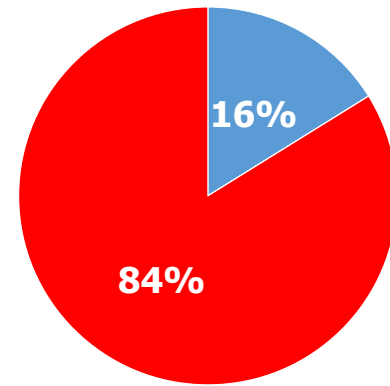
Our Rivers, Our Bay:
Virginia's Path to Clean Water

Which Sources Led Our Nitrogen Reductions?

■ Agriculture ■ Developed ■ Wastewater ■ Septic ■ Natural



1985



2017

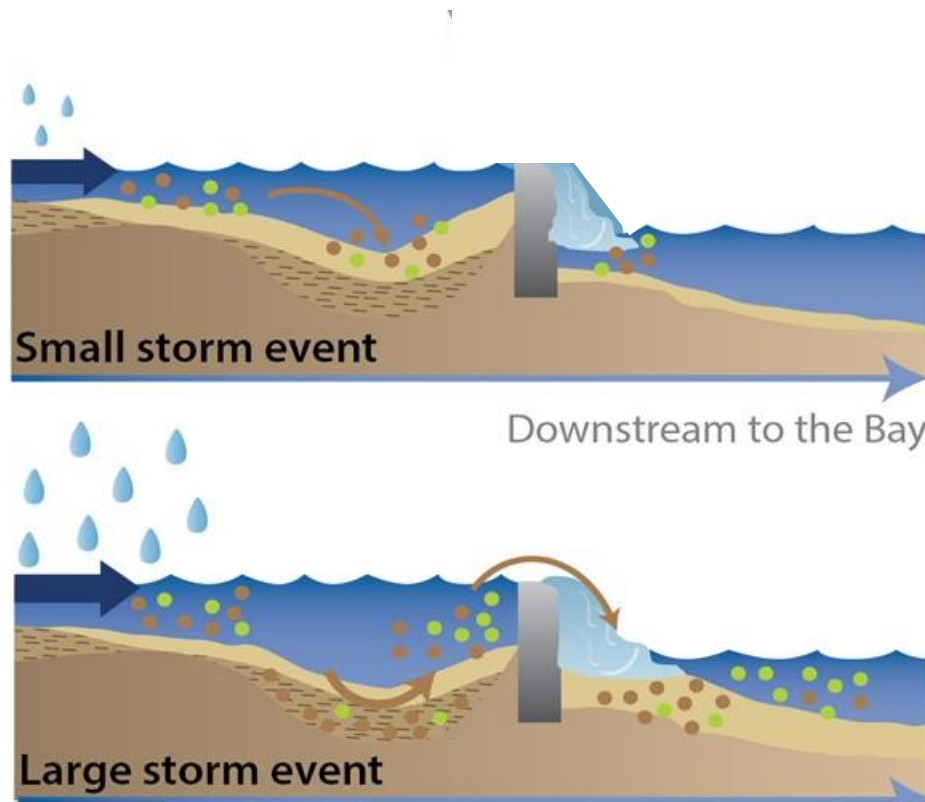
EPA Expectations for the Phase III Watershed Implementation Plans (June 20, 2018)

- ❑ By 2025, implement best management practices to reach planning targets for nitrogen and phosphorus reductions
- ❑ Develop programmatic and numeric implementation commitments
- ❑ Engage local, regional and federal partners
- ❑ Incorporate co-benefits
- ❑ Establish local are planning goals

EPA Expectations for the Phase III Watershed Implementation Plans (June 20, 2018)

- Track and report implementation
- Plan through 2-year “milestones”
- New approaches and challenges (accounting for growth, climate change, Conowingo Dam)
- Appendix B: Strong EPA expectations for Pennsylvania’s Phase III WIP

Estimated Loads to the Bay with Conowingo Dam and Reservoir at Infill Conditions

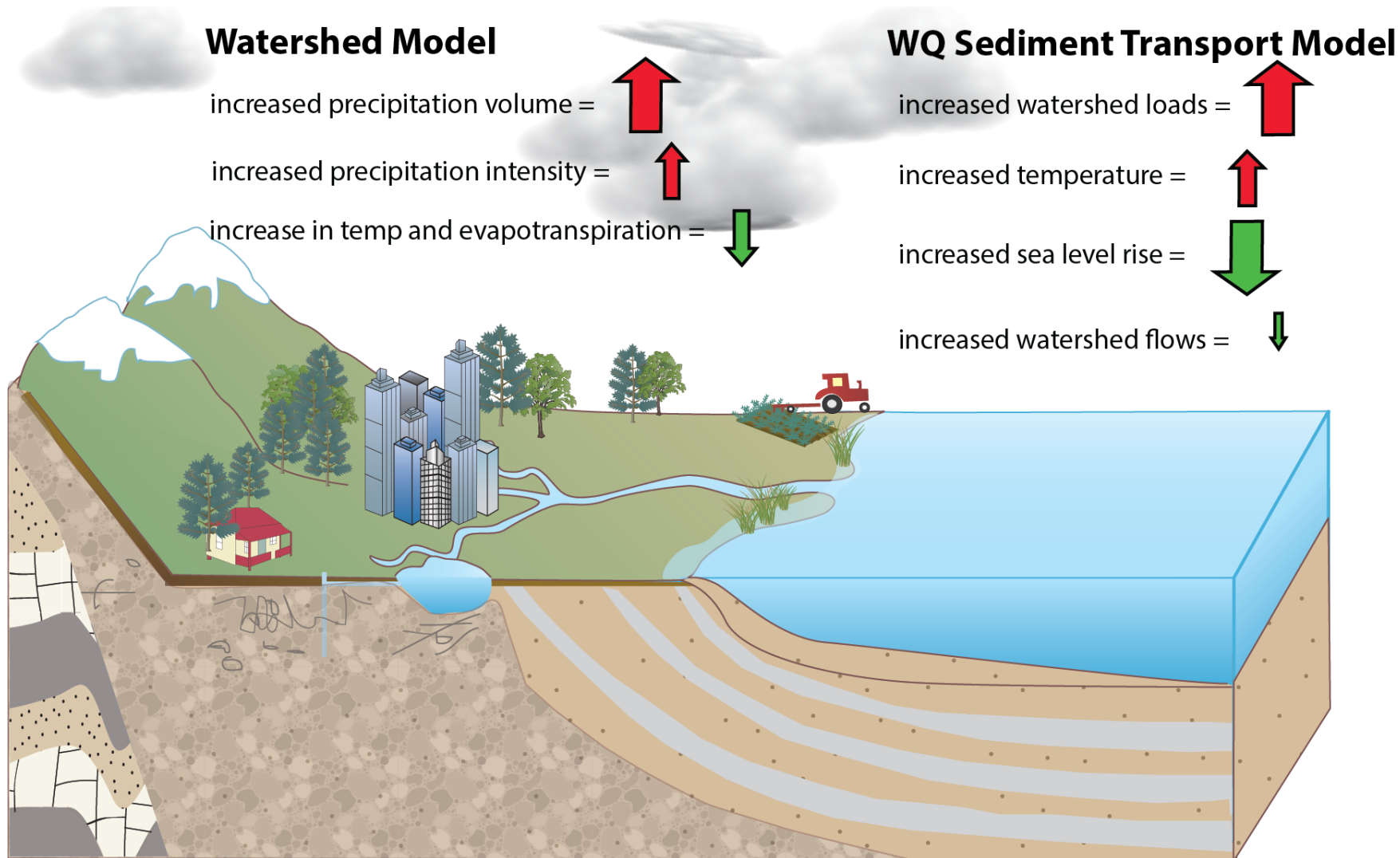


- Almost all of the nutrients are from upstream sources
- Much of the nutrients are biologically available to algae when they enter tidal waters
- Some of the nutrients are scoured from the bottom sediments behind the dam
- Much of these scoured nutrients are not biologically available to algae when they enter tidal waters

Therefore, the determination of nutrient loads to be reduced to account for Conowingo infill must factor in the type of nutrients and the timing of delivery

Accounting for Changing Conditions

Cumulative Assessment of Bay Low Dissolved Oxygen Impacts




Forest Buffers

A young forest with rows of saplings protected by white and black stakes. The saplings are planted in neat rows on a grassy slope. The background shows a dense, mature forest with tall trees.

Riparian forest buffers reduce bacteria, microorganisms, microplastic fibers, harmful algal blooms, and many emerging contaminants that are found in surface waters, including drinking water.

Riparian forest buffers keep streams cool for fish and wildlife.

Buffers help municipalities by treating stormwater, dissipating flood energy, and reducing erosion potential of streams, rivers, and tides. Buffers also improve recreation like fishing, boating, swimming, hiking, biking, and wildlife viewing.



The shading powers of tree canopy produce energy savings to homeowners, businesses, local governments and utilities.

Trees are the 'green infrastructure' of communities. Green stormwater infrastructure is designed to mimic the function of a natural forest. Tree intercept and slow the delivery of stormwater runoff to local waterways while filtering and taking up pollutants.

Tree Canopy

Virginia Secretary of Natural Resources

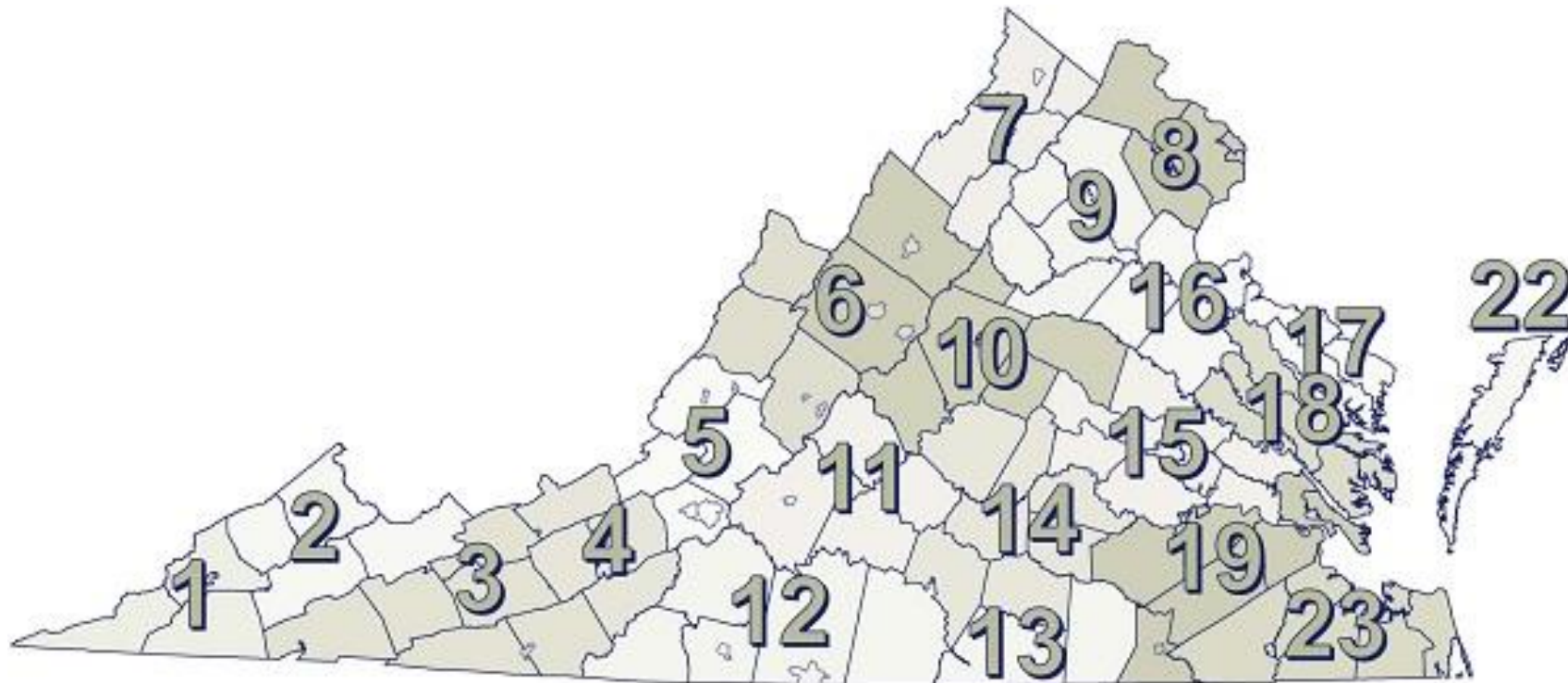
Chesapeake Bay Stakeholders Advisory Group

Soil and Water Conservation District Areas:
1) Adjust template bmp input decks
2) Identify funding and policy needs

Planning District Commissions:
1) Adjust template bmp input decks
2) Identify funding and policy needs
3) Convene all sector stakeholders

Virginia Interagency Chesapeake Bay TMDL Team

Virginia Partnering with Planning District Commissions on WIP III



1. LENOWISCO PDC
2. Cumberland Plateau PDC
3. Mount Rogers PDC
4. New River Valley RC
5. Roanoke Valley-Alleghany RC
6. Central Shenandoah PDC
7. Northern Shenandoah Valley RC
8. Northern Virginia RC
9. Rappahannock-Rapidan RC
10. Thomas Jefferson PDC
11. Region 2000 LGC
12. West Piedmont PDC
13. Southside PDC
14. Commonwealth RC
15. Richmond Regional PDC
16. George Washington RC
17. Northern Neck PDC
18. Middle Peninsula PDC
19. Crater PDC
22. Accomack-Northampton PDC
23. Hampton Roads PDC

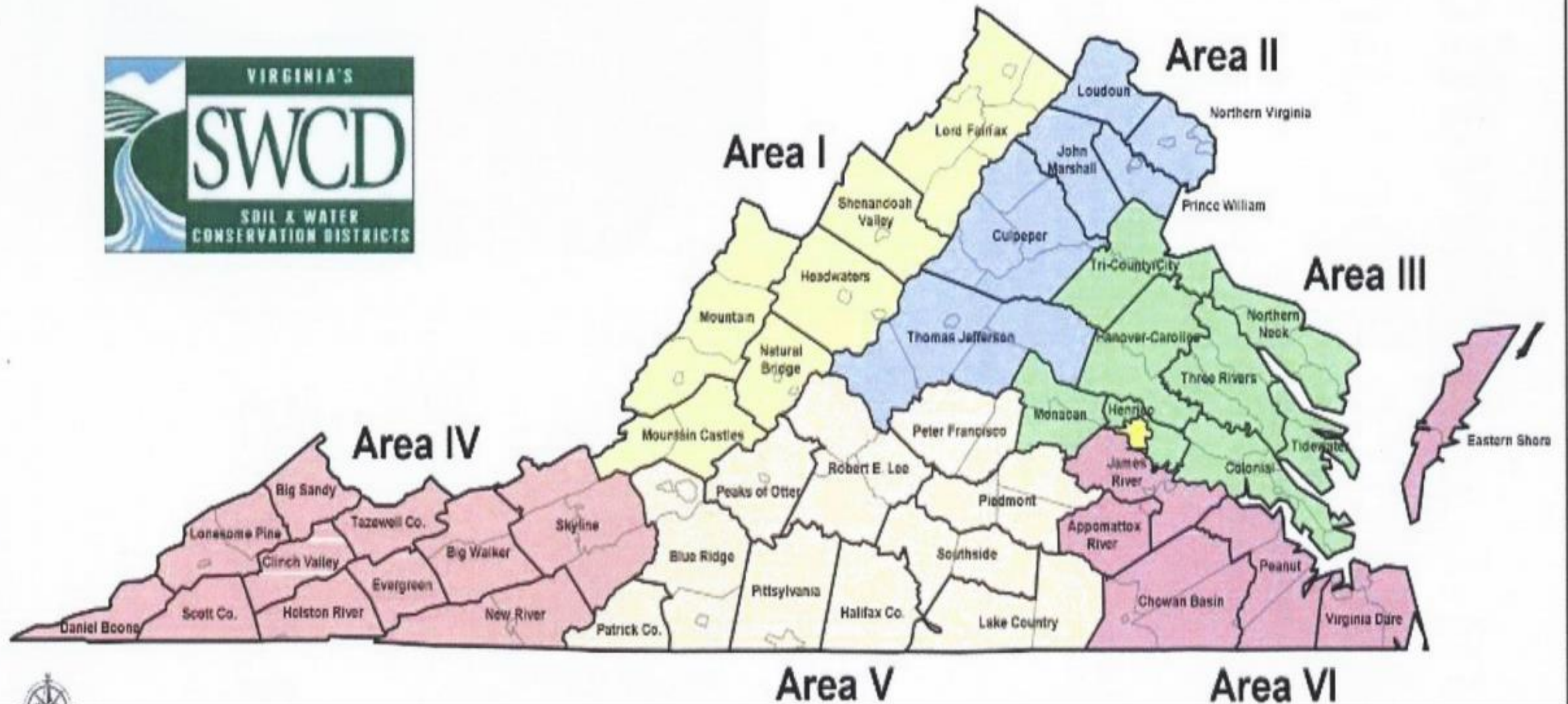
PDC's Engaging Local Officials, Staff and Citizens

1. Facilitation with localities and other partners;
 - a) Minimum of 3 urban stakeholder meetings.
 - b) Minimum of 1 ag-urban joint stakeholder meeting.
2. Revision of region's best management practice (BMP) input decks;
 - a) Review and update urban input deck.
3. Identifying regional implementation strategies for Phase III WIP implementation;
 - a) Outline resources needed for implementation.
 - b) Submit funding, authority, education and technical assistance needs.
 - c) List local co-benefits achieved through BMP and strategies such as improving local water quality, advancing economic development opportunities, enhancing outdoor recreation, climate resiliency, and flood control.

Why Participate With Your PDC?

- **You care about the bay and its tributaries**
- **The state will submit BMP data and strategies with or without an individual locality's input**
- **Without local input, future policies, regulations and funding decisions guided by the WIP may not reflect local conditions and interests**
- **Participation ≠ local implementation requirements**
- **Implementing water quality BMPs can have additional local benefits**

Virginia Soil and Water Conservation Districts



SWCD's Study Agriculture Sector Implementation Improvements

August 14 - AREA III – Department of Forestry, New Kent Conference Center

August 20 - AREA I - Augusta County Government Center

August 24 - AREA II - Culpeper Library

August 28 - AREA VI - Tidewater AREC



Chesapeake Bay TMDL Phase III WIP Timeline

- All of 2017 through 2018 – outreach to local decision makers
- July 9, 2018 – CBP Partnership Principals Staff Committee -- finalize planning targets
- Late Spring to Late Fall, 2018 – Engaging local communities through PDCs and SWCDs; see Virginia Townhall for meeting schedules
- April 12, 2019 – Draft Phase III WIP due to EPA; launch of formal public comment period
- August 9, 2019 – Final Phase III WIP due to EPA

Engagement through Our Watershed Roundtables?



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