



# *COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA*

Chesapeake Bay TMDL

Phase I Watershed Implementation Plan

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Presentation to the Chesapeake Bay Commission by

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# Priorities

- Allow flexibility in implementation to ensure cost-effective practices are given priority.
- Ensure the plan works in the real world, not just in the “model world”.
- Recognize current economic conditions, the economic impacts of the TMDL and the need for federal support.
- Reserve the right to modify the plan and adapt as necessary.

# Development of the Plan

2009: Agency review of programs

2009 – 2010: Convened Stakeholder Advisory Group (SAG): 40 members from all affected interests.

2010: Convened “Expert Panels” to advise staff on feasible levels of treatment.

2010: July: Sector Workgroups – SAG members with additional participants

2010: August: SAG Steering Committee – Representatives from each sector workgroup and several at-large members.

# Virginia's Watershed Implementation Plan: Overview

- Meets 2017 target loads for all basins through management actions, plus use of existing nutrient credits achieve those target loads.
- Proposes a broad expansion of the existing nutrient credit exchange.
- Includes plan for the James River for additional study of the current chlorophyll standard.
- Proposed 2025 allocations for some sectors based on the so-called E3 level with the understanding that such levels of reduction by any sector could be accomplished with the ability to use an expanded credit and offset program.
- Expected Revisions to the 2025 allocations in 2017.

# Wastewater Proposals

- Using the current nutrient allocations for significant wastewater facilities under the State Water Control Board issued Watershed General Permit that establishes nutrient caps for all significant discharges and ability to trade
- New facilities over 1000 gpd must offset entire nutrient load.
- Propose offsets for nutrient loads from small dischargers expanding to less than 40,000 gallons per day

# Onsite/Septic Proposals

- New or replacement systems in the Chesapeake Bay watershed utilize nitrogen reducing technology and implementation of new regulations for alternative systems that are currently under development.
- Establishing a tax credit or other financial incentive for the upgrade or replacement of existing conventional systems with systems that have nitrogen removal technologies.
- The plan proposes requiring septic pumpouts in areas outside those governed by the Chesapeake Bay Preservation Act which currently requires pumpouts every 5 years.

# Agriculture/Forestry Proposals

- Extensive coverage of conservation plans on agricultural acres that address nutrient management, livestock exclusion from streams, buffers and other practices.
- Vastly improved accounting of voluntary practices.
- Improved implementation of forestry water quality BMP requirements.

# Urban/Suburban Stormwater Proposals

- The plan proposes urban nutrient management plans on municipally owned lands.
- The plan proposes restrictions on do-it-yourself non-agricultural lawn and turf fertilizers including “P ban”
- The plan proposes a 20% phosphorus reduction standard for areas being redeveloped.