

Maryland Chesapeake Bay Phase III WIP Development (April 2016–December 2018)

Version 1, June 2017



2010
Chesapeake Bay TMDL established and Phase I WIPs submitted

2011–2012
Phase II WIPs submitted

Fall 2016
Phase III WIP local letters and regional meetings

January 2017
EPA releases Interim Phase III WIP Expectations

December 2016
States report annual BMP progress

Spring 2017
EPA Evaluates State Progress

April 2017
Maryland WIP development kickoff webinar

Summer 2017
Begin State/local WIP planning

Fall 2017
EPA provides draft planning targets

December 2017
States report annual BMP progress

November 2017
EPA finalizes Phase III WIP Expectations

January 2018
Two-year Milestones Due

March 2018
EPA finalizes Phase III WIP planning targets

Spring 2018
EPA completes Midpoint Assessment

Summer 2018
State/local WIP planning ends

December 2018
States report annual BMP progress

December 2018
Draft Phase III WIPs due to EPA

Key dates in Bay TMDL process

Key activities or information that needs to be communicated to local governments or others

Key activities requiring local government engagement

Guidance for Phase III WIP development released

April 2019
Final Phase III WIPs due to EPA

2025
100% of practices in place to meet Bay restoration goals set by TMDL

Maryland Chesapeake Bay Phase III WIP Development

DEFINITIONS

TMDL (Total Maximum Daily Load) is a scientific estimate of the maximum amount of pollution a river, lake, or bay can receive, and still be healthy. The Chesapeake Bay TMDL sets cleanup targets for nitrogen, phosphorus, and sediment pollution.

Watershed Implementation Plans (WIPs) are created by each state and serve as a guide for meeting the pollution-reduction targets in the Chesapeake Bay TMDL. Phase I WIPs, developed in 2010, describe actions the states need to take by 2017 and 2025. Phase II WIPs, developed by the states in 2012, build on the initial Phase I WIPs by identifying specific activities that need to be implemented locally. The Draft Phase III WIPs, due December 2018, will detail actions to be implemented between 2018 and 2025 to meet the Bay TMDL restoration goals. The final Phase III WIPs are due April 2019.

Two-year Milestones are short-term, two-year programmatic and implementation goals that states and local governments set for themselves to ensure progress for the Bay cleanup targets. They also guide implementation by describing specific actions to be taken by the state or others during the next two-year period.

Best Management Practices (BMPs) are restoration activities and projects (planned and implemented) to improve local water quality and meet pollution reduction targets established in the Bay TMDL.

Midpoint Assessment is the mid-term evaluation of overall progress toward the 2017 goal of having practices in place to meet 60 percent of the overall nitrogen, phosphorus and sediment reductions necessary to achieve the 2025 Bay TMDL goals.



The Chesapeake Bay Watershed spans 64,000 square miles and includes the District of Columbia and portions of New York, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia and West Virginia

LINKS

Maryland Regional WIP workshops 2016 -
bit.ly/MDWIP2016

Maryland WIP kickoff webinar 2017 -
bit.ly/MDapril2017

EPA Interim WIP Expectations 2017 -
bit.ly/EPAWIP2017

Maryland's Chesapeake Cleanup page:
bit.ly/MDbayclean

For more information, contact Kathy Stecker at Maryland Dept. of the Environment
kathy.stecker@maryland.gov