



Public Access

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Through the Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement, the Chesapeake Bay Program has committed to...

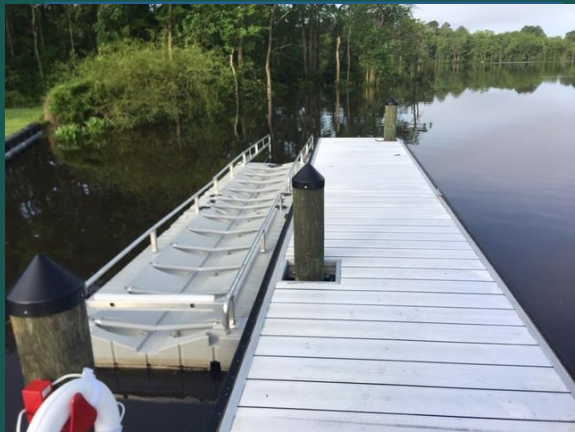


Photo credit: MD DNR

Goal: *Public Access*

Outcome: By 2025, add 300 new public access sites, with a strong emphasis on providing opportunities for boating, swimming and fishing, where feasible. (2010 baseline year)

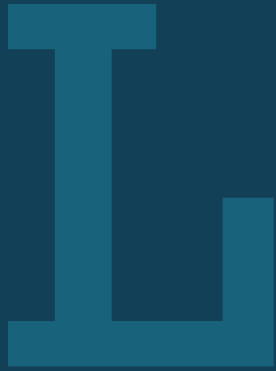


How You Can Help



Photo credit: VA DCR

- We are on track to exceed our outcome.
- We need you to support:
 - Continued public access development. The types of public access sites is evolving.
 - New Management Strategies as a way to expand the number and diversity of users.



Learn

What have we learned in the last two years?



Successes and Challenges

- Tracking new sites is high priority and great progress has been made.
- Some management strategies / actions have become out of date due to federal/state/local policy/programming shifts.
- Collective workgroup capacity is a challenge.
- Refocus and prioritize in 2020/2021



What is our Expected and Actual Progress?

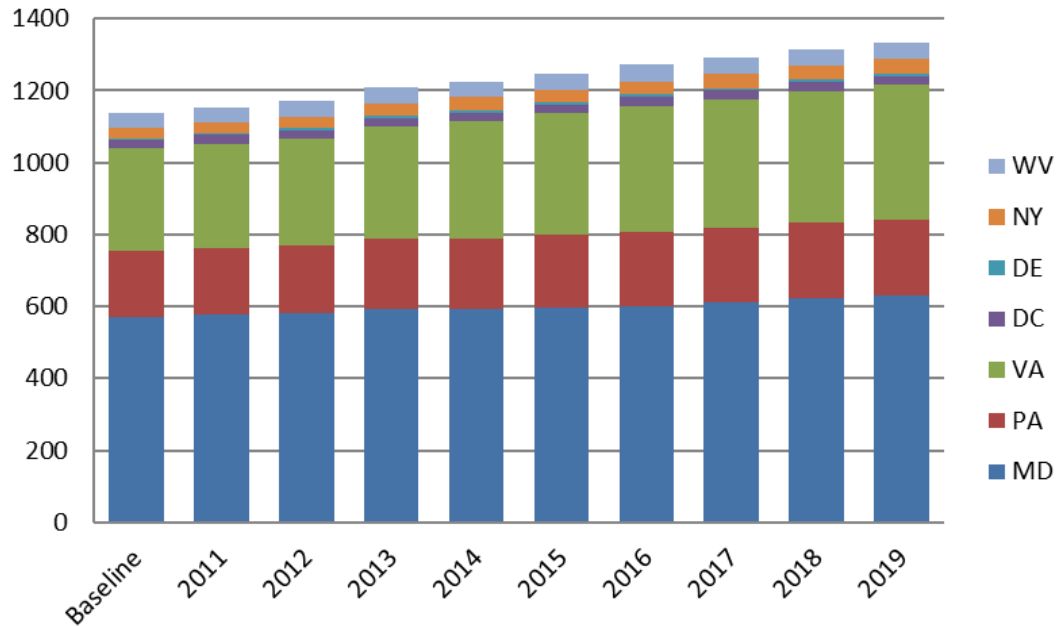
From 2012 through 2018:

- We have added **176 new sites** 59% of 300 site goal
- Boating access opportunities have been a key focus and **151 of the new sites** offer some form of boating access.
- **Eighty-one** of the new sites were developed on already existing public lands.
- Paddle-in camping was developed at **17** sites
- The urban areas received **33** new public access sites.
- **Forty-eight** of the new sites filled gaps along existing water trails.
- Of the 176 sites developed **52** are listed as meeting universal accessibility standards.



What is our Expected and Actual Progress?

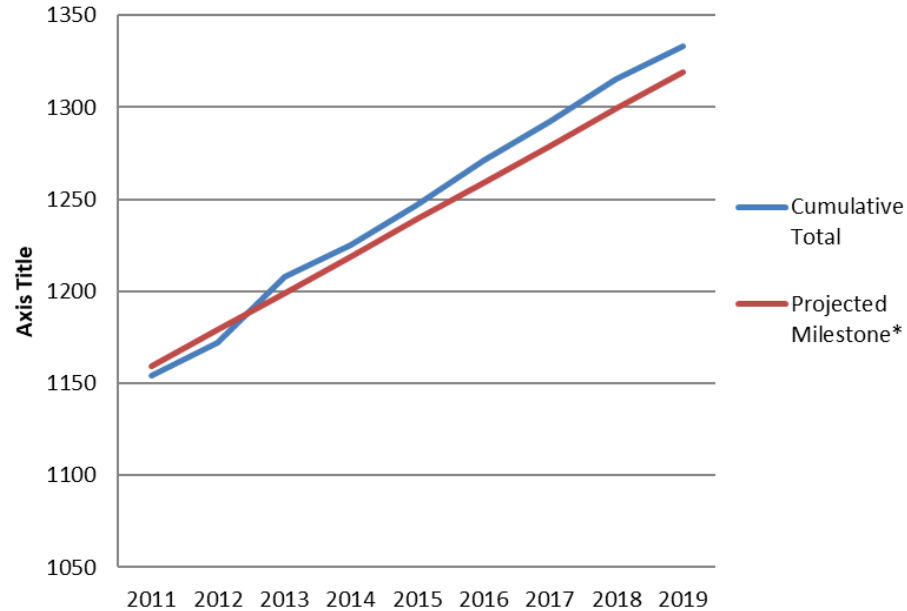
Existing Public Access Sites





What is our Expected and Actual Progress?

Existing Public Access Sites





On the Horizon

- Federal, state and local funding is top influencing factor in building new access sites.
- Access for all communities (urban and rural)
- Climate impacts
- Quality versus quantity



A large, stylized, blue letter 'A' is centered on a dark blue background. The letter has a thick, blocky font with a slight shadow effect. The background is divided into horizontal bands of color: a dark blue band at the top, a medium blue band in the middle, and a light green band at the bottom.

Adapt

How does all of this impact our work?



Based on what we learned, we plan to ...



- Leverage available funding to meet need for new access sites.
- Evaluate site applicability using factors including sea level rise.
- Engage new users by increasing programming and types of access to foster stewardship.



Help

*How can the Management Board
lead the Program to adapt?*



Help Needed

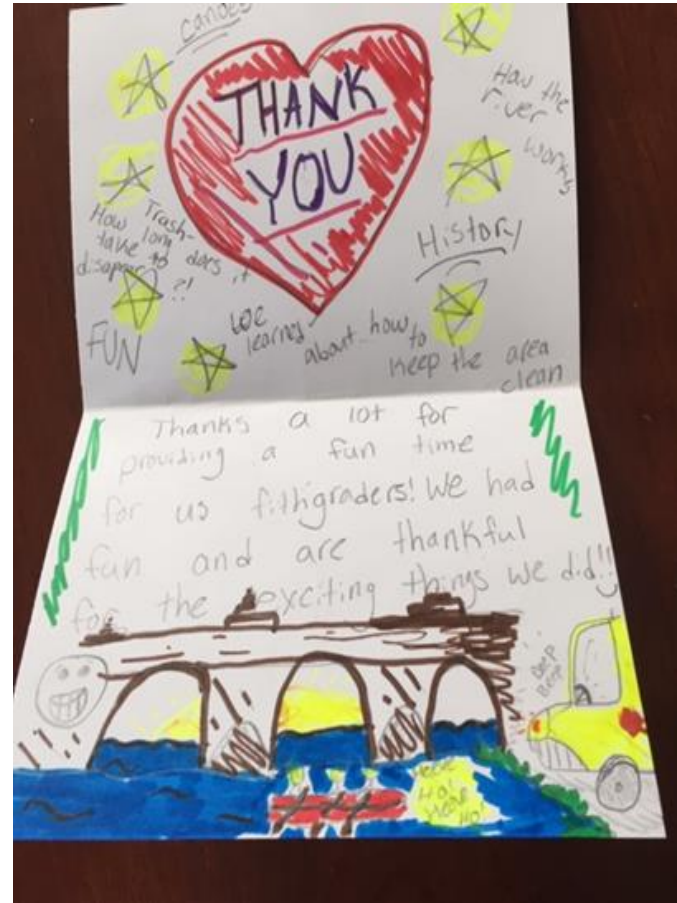
We need you to support:

New funding strategies by reaching back to Federal and State agencies:

- Funding for maintenance and improvements to address sea level rise of public access sites.
- Funding for planning and development.

Development and implementation of programming that expand number and diversity of users by making programming a higher priority.

Thank you!





Discussion