

The 2010 Chesapeake Bay Total Maximum Daily Load (Bay TMDL) outlines the reductions in nitrogen, phosphorus and sediment that are needed to ensure the Bay can meet water quality standards. To collectively achieve these Bay-wide nutrient and sediment reductions, each watershed jurisdiction is assigned specific targets. The Chesapeake Bay Program has developed updated planning targets for the Phase III Watershed Implementation Plans (WIPs).

How do the WIPs relate to planning targets?

The 2010 Bay TMDL identified reductions of nitrogen, phosphorus and sediment necessary to meet water quality standards. To collectively meet the Bay-wide reductions, each watershed jurisdiction (Delaware, the District of Columbia, Maryland, New York, Pennsylvania, Virginia and West Virginia) committed to different nitrogen, phosphorus and sediment reduction targets to achieve individually.



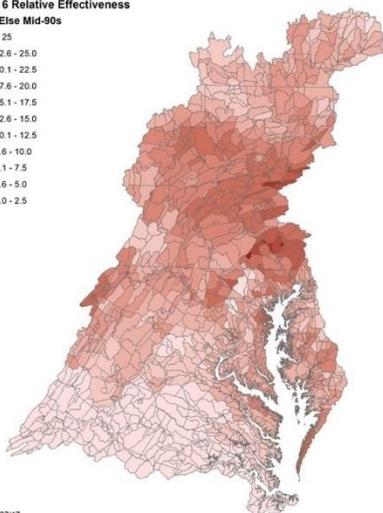
To help meet these pollutant reduction targets, the jurisdictions develop WIPs that include detailed, specific commitments and actions that they each agree to implement. The jurisdictions are currently developing their third (Phase III) WIP since the Bay TMDL was established in 2010. As part of the Phase III WIP development process, the Chesapeake Bay Program has developed draft planning targets for each of the six watershed states and the District of Columbia based on the most up-to-date science and monitoring data available. These planning targets identify new goals for the jurisdictions to achieve to meet water quality standards.

How are the target pollution loads determined?

The development of the Phase III WIP planning targets used a similar approach and methodology to what was employed for the Bay TMDL. The updated targets were developed using the refined Phase 6 Chesapeake Bay suite of modeling tools, which contains significantly more data and information than the previous version. The modeling tools underwent improved calibration, which yields more precise estimates of how much pollution the Bay can handle while still meeting water quality standards.

Phase 6 Relative Effectiveness
TN All Else Mid-90s

| |
|-------------|
| > 25 |
| 22.6 - 25.0 |
| 20.1 - 22.5 |
| 17.6 - 20.0 |
| 15.1 - 17.5 |
| 12.6 - 15.0 |
| 10.1 - 12.5 |
| 7.6 - 10.0 |
| 5.1 - 7.5 |
| 2.6 - 5.0 |
| 0.0 - 2.5 |



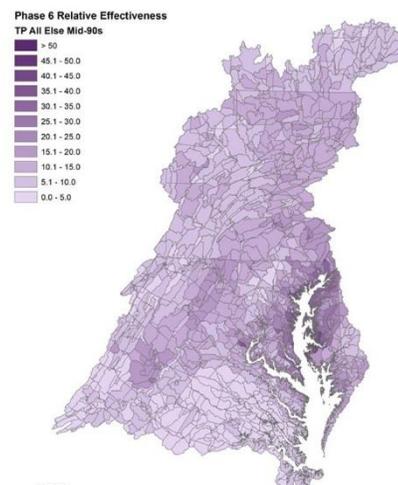
While statewide targets are provided to the jurisdictions to develop their Phase III WIPs, the Chesapeake Bay Program also developed state-basin scale targets. The water quality effects of conservation practices vary by watershed, so implementing the same controls in different watersheds has different levels of effectiveness (i.e., a pound of nitrogen in the James River may not have the same level of impact as a pound of nitrogen in the Potomac River). The state-basin planning targets are designed to account for these differing levels of effectiveness (i.e., the overall level of impact on water quality). *Graphics to the left and on the next page demonstrate the most impactful nonpoint source areas in the watershed (defined as the effect on oxygen in the Bay per pound of nitrogen or phosphorus released in the watershed).*

State-Basins

- DC Potomac
- DE Eastern Shore
- MD Eastern Shore
- MD Patuxent
- MD Potomac
- MD Susquehanna
- MD Western Shore
- NY Susquehanna
- PA Eastern Shore
- PA Potomac
- PA Susquehanna
- PA Western Shore
- VA Eastern Shore
- VA James
- VA Potomac
- VA Rappahannock
- VA York
- WV James
- WV Potomac

What happens if the pollution loads are not reduced by 2025?

The Chesapeake Bay Program will provide as many resources as possible to help the jurisdictions meet their Phase III WIP planning targets. Potential federal actions may occur if jurisdictions do not meet their targeted pollution reductions; however, any federal actions will be guided by common sense, the best available information and a shared goal to restore the Chesapeake Bay.



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