

2024–2025

# Bay Barometer

Health and Restoration in  
**NEW YORK**



***Bay Barometer*** shares the most up-to-date information and data about our progress toward the goals and outcomes in the 2014 ***Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement***.

In New York, the Chesapeake Bay watershed spans more than 2.4 million acres, touches 19 counties and includes the headwaters of one of the Bay's largest tributaries—the Susquehanna River. Below is a snapshot of progress in New York's portion of the Chesapeake Bay watershed.

## Abundant Life

### Black Duck

Between 2017 and 2024, New York enhanced 164 acres of wetlands deemed suitable habitat for black ducks. Watershed-wide, only 18.3% of the goal to enhance black duck-suitable wetland habitat has been achieved.

During the same time period, New York restored or created 63 acres of wetlands deemed suitable habitat for black ducks. Watershed-wide, only 4.08% of the goal to restore or create black duck-suitable wetland habitat has been achieved.

### Brook Trout

Between 2016 and 2024, New York saw a net loss of 33.6 square miles of habitat occupied by naturally reproducing brook trout. Overall, there are 12,823 square miles of occupied brook trout habitat across the watershed.

### Fish Passage

Between 2022 and 2023, 303 stream miles across the watershed were reopened to fish passage. New York has removed eight dams since 2007 in their portion of the Chesapeake Bay watershed, contributing to the achievement of this outcome.

### Wetlands

Since 2014, New York has enhanced 295 acres of wetlands, contributing to the watershed-wide total of 61,163 acres, which marks a 40.77% achievement of the 150,000-acre goal.

Additionally, New York has created or restored 92 acres of wetlands, contributing to the watershed-wide total of 4,862 acres, which marks a 5.72% achievement of the 85,000-acre goal.



Read the **2024–2025 Bay Barometer** at  
[Chesapeakebay.net/what/publications](https://Chesapeakebay.net/what/publications)

# Conserved Lands

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## Forest Buffers

New York contributed 34 of the 227 miles of riparian forest buffers planted across the watershed in 2024, helping to achieve 25.2% of the watershed-wide goal to plant 900 miles each year.

## Land Use Methods and Metrics

The Chesapeake Bay Program's 2021/22 [High-Resolution Land Use/Cover and Change Data](#) show that 2,066,925 acres, or approximately 4.7% of the watershed, is covered by impervious surfaces. In the New York portion of the Bay watershed, impervious surfaces cover 117,655 acres, or approximately 3% of the land.

## Protected Lands

As of 2024, 307,547 acres of protected lands can be found across New York, a decrease of 7.3% from 2022<sup>1</sup>. Over 1.8 million acres of lands have been conserved across the watershed since 2010, achieving 90% of the goal to protect an additional two million acres.

## Tree Canopy

New York planted 24 acres of trees in 2024, bringing the total amount of trees planted across the state since 2014 to 112 acres. Overall, 5,743 acres of trees were planted across the watershed in 2024, continually increasing tree canopy.

Despite these gains, the Chesapeake Bay Program's High-Resolution Land Use/Cover and Change Data show that from 2013/14-2021/22, an estimated 1,318 acres of tree canopy was lost in New York.

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<sup>1</sup> The decrease of protected lands noted in New York is due to data refinements as the state works to reflect the most accurate representation of land protection.

# Clean Water

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## 2025 Watershed Implementation Plans (WIPs)

As of 2024, New York has achieved 50%, 66% and 42% of its 2025 reduction goals for nitrogen, phosphorus and sediment, respectively. Since 2019, New York has lowered the amount of nitrogen reaching the Bay by 1.28 million pounds, the amount of phosphorus by .1 million pounds and the amount of sediment by 42.47 million pounds.

## Water Quality Standards Attainment

During the 2021-2023 assessment period, 29.4% of the Bay's tidal waters attained water quality standards.

Short-term monitoring trends (2014-2023) show that nitrogen, phosphorus and sediment trends in the Susquehanna River are improving

# Engaged Communities

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## Public Access

Between 2011 and 2024, New York opened 40 new sites to connect the public with the water. Overall, 1,451 new public access sites were opened across the watershed during this timeframe, completing the Public Access Outcome.



Read the revised *Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement* at [Chesapeakebay.net/watershed-agreement](https://Chesapeakebay.net/watershed-agreement)