

## RIPARIAN FOREST BUFFER COMMITMENTS & TARGETS



### 2014 Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement *(signed June 16, 2014)*

**Riparian Forest Buffer Outcome** -- “Continually increase the capacity of forest buffers to provide water quality and habitat benefits throughout the watershed. Restore 900 miles per year of riparian forest buffer and conserve existing buffers until at least 70 percent of riparian areas throughout the watershed are forested.”

### 2011 State Phase 2 Watershed Implementation Plans for the TMDL

States proposed a mix of best management practices to meet the nutrient and sediment reduction limits of the Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL). These represent measurable implementation targets that are tracked as milestones of compliance every two years. States may reallocate load reductions to other practices in the WIPs if needed, but total targets for pollution load reduction must still be achieved.

	Total Acres Needed 2012-2025	Average acres/year	Miles/year (at 100' width)
Delaware	4790	370	31
Maryland	1190	90	8
New York	6180	475	40
Pennsylvania	89630	6895	575
Virginia	80820	6215	518
West Virginia	3250	250	21

### 2010 Federal Commitment: The Strategy for Protecting and Restoring the Chesapeake Bay Watershed (Executive Order 13508):

**Riparian Forest Buffer Outcome**—“Restore riparian forest buffers to 63% of the total riparian miles by 2025. Watershed-wide, this equates to about 900 miles of restoration every year.”

Federal Agencies said they would achieve this Outcome by:

- Accelerating and expanding application of the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP)
- Focusing restoration of forest buffers in priority watersheds.
- Exploring additional financial incentives for the installation of riparian forest buffers.
- Enhancing technical capacity for riparian forest restoration.