

RESTORE CLEAN WATER ACTIONS: Federal Water Quality Two-Year Milestones for 2016 – 2017

- 52.5 percent of goal achieved for implementing nitrogen, phosphorus and sediment pollution reduction actions to achieve final Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) allocations, as measured through the phase 5.3 watershed model*
- EPA's portion of air deposition load reduction to tidal surface waters of 350,000 pounds of nitrogen. (20 percent of the required load reductions from 2010 to achieve the 15.7 million pound air deposition load allocation to tidal waters.)

* This outcome used 2009 as the baseline year

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Target Date	Programmatic Milestone
TMDL/WIPs	
January 2016	Announce federal 2016-2017 water quality two-year milestones. (EPA, USDA, DOT, USGS, FWS, NOAA)
May 2016	Evaluate jurisdictional 2016-2017 two-year milestones. (EPA)
May 2016	Assess progress made to implement the federal and jurisdictional 2014-2015 two-year milestones and initiate appropriate federal actions to ensure jurisdictions remain on pace. (EPA)
2016	Deliver the Final Phase III WIP Stakeholder Assessment Report to the CBP partnership to help inform the Phase III WIP expectations development process. (EPA)
June 2017	Provide draft Phase III WIP Planning Targets to the jurisdictions and CBP partnership for input and review. (EPA)
May 2017	Provide Bay jurisdictions and federal agencies with results of mid-term evaluation of their 2016-2017 two-year milestones progress. (EPA)
October 2016	Provide preliminary Phase III WIP expectations for CBP partnership input and review.
June 2017	Provide final Phase III WIP expectations to the jurisdictions.
June 2017	Provide final expectations for two-year milestones development to the jurisdictions and federal agencies, after input from the CBP partnership and jurisdictions. (EPA)
December 2017	Release final Phase III WIP Planning Targets to the jurisdictions (EPA)
January-April 2016	Approve each Bay jurisdiction's Best Management Practice verification program contained within the Clean Water Act Section 117 grant Quality Assurance Project Plans(EPA)

2016	Identify and map all federal landholdings in the Chesapeake Bay watershed using Federal Facilities Editor Tool in order to inform the CBP Phase 6 Watershed Model. (EPA/USGS/multiple federal agencies)
October 2016 and October 2017	Federal agencies to report BMP implementation progress to EPA and the Bay jurisdictions annually.
2017	All Federal agencies with Federal lands and facilities which received 2017 and 2025 pollution reduction targets from EPA and the Bay jurisdictions are to ensure that practices are in place to achieve an equivalent 60% reduction by the end of 2017 as described in the 2015 Protocol for Setting Targets, Planning BMPs and Reporting Progress for Federal Facilities and Lands. (Multiple Federal agencies)
2016	Continue to provide funding to support a consortium of land grant universities in running expert BMP panels and other expert support to the partnership (EPA)
2016/2017	Provide trainings on BayFAST/CAST/MAST/VAST to federal, state and local partners in the Bay watershed. (EPA)
2016	Ensure BayFAST is enhanced to improve the usability of the tool by the users and its functionality in supporting annual progress reporting (EPA) (
2016/2017	Ensure BayFAST is upgraded to be consistent with the partnership's Phase 6 Chesapeake Bay Watershed Model (EPA)
2016-2017	Continue to participate in and co-chair the Federal Facilities Workgroup to enhance collaborative efforts within the Chesapeake Bay Program Partnership. (DoD)
2016/2017	Support, to the extent practicable, the 'Protocol for Setting Targets, Planning BMPs, and Reporting Progress for Federal Facilities and Lands' and identify approaches to track reductions from regulated and non-regulated land uses. (DoD)
2016/2017	Continue to participate in jurisdictions' WIP processes by providing installation information and disseminating jurisdiction information throughout DoD to support effective implementation of future Phase III WIP expectations. (DoD)
2016-2017	Continue efforts to foster healthy lands and waters, by balancing public recreational uses and needs at USACE reservoirs and dams. (USACE)
2016-2017	Develop digital land use and boundary data for USACE properties in the CB watershed (USACE)

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2016-2017	Assess existing and future BMPs for USACE properties in the CB watershed. (USACE)
Agriculture	
2016/2017	NRCS will continue to support voluntary actions by farmers and landowners to improve water quality by providing financial and technical assistance from the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP), Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP), Agricultural Management Assistance (AMA) Program, Agricultural Conservation Easement Program (ACEP), Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP), and Conservation Technical Assistance (CTA) funds. (USDA)
2016	Pilot the first incremental releases of Conservation Desktop that will enable a new user interface for Protracts in Conservation Desktop and replace Toolkit functionality in order to improve efficiency in the conservation planning process. (NRCS)
2017	Pilot incremental releases of Conservation Desktop that will enable resource inventory, integrate resource concerns and integrate resource assessment and analysis tools in order to improve efficiency in the conservation planning process. (NRCS)
2016/2017	Support the development and implementation of agricultural certainty programs in the Bay watershed states. (USDA and State Agencies)
2016/2017	Coordinate lessons learned with Chesapeake Bay Program partners on the CEAP Chesapeake cropland studies (Part 1, Part 2, and the plans for Part 3 study) to discuss their utility for learning about the effectiveness of nutrient management on Chesapeake cropland and opportunities to fine-tune nutrient management to achieve the greatest water quality benefits." (NRCS)
2016/2017	USDA will work with State agencies to support accurate BMP reporting within the Chesapeake Bay watershed including, where appropriate, developing options for entering into and/or strengthening data sharing with the Bay states.
2016/2017	USDA will enhance the delivery of technical assistance in support of riparian forest buffer restoration.
2016/2017	USDA will develop and pilot strategies to ensure that federal, State, and NGO conservation programs create mutually reinforcing incentives for producers to install and maintain riparian forest buffers.

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2016/2017	USDA will improve riparian forest buffer outreach to landowners.
2016/2017	USDA will work with the 6 bay states on implementing the Riparian Forest Buffer Task Force recommendations.
2016	Conduct animal feeding operation (AFO) reviews in one Bay subwatershed. (EPA)
2016	Complete the review of four CAFO permits and associated Nutrient Management Plans for each Bay jurisdiction. (EPA)
Atmospheric – Rules, Deposition, Allocations	
2016/2017	Significantly reduce nitrogen deposition to the Bay and watershed by 2020 through implementation of national rules under the Clean Air Act. (EPA) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop new air deposition modeling for the Chesapeake Bay watershed incorporating the most recent finalized rules with significant NOx reductions. (EPA)
2016	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Propose and finalize a federal plan for states that do not submit a Clean Power Plan (CPP) state plan for existing sources. (EPA)
2016	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Finalize federal plan to implement the Emission Guidelines for Sewage Sludge Incinerators. (EPA)
2016/2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Propose and finalize federal plan to address interstate transport for the 2008 ozone national ambient air quality standards (NAAQS). (EPA) 2016/2017
2016	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Finalize implementation rule for the 2012 fine particulate matter (PM_{2.5}) NAAQS. (EPA) 2016
2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Begin implementation of Tier 3 new vehicle emission standards and lowering of the sulfur content in gasoline
2016	Work with states to develop State Implementation Plan (SIP) revisions to reduce NOx emissions. (EPA)
2016/2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review CPP state plans for existing power plants. (EPA) Oversee state implementation of Clean Air Act 129 rules (CISWI, SSI, HMIWI). Once fully implemented, these rules will reduce emissions of NOx, as well as air toxics. (EPA)
2016/2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work with states to designate nonattainment areas for the 2015 ozone NAAQS. (EPA)
2016/2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work with states and review SIPs that address interstate transport for the 2008 ozone NAAQS. (EPA)
2016/2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work with states and review SIPs that address the 2012 PM_{2.5} NAAQS. (EPA)

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Stormwater	
2016/2017	Propose draft District of Columbia MS4 permit for comment. (EPA)
2016/2017	Meet quarterly with Federal Agencies and the District of Columbia Department of Energy and Environment (DC DOEE) as part of the 2013 Memorandum of Understanding among EPA, DoD, NPS and GSA regarding Federal Agency Stormwater Management in the District of Columbia (NPS, DoD-Navy, NPS, GSA, EPA)
2016/2017	Conduct update of 2012 stormwater assessments for Pennsylvania and Virginia (EPA)
2016	Revise Phase II MS4 stormwater regulations (EPA).
2017	Reissue Construction General Permit (applicable to operators in the District of Columbia and Federal operators in Delaware) (EPA)
2016/2017	Conduct oversight review and comment, per NPDES Memorandum of Agreement, on draft state MS4 permits: to ensure consistency with the Bay TMDL allocations and the level of pollutant reduction called for in state WIPs; and to ensure permits contain enforceable performance measures. (EPA)
2016/2017	Provide assistance to Virginia Department of Environmental Quality to review and comment on select TMDL implementation plans submitted by MS4 jurisdictions to evaluate if they have a schedule for implementing the necessary structural and non-structural controls and a final date to achieve the applicable WLAs. (EPA)
2016/2017	Conduct MS4 permittee and state inspector trainings in coordination with jurisdictions. (EPA)
2016/2017	Continue to provide support Bay states to strengthen reissued MS4 permits so that they are more specific and measurable. (EPA)
2016/2017	Continue to provide technical assistance to communities to help better implement stormwater programs. (EPA)

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Wastewater	
2016/2017	Propose draft Blue Plains NPDES permit for comment. (EPA)
Trading/Offsets	
March 2016	Issue final “baseline demonstration” technical memorandum setting forth EPA expectations for the Bay jurisdictions’ offset and trading programs (EPA)
March 2016	Issue draft “interstate trading” and “MS4 and construction mitigation” technical memoranda setting forth EPA expectations for the Bay jurisdictions’ offset and trading programs (EPA)
2016/2017	Update previously-issued technical memoranda, as needed. (EPA)
March 2016	Conduct update of previous 2012 trading and offset assessments for all jurisdictions (EPA)
June 2016	Conduct draft sector load growth evaluation. (EPA)
June 2017	Conduct final sector load growth evaluation (EPA)
2016/2017	Review Bay jurisdictions’ trading and offset regulations and policies and support Bay jurisdictions as they develop trading and/or offset programs. (EPA)
2016/2017	Work with other Federal agencies to build capacity that will support an efficient and robust trading market. (USDA, EPA, DOT)
Toxic Contaminants	
2016	Conduct monitoring in D.C. and Maryland to support revision of toxics TMDLs in the Anacostia River. (EPA)
2016/2017	Take appropriate action on proposed PCB TMDLs submitted in the Bay watershed for local waters. (EPA)
2016	Issue final pretreatment standards for pollutant discharges, including mercury and other metals, from dental offices. (EPA)
2017	Finalize Management Standards for Hazardous Waste Pharmaceuticals Rule (EPA)

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April 2016	Develop 2016-2017 work plans for toxic contaminants reduction and research management strategies (EPA, FWS, USGS)
December 2017	Conduct research on occurrence and effects of toxic contaminants on fish and wildlife with an emphasis on chemicals of emerging concern. (USGS, FWS).
December 2017	Develop a GIS desktop tool to identify potential land sources of contamination in the watershed. The use of EJ SCREEN will be evaluated to identify the location of such sites in areas with diverse populations. (EPA)
December 2017	Evaluate sites to identify industries or processes that used PCBs to better focus resources on identifying and investigating these sites. Share this information and investigate potential sources through coordination with the appropriate authority. (EPA)
2016/2017	Ensure permits are consistent with the PCB TMDLs and review permits with a focus on ensuring PCB TMDL effluent limitations are clear and enforceable. (EPA)
2016/2017	Conduct state oversight and independent compliance monitoring and enforcement and take appropriate action, as necessary, to ensure that permittees are in compliance. (EPA)
December 2017	Generate information to better understand fish conditions and effects in a regional context. (USGS)
December 2017	Better define the sources and occurrence of endocrine disrupting chemicals EDCs and other contaminant groups that are affecting the health of fish and wildlife. (USGS)
December 2017	Develop an approach based on the Toxic Contaminants Summary Report (CBP, 2013) to assess the relative risk of contaminants to help inform policy and prevention strategies. (USGS, EPA)
2016	Publish a proposed rule for public comment regarding authorized uses of PCBs and whether certain use authorizations should be ended or phased out because they can no longer be justified under section 6(e) of the Toxic Substances Control Act (EPA)

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Oversight and Enforcement	
December 2016 and 2017	Permit and Enforcement Oversight – Stormwater, Wastewater, Agriculture, Trading/Offsets, Air. <ul style="list-style-type: none">NPDES Permit Reviews – Track progress annually on number of permits reviewed and objections. (EPA)Inspections and Case conclusions – Track progress annually on inspections (including oversight inspections) conducted and cases concluded. (EPA)
December 2016 and 2017	
Monitoring and Science Support	
June 2016	Summarize patterns in water-quality criteria attainment over time in tidal waters from 1985-2014 (USGS)
December 2016	Provide an update describing temporal and regional patterns in water quality standards attainment of dissolved oxygen, water clarity/SAV and chlorophyll (USGS)
December 2016	Publish a new Ambient Water Quality Criteria Technical Addendum that provides updated guidance on water quality standards attainment assessment methods for the tidal Bay jurisdictions (EPA/USGS)
December 2016	Expand upon the water quality-focused Building Environmental Intelligence report to a new process to address additional monitoring needs associated with the 2014 Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement. Integrate the role of Citizen Science to address gaps in water-quality-related monitoring and assessment needs (USGS)

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Annually, beginning in 2016	Implement new process for quantifying trends in tidal water-quality parameters. The new process incorporates advances in methods to provide more information on trends in water-quality patterns over time (UMCES/EPA, MD DNR, VADEQ)
Ongoing 2016-2017	Provide updates of nutrient and sediment load trends in the Bay watershed to help assess progress toward implementing the Bay TMDL. Updates of loads at the River-Input Monitoring stations will be provided annually with results from additional stations in the non-tidal network provided every two years. (USGS working with States and EPA)
Ongoing 2016-2017	Continue to explain watershed trends of nutrients and sediment to support the Mid-Point Assessment. The effects of nutrient sources, land-use change, and BMPs will be investigated and presented for the watershed and several major source sectors (agricultural, urban, and atmospheric deposition). (USGS, EPA, and academic partners working through the Scientific, Technical Assessment, and Report (STAR) team.)
Ongoing 2016-2017	Develop and apply new approaches for quantifying and explaining water-quality trends in tidal waters (USGS)
Ongoing 2016-2017	Test watershed factors influencing water-quality trends in tidal water (USGS)
2016-2017	Provide annual updates of water-quality trends in tidal waters (EPA) and watershed (USGS) to assess progress toward nutrient/sediment reductions and water-quality standards. (EPA/USGS)
2016-2017	EPA will work with NOAA to utilize information from the Chesapeake Bay Interpretive Buoy System (CBIBS) data to enhance tidal results (EPA/NOAA)
January 2016	Complete ChesapeakeProgress, one of a suite of ChesapeakeStat tools that will provide progress on all Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement to oversight stakeholders. (EPA)
2017	Complete ChesapeakeDecisions, a second in the suite of ChesapeakeStat tools that will allow decision-makers to make better decisions based on adaptive management. (EPA)
2016-2017	Continue to update TMDL Tracker and make available through the ChesapeakeProgress and ChesapeakeDecisions sites. (EPA)

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EPA Grant Support to States and the District of Columbia	
2016/2017	Provide financial support to Bay jurisdictions, as authorized, through EPA's assistance programs including CWA Section 319, SRF, CWA 117 CBIG and CBRAP. (EPA)
2016/2017	Provide financial support to localities and other entities through the Innovative Nutrient and Sediment Reduction Grants and the Small Watershed Grants, as authorized. (EPA)