



Harry R. Hughes
CENTER FOR AGRO-ECOLOGY

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**WATERSHED
PROTECTION**



Sea Grant
Maryland

Chesapeake Conservancy Outreach on BMP Opportunity Analysis Tool

Carly Dean, Chesapeake Conservancy
Conowingo WIP Steering Committee Meeting March 9, 2026

BMP Opportunity Analysis Tool

- Accelerate implementation high priority BMPs*
 - Annual Cropland Practices (including Conservation Tillage, Manure Incorporation, and Cover Crop)
 - Prescribed Grazing
 - Barnyard Runoff Control
 - Urban Forest Planting
 - Wetland Restoration
 - Vegetative Buffer Opportunity
- [BMP Opportunity Analysis Web Viewer](#)
- [Documentation and Tutorial](#)
- Updated spring 2025: new high res land use/land cover, parcel analysis



Goal of tool: find more project opportunities like these!
Photos by Marisa Baldine/Chesapeake Bay Program

BMP Opportunity Analysis Tool

- [BMP Opportunity Analysis Web Viewer](#)
- [Documentation, Tutorial](#)
- Updates: user feedback, spring 2025: new high res land use/land cover, parcel analysis

Conowingo BMP Web Viewer

About Documentation

All Parcels with BMP Opportunities

- Annual Cropland Practices
- Prescribed Grazing
- Barnyard Runoff Control
- Urban Forest Planting
- Wetland Restoration
- Vegetated Buffer Opportunity

BMP Definitions provided by the Bay Program:

Annual Cropland Practices:

1) *Manure incorporation:* "Manure Incorporation is defined as the mixing of dry, semi-dry, or liquid organic nutrient sources (including manures, biosolids, and compost) into the soil profile within a specified time period from application by a range of field operations (≤ 24 hr for full ammonia loss reduction credit and 2 days for Production

Layers

- Layer Legend
- > BMP Opportunity Footprints
- > Opportunity Parcels by BMP
- > All Parcels with BMP Opportunities
- > Context Layers
- USA Counties
- USGS HUC (12 Digit) Subwatersheds

Selected features: 0

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BMP Opportunity Footprints

Wetland Restoration Footprints

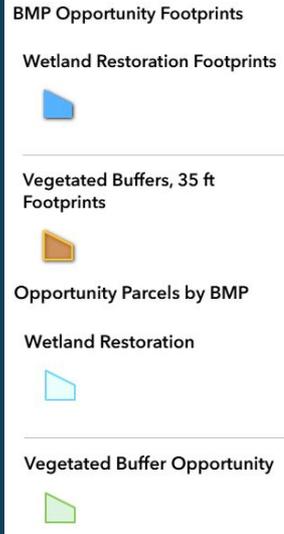


Vegetated Buffers, 35 ft Footprints



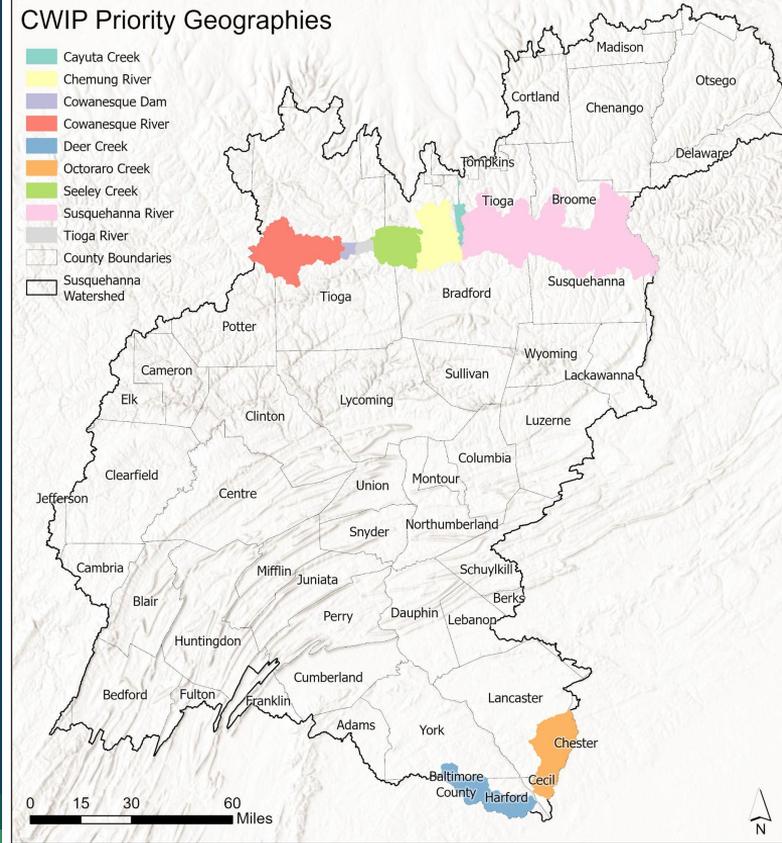
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Technical assistance

- 8 focal geographies
- Support local implementation partners & existing implementation efforts
- Top 5 priority properties for different BMPs



Local implementation partners

NY & PA Northern Tier	Upper Susquehanna Coalition (USC)	10/23/25: Virtual presentation to USC
PA Northern Tier	CAP Coordinator (Larson Design Group): Potter, Tioga, Bradford, Susquehanna Co's	Nov '25: Virtual meeting, 3/9/26: In-person meeting
York County, PA	CAP Coordinator	Nov '25: Emailed intro; Jan '26: local data sent
Harford County, MD	Harford Soil Conservation District, Interfaith Partners for the Chesapeake	Fall '25: Training with HSCD staff
PA & MD Octoraro Creek	Many!	Fall/Winter: Meetings with Octoraro delisting catchment partners, Knights Run partners

Top 5 Vegetative Buffer Opportunities (35 ft.)				
Owner name	Address	County	State	Vegetated Buffers 35ft (ac)
		Cortland County	NY	35
		Steuben County	NY	27
		Chemung County	NY	23
		Steuben County	NY	22
		Madison County	NY	20
Top 5 Wetland Restoration				
Owner name	Address	County	State	Wetland Restoration (ac)
		Steuben County	NY	70
		Steuben County	NY	61
		Madison County	NY	59
		Madison County	NY	52
		Steuben County	NY	41
Top 5 Annual Cropland Practices				
Owner name	Address	County	State	Annual Cropland Practices (ac)
		Steuben County	NY	476
		Steuben County	NY	388
		Steuben County	NY	285
		Steuben County	NY	280
		Steuben County	NY	278
Top 5 Prescribed Grazing				
Owner name	Address	County	State	Prescribed Grazing (ac)
		Steuben County	NY	545
		Cortland County	NY	445
		Cortland County	NY	369
		Herkimer County	NY	306
		Otsego County	NY	295
Top 5 Urban Forest Planting				
Owner name	Address	County	State	Urban Forest Planting (ac)
		Chemung County	NY	68
		Chemung County	NY	32
		Otsego County	NY	27
		Chemung County	NY	22
		Chemung County	NY	16

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*Greatest interest in utilizing the data

PA Northern Tier

In-person meeting this morning! March 9, 2026

Local restoration partners invited:

- Larson Design Group
- Bradford County Conservation District
- PA Dept. of Environmental Protection
- Tioga County Conservation District
- USDA NRCS
- Susquehanna County Conservation District
- Potter County Conservation District



Six of eight CWIP priority watersheds

Greatest opportunities in the Northern Tier, PA

Greatest interests

- Prioritizing BMP types
- Parcel analysis for prioritized outreach
- ID priority watersheds for partner coordination
- Advancing CAP strategies
- Developing a custom web tool
- Opportunities to collaborate with Upper Susquehanna Coalition

Challenges

- Accessing parcel data

Tioga County Vegetative Buffer Opportunities, stream monitoring (IBI)



Credit: Chesapeake Conservancy

Octoraro Creek Watershed

Existing partnerships:

- Octoraro Watershed Association
- Octoraro Source Water Collaborative
- Lancaster Clean Water Partners
- Advanced Restoration Plan: Knight Run and Nickel Mines Run



Credit: Chesapeake Conservancy

Greatest opportunities in Octoraro Creek Watershed

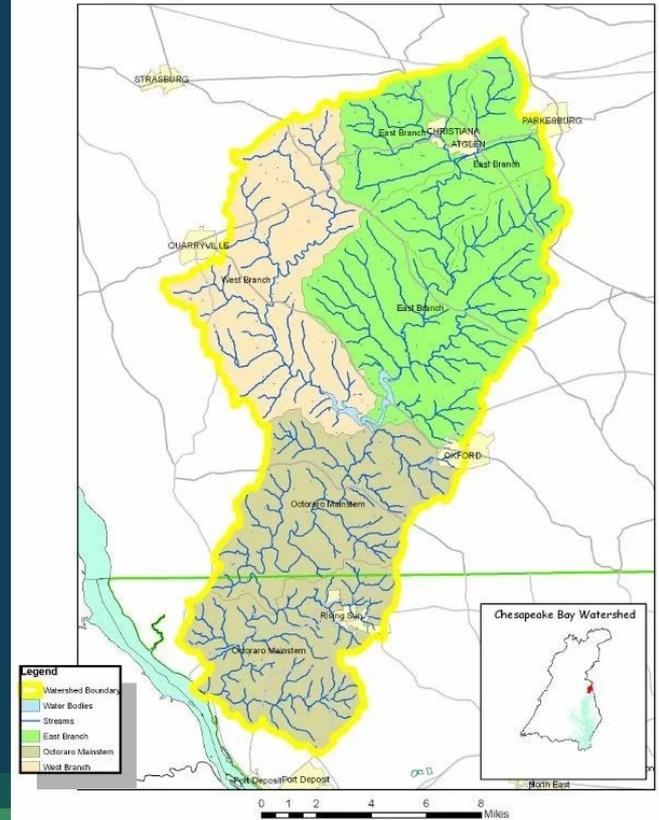
Greatest interests

- Coordinating with engineering firms
- Working on larger scale projects
- Uniting efforts of Lancaster Clean Water Partners and partners in Chester County, PA
- Utilizing the parcel analysis for prioritized outreach
- Adding layers to existing tools
- Advancing the Advanced Restoration Plan

Considerations

- Aligning ongoing efforts with new engineering capacity

Octoraro Watershed



Credit: Octoraro Watershed Association

Summary: CWIP BMP Opportunity Analysis Tool Technical Assistance

Greatest opportunities

- Added capacity & larger projects with engineering firms
- Leveraging existing partnerships
- Integration with existing tools
- Parcel-scale data available
- Expand on planned/existing projects

Considerations

- Coordinating with local partners
- Pay-for-success funding: nonprofits
- Existing parcel data
- In some cases, alignment with existing strategies and tools
- Ongoing maintenance



March 9, 2026, Northern Tier PA meeting, Bradford County Conservation District