

Two-year Water Quality Milestones

Timeframe/Schedule (Draft)

Proposed Schedule in Chronological Order

Programmatic milestones cover January 1 of an even numbered year through December 31 of an odd numbered year. For example, for the 2026-2027 near-term milestones, the period reported on is January 1, 2026 - December 31, 2027.

Blue indicates changes from current schedule. This schedule walks through development of near-term milestones through evaluation of those milestones. Note there may be future CBP partnership decisions related to milestones upon development of new targets and potential reevaluation of the accountability framework. Dates and actions identified in 2027 and 2028 are subject to change based upon CBP partnership discussion and future decisions.

- **August/September 2025 – Final Expectations**
 - The CBP partnership agrees on expectations for the near-term 2026-2027 milestones.
- **September 2025** – EPA sends instructions to federal agencies on submitting numeric progress to the states and submitting two-year milestones¹
- **October 1, 2025 – Federal agencies report numeric progress to jurisdictions and EPA**
 - Covering the progress made from July 1 of the prior year through June 30 of the current year
- **December 1, 2025 – Numeric progress data submitted to NEIEN**
 - The jurisdictions and Conowingo report to EPA on consolidated federal/non-federal numeric progress for pollutant reduction measures that are tracked, verified, and reported for the previous July 1 – June 30 period.
 - Virginia wastewater data is due January 31 each year.
- **Fall 2025/Winter 2025-2026** – Partners draft 2026-2027 milestone commitments

¹ Instructions for states to submit progress are outlined in the Clean Water Act 117 grant guidance.

May 23, 2025

Milestones Workgroup: Draft, Deliberative, Do Not Cite

- Jurisdictions/Conowingo WIP Steering Committee/Federal Agencies
- **February 13, 2026** – Submit milestones progress and commitments
 - The jurisdictions, Conowingo, and federal agencies report to EPA on progress toward achieving programmatic milestone commitments for the prior milestone period (2024-2025), based on the timeframes noted above.
 - Jurisdictions and Conowingo submit draft 2026-2027 milestone commitments to EPA
 - Federal agencies submit 2026-2027 milestone commitments for EPA to compile all federal agency near-term milestones.
- **February 27, 2026** – Post online within two weeks of submitting
 - Jurisdictions and Conowingo post draft 2026-2027 milestone commitments to their websites for public access.
 - Federal agencies' milestones will be shared with the CBP partnership's Management Board and the Federal Office Directors for 15-day review and comment. Federal agencies may consider comments and revise and finalize 2026-2027 milestones. EPA will post the final federal milestones to the Federal Leadership website upon completion of the 15-day review and comment period and any subsequent revisions.
- **Within 60 days of submission (April 15, 2026)** – EPA evaluation shared
 - EPA provides an evaluation of the jurisdictions and Conowingo draft 2026-2027 milestone commitments.
 - EPA's evaluation will only speak to the draft 2026-2027 near-term milestone commitments rather than both progress and commitments for this first evaluation.
- **Within 30 days (May 15, 2026)** of the EPA evaluation – Submit final milestone commitments
 - Jurisdictions and Conowingo submit final milestone commitments to EPA
 - **Within two weeks (May 29, 2026)** jurisdictions and Conowingo post final milestone commitments online
- **Within 60 days (July 31, 2026)** of submission or finalized numeric progress reports, whichever is later – EPA evaluation shared

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- EPA evaluates both progress on existing milestones and evaluation of the final milestone commitments for each jurisdiction, Conowingo, and the federal agencies to the Chesapeake Bay TMDL website
- **September 2026** – EPA sends instructions to federal agencies on submitting numeric progress to the states and submitting two-year milestones²
- **October 1, 2026** – Federal agencies report numeric progress to jurisdictions and EPA
- **December 1, 2026** – Numeric progress data submitted to NEIEN
 - Virginia wastewater data is due January 31 each year.
- **Spring 2027** – CBP partnership finalizes annual numeric progress and verification assessments
- **September 2027** – EPA sends instructions to federal agencies on submitting numeric progress to the states and submitting two-year milestones³
- **October 1, 2027** – Federal agencies report numeric progress to jurisdictions and EPA
- **December 1, 2027** – Numeric progress data submitted to NEIEN
 - Virginia wastewater data is due January 31 each year.
- **February 14, 2028** – Submit milestones progress and commitments
 - The jurisdictions, Conowingo, and federal agencies report to EPA on progress toward achieving programmatic milestone commitments for the prior milestone period (2024-2025), based on the timeframes noted above
 - Jurisdictions and Conowingo submit draft 2028-2029 milestone commitments to EPA
 - Federal agencies submit 2028-2029 milestone commitments for EPA to compile all federal agency near-term milestones.
- **February 28, 2028** – Post online within two weeks of submitting

² Instructions for states to submit progress are outlined in the Clean Water Act 117 grant guidance.

³ Instructions for states to submit progress are outlined in the Clean Water Act 117 grant guidance.

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- Jurisdictions and Conowingo post draft 2028-2029 milestone commitments to their websites for public access.
- Federal agencies' milestones will be shared with the CBP partnership's Management Board and the Federal Office Directors for 15-day review and comment. Federal agencies may consider comments and revise and finalize 2028-2029 milestones. EPA will post the final federal milestones to the Federal Leadership website upon completion of the 15-day review and comment period and any subsequent revisions.
- **Within 60 days of submission (April 14, 2028)** – EPA evaluation shared
 - EPA provides an evaluation of the jurisdictions and Conowingo draft 2028-2029 milestone commitments.
 - EPA's evaluation will only speak to the draft 2028-2029 commitments rather than both progress and commitments for this first evaluation.
- **Within 30 days (May 15, 2028)** of the EPA evaluation – Submit final milestone commitments
 - Jurisdictions and Conowingo submit final milestone commitments to EPA
- **Within two weeks (May 30, 2028)** jurisdictions and Conowingo post final milestone commitments online
- **Within 60 days (July 31, 2028)** of submission or finalized numeric progress reports, whichever is later – EPA evaluation shared
- EPA evaluates both progress on existing milestones and evaluation of the final milestone commitments for each jurisdiction, Conowingo, and the federal agencies to the Chesapeake Bay TMDL website.