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WHAT'S ON THE HORIZON? LOCAL CAPACITY AND SUCCESS FOR STORMWATER BEYOND 2025

Today's Discussion

01.

Who Are We?

03.

Process

05.

Roadblocks

02.

Goals

04.

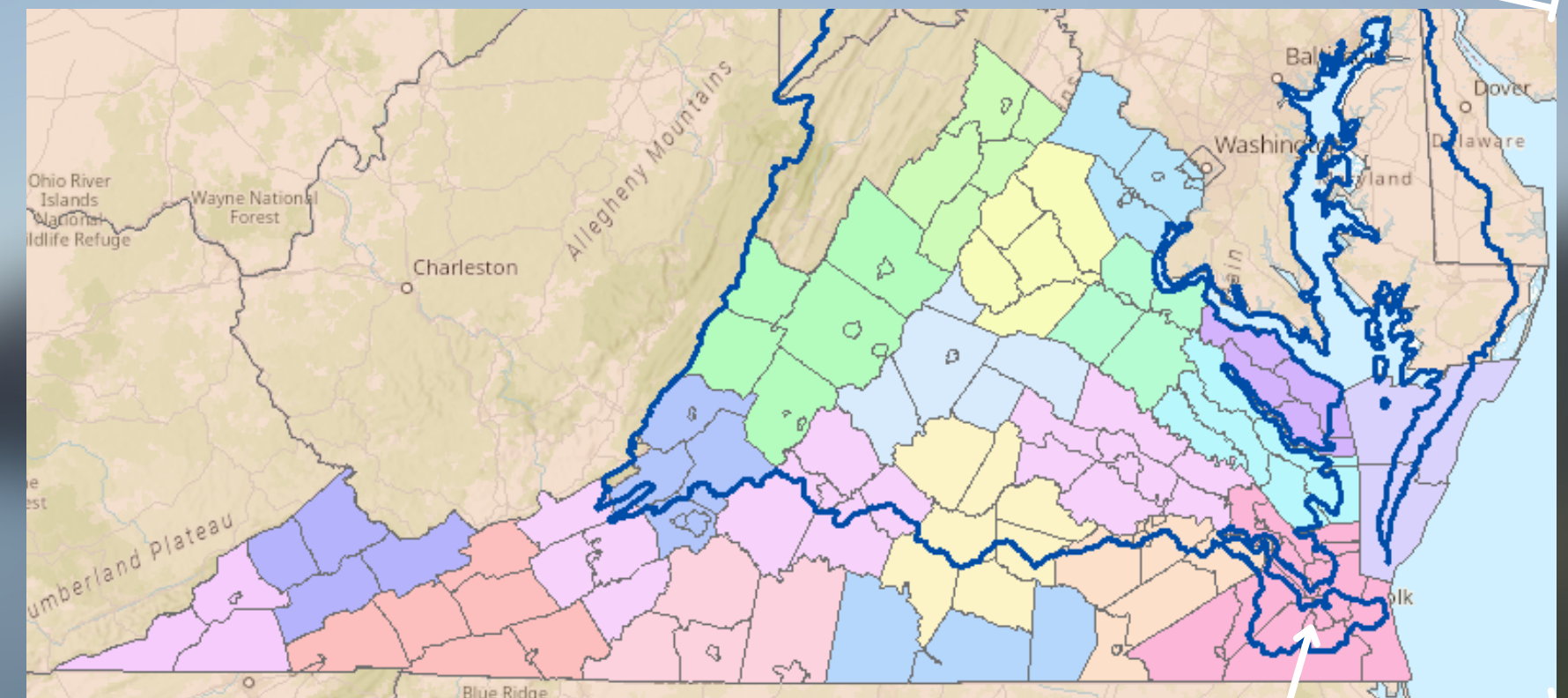
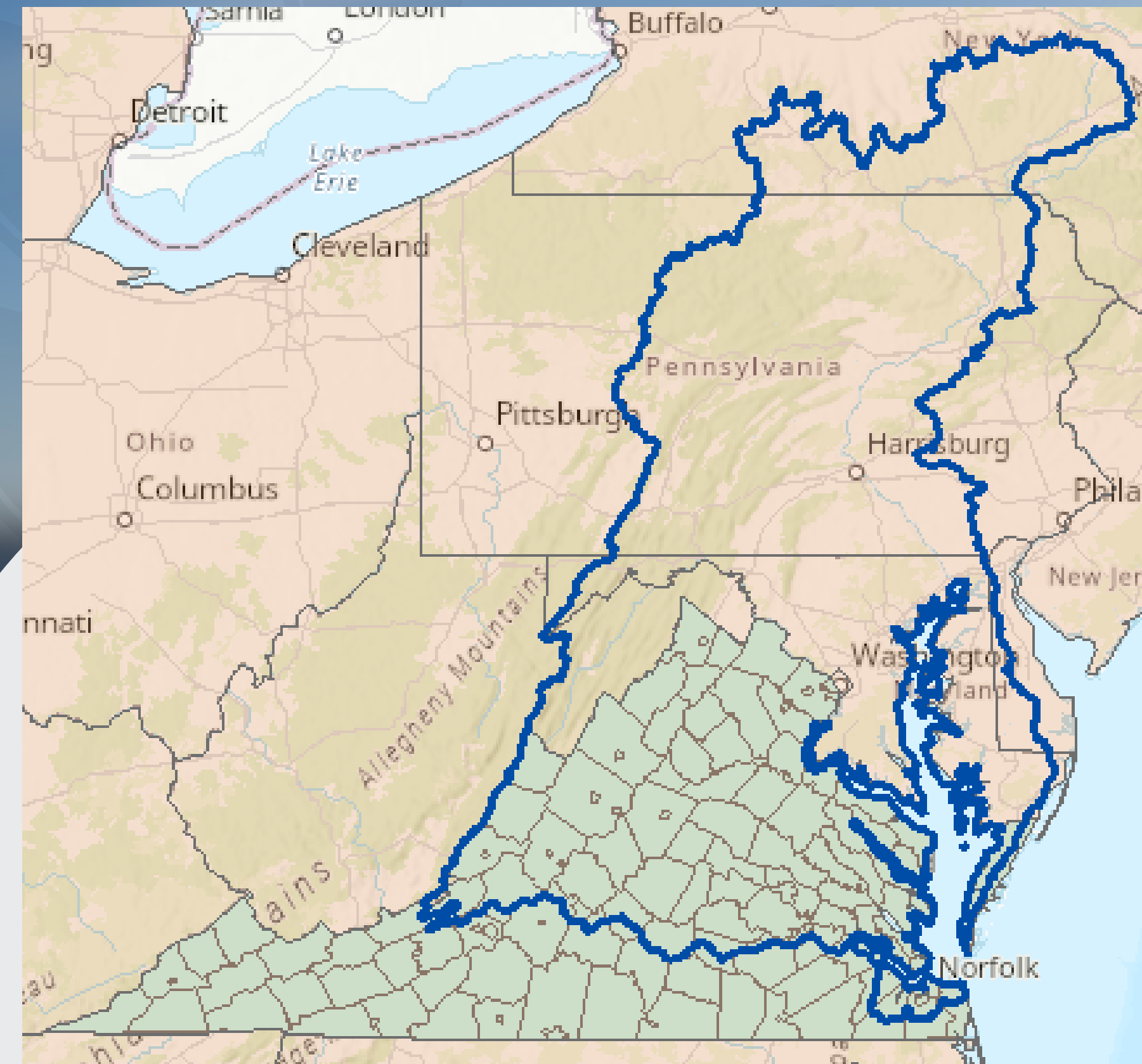
Successes &
Partnerships

06.

Beyond 2025



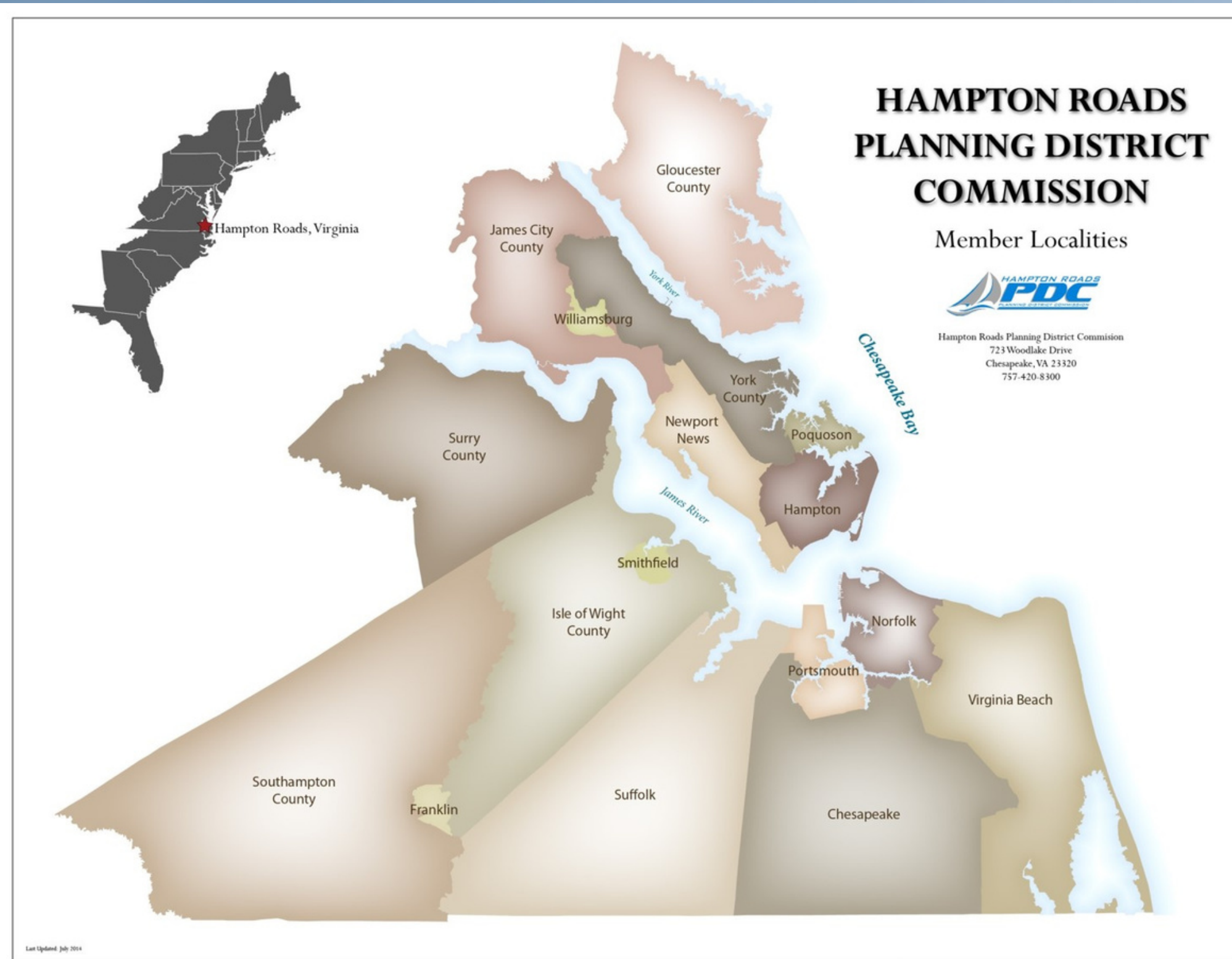
Who are we?



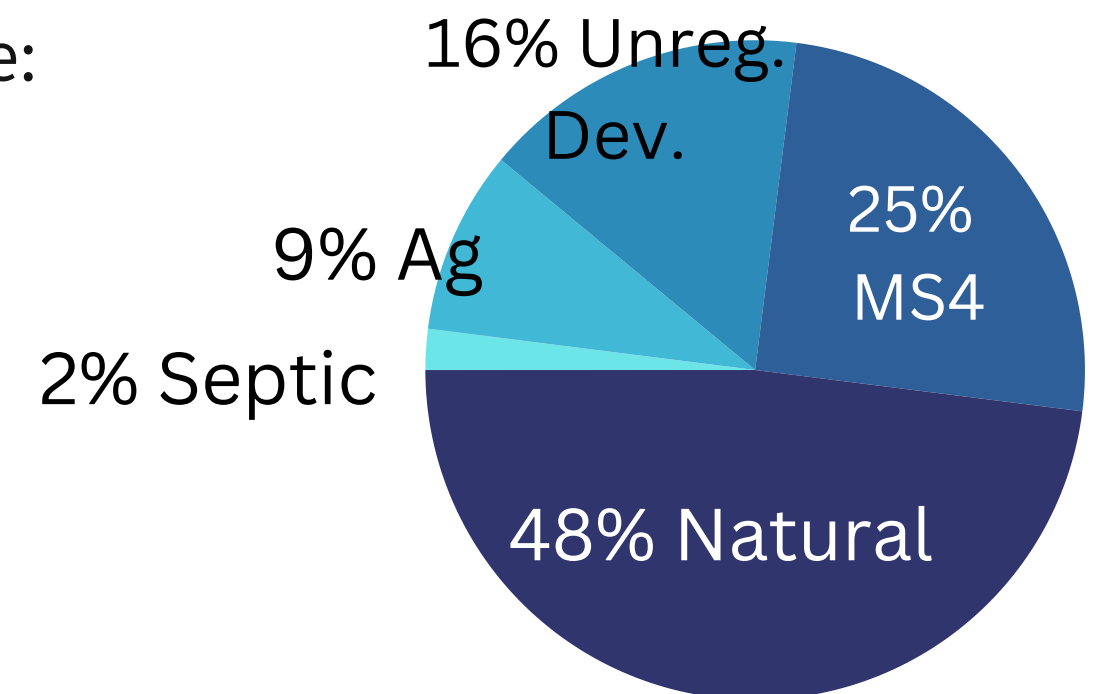
Hampton Roads Planning
District Commission
(HRPDC)

22 Planning District or Regional Commissions
State enabled; locally created

Who are we?



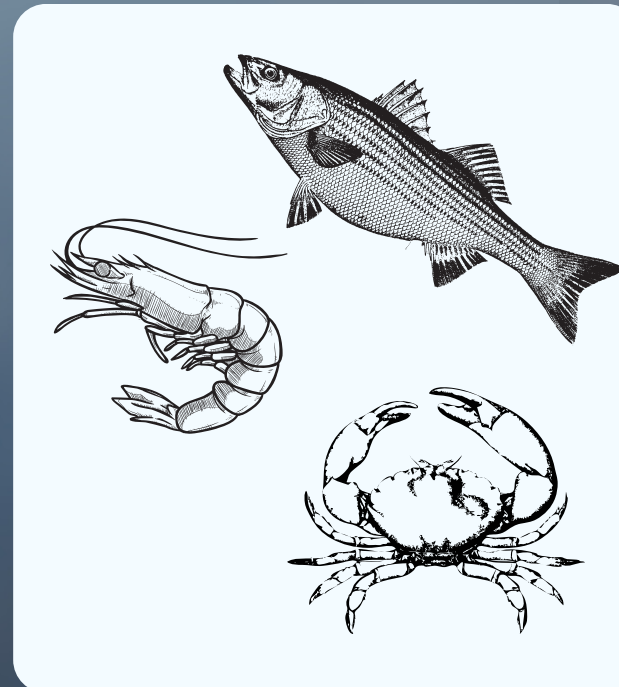
- 1 of 15 regional planning districts in the Virginia Bay watershed
- 15 of 17 localities in our region are totally or partially in the Bay watershed
- 11 of those 15 have Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems (MS4) permits
- Land use:



Goals

What do we want to achieve?

- For the Bay TMDL - Decrease total nitrogen, phosphorus, and sediment
- For everything else - Reduce and manage flooding, improve habitat for fisheries, strive for swimmable & fishable waterways, improve water quantity and quality of life for our residents



Improve quality of life to enjoy the things we love.



Process

Developing a Phase III
WIP and beyond



01

State partnership

Provide regional input based on local needs from PDCs and Soil, Water, Conservation Districts (SWCDs)

02

Grow Capacity

At the regional scale in the unregulated agriculture and urban sectors

03

Engage

Identify needs, gaps, interests, incentives, and BMPs

04

Implement

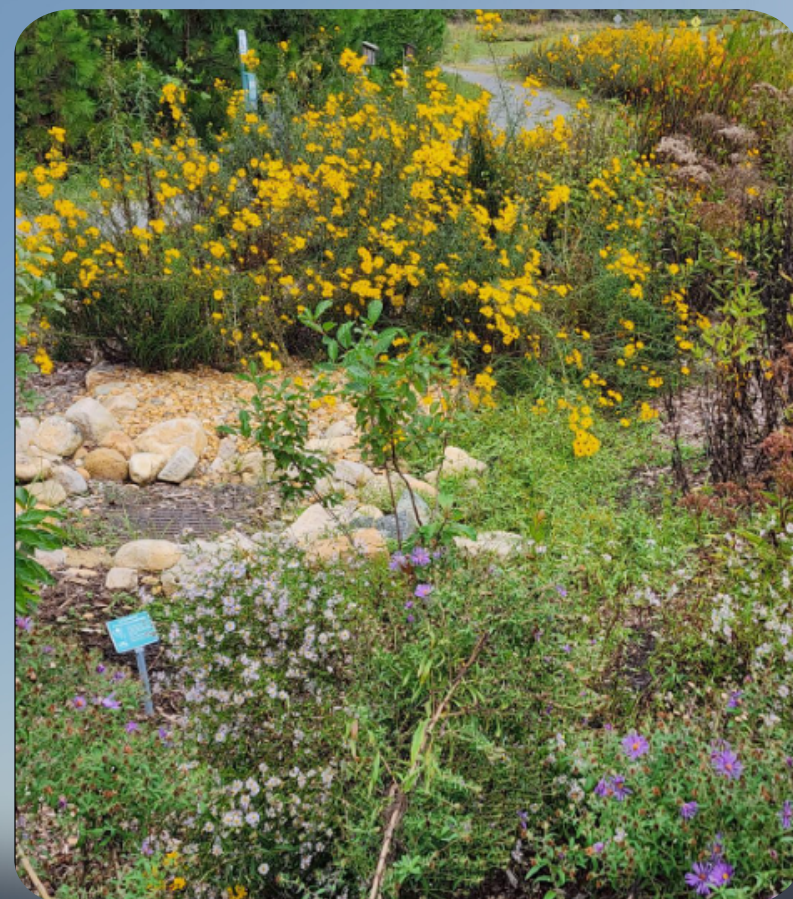
Grow partnerships that lead to nutrient reductions and water quality improvement



Stormwater
Local
Assistance
Fund

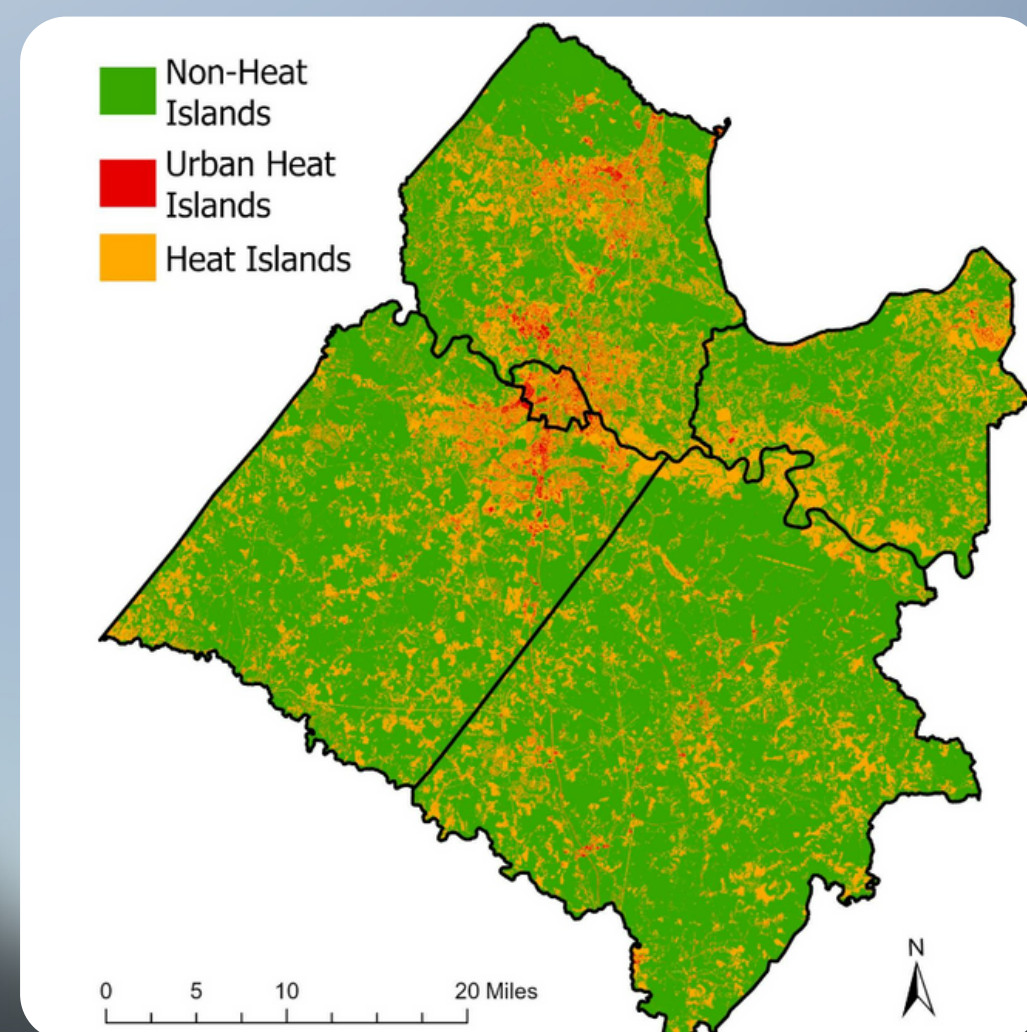


Successes & Partnerships



Studies

- Urban Heat Island Study (GWRC)
- BMP Implementation Analysis (NVRC)
- Urban Tree Canopy Assessments (CSPDC)
- Regional Water Quality Monitoring (HRPDC)



Resource Development

- Stormwater grants for park upgrades (GWRC)
- State funding opportunities to grow PDC capacity



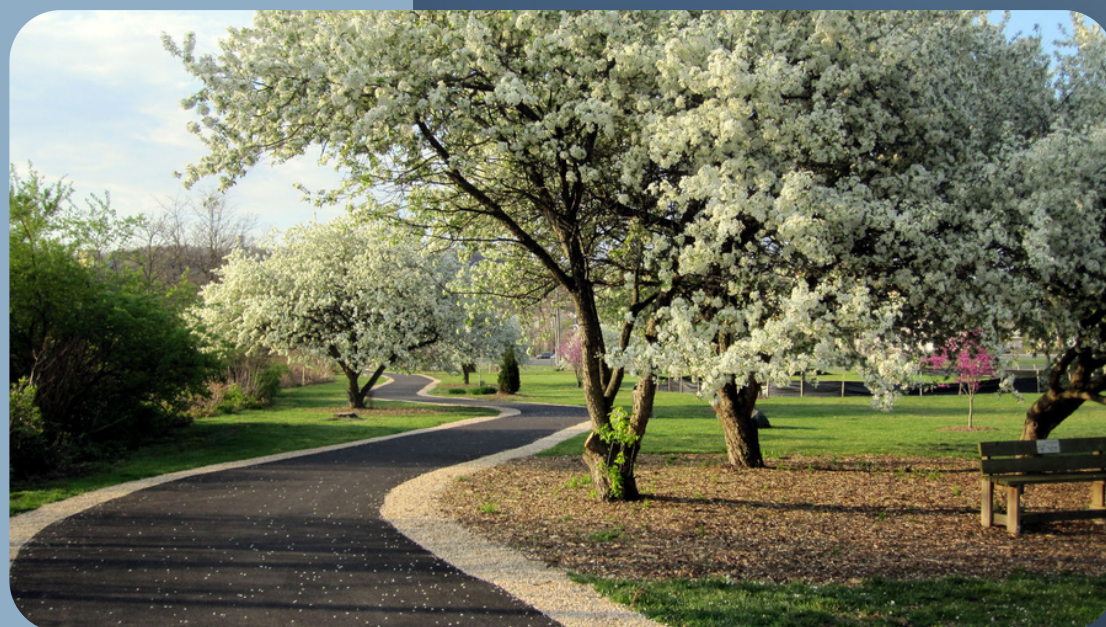
New Initiatives

- Septic Relief Program (GWRC)
- Identifying industrial partners for BMP implementation (HRPDC)



Coordination, Planning, & Outreach

- Rain Barrel Workshops (RVARC)
- Hazard mitigation planning (CSPDC, NNPDC)
- Field days (RVARC)
- Mapping and land use data availability (NNPDC)



Implementation

- Riparian Restoration (CSPDC)
- Green Parking lot demonstration (HRPDC)
- Living Shorelines and Septic repair (Fight the Flood MPPDC)
- Living shorelines initiative (NNPDC)
- Tree Plantings (CSPDC)
- Native plant demonstration garden (GWRC)
- Septic pump outs (RVARC, NNPDC)



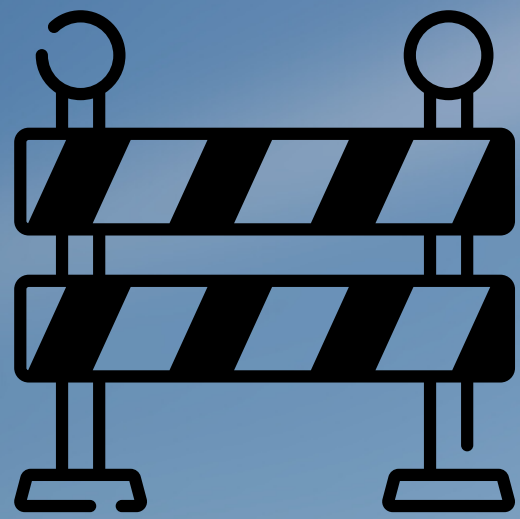
Successes & Partnerships

OWNERS CONTRACTORS GRANTS/LOANS ABOUT **FIGHT THE FLOOD** FYI REGISTER SOLUTIONS INVESTMENTS
MIDDLE PENINSULA

Fight the Flood Program Investment in Middle Peninsula Flood Protection

\$31,539,380
in direct loans and grants and counting (2020 to January 1, 2024 and counting)

<p>221 Applications Submitted Requesting \$136,235,152 for Middle Peninsula Flood Protection from 2020 to January 1, 2024</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 2024 - 44 Applications Submitted Requesting \$81,553,891• 2023 - 44 Applications Submitted Requesting \$14,386,148• 2022 - 92 Applications Submitted Requesting \$28,131,659• 2021 - 31 Applications Submitted Requesting \$11,009,109• 2020 - 10 Applications Submitted Requesting \$1,154,345	<p>Annual Flood Protection Investment Level Totals awarded via Fight the Flood</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 2024 - 5 Applications Awarded Totalling \$4,404,667• 2023 - 23 Applications Awarded Totalling \$6,399,457• 2022 - 23 Applications Awarded Totalling \$13,612,148• 2021 - 19 Applications Awarded Totalling \$5,968,763• 2020 - 10 Applications Awarded Totalling \$1,154,345
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Roadblocks

All related to different types of capacity needs



Implementation

- Capacity to manage grants
- Overwhelmed by funding
- Timing
- Tracking & reporting (bean counting)



Competing Interests

- Staff capacity for competing local priorities
- Water quantity vs quality
- Economic development vs environmental land use planning
- Funding streams with opposite requirements

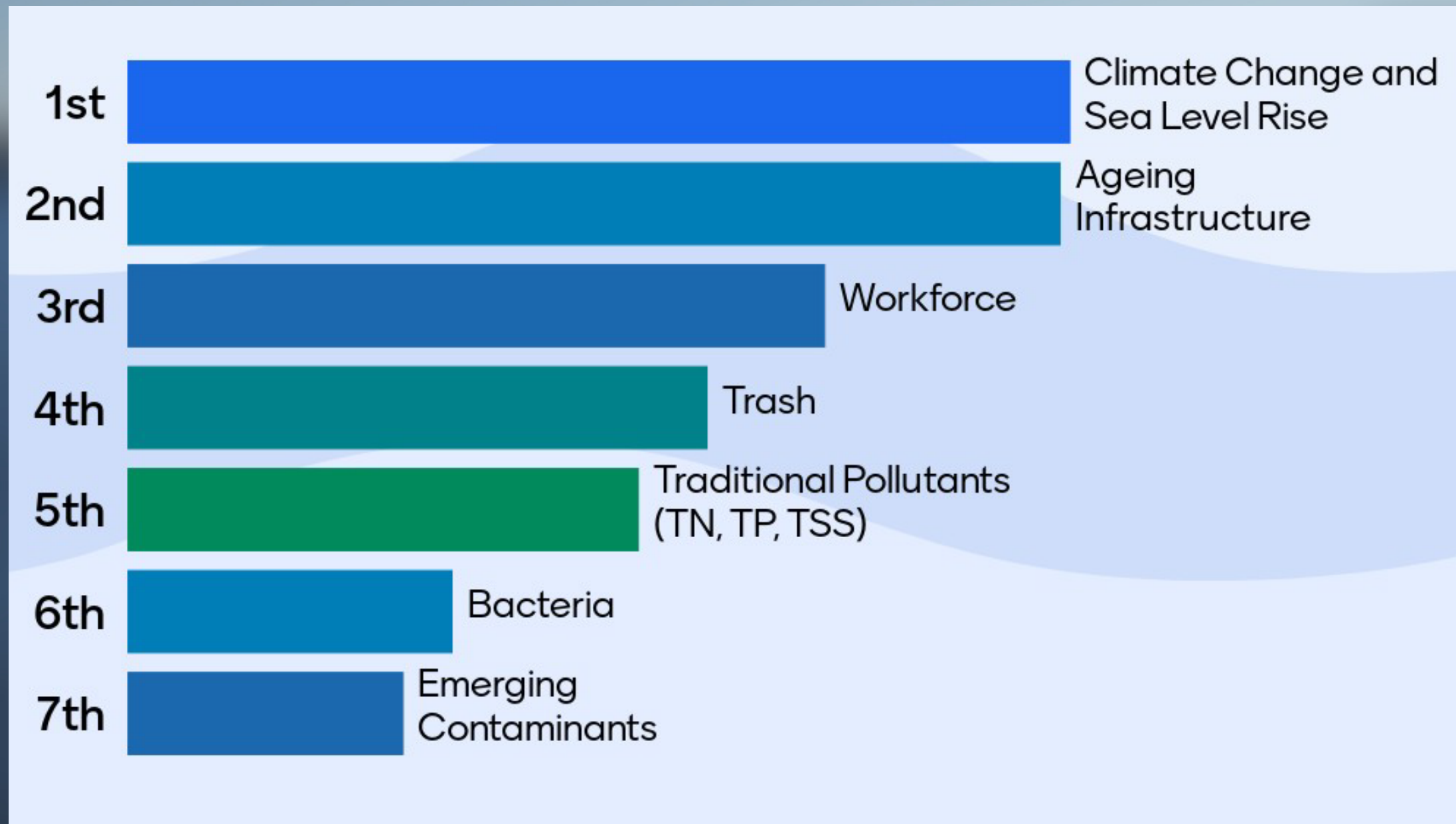


Stakeholders

- Capacity to provide impactful outreach to all
- Educating and informing the right people
- Competing for similar funding

Stormwater Managers Survey

What are your top concerns?



What are your funding priorities?

1. Ageing infrastructure
2. Reducing pollutants
3. Flooding
4. No capacity to apply
5. Innovative solutions
6. Unregulated BMPs



Potential Near Term Solutions



Invest in capacity

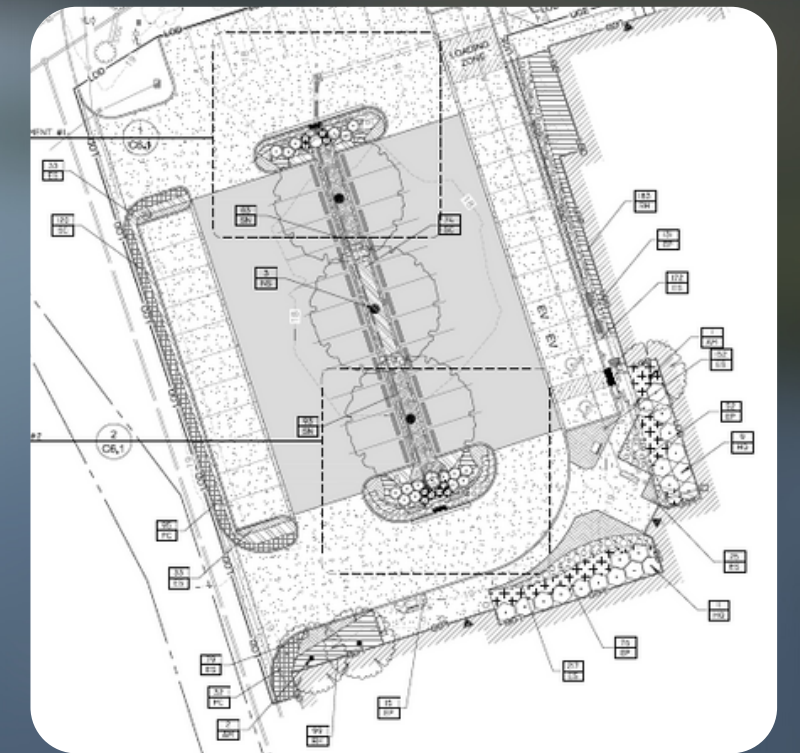
- Technical assistance providers
- Finance, contracts, and grant management staff ✓
- Address gaps in workforce development (See LGAC Forum report, 2019)

Understand grant requirements, deliverables, etc.

- Learn by doing ✓
- Create networks ✓
- Review burdensome requirements
- Look for templates and easy to use portals

Educate, educate, educate

- Bay 101 for stormwater staff ✓
- Share knowledge ✓
- Train the trainer ✓
- Build pilots or demonstration projects ✓





Beyond 2025

It's not all about the money,
although money helps...



Develop Local & Regional Capacity to...

- Apply for funding
- Manage grants and contracts
- Grow stakeholder engagement
- Implement more BMPs
- Promote alternatives for land use planning
- Streamline and inform tracking and reporting

Develop a Network of Local Liasons

- Share knowledge
- Share resources
- Offer trainings
- Identify what's working
- Identify and overcome barriers
- Leverage small watershed groups

THANKS

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Current funding opportunities

NFWF Small Watershed Grants Program (SWG) - April 3

- SWG Implementation (SWG-I) grants of \$150,000-1,000,000 will be awarded for projects that result in direct, on-the-ground actions to protect and restore water quality, species, and habitats in the Bay watershed.
- SWG Planning and Technical Assistance (SWG-PTA) grants up to \$150,000 will be awarded for projects that enhance local capacity to implement future on-the-ground actions, consistent with SWG Program priorities, through community-based assessment, planning, design, and other technical assistance-oriented activities.

CB Trust Green Streets, Green Jobs, Green Towns Grant Program - March 7

- Multiple tracks up to \$175,000

VA only - Wetlands Watch and VA Outdoors Foundation Coastal Resilience and Trees Fund - April 5

- Up to \$25,000, can include capacity building, stewardship, and natural infrastructure

