

# Tracking, accountability, transparency, and innovation of best management practices in Chesapeake Bay

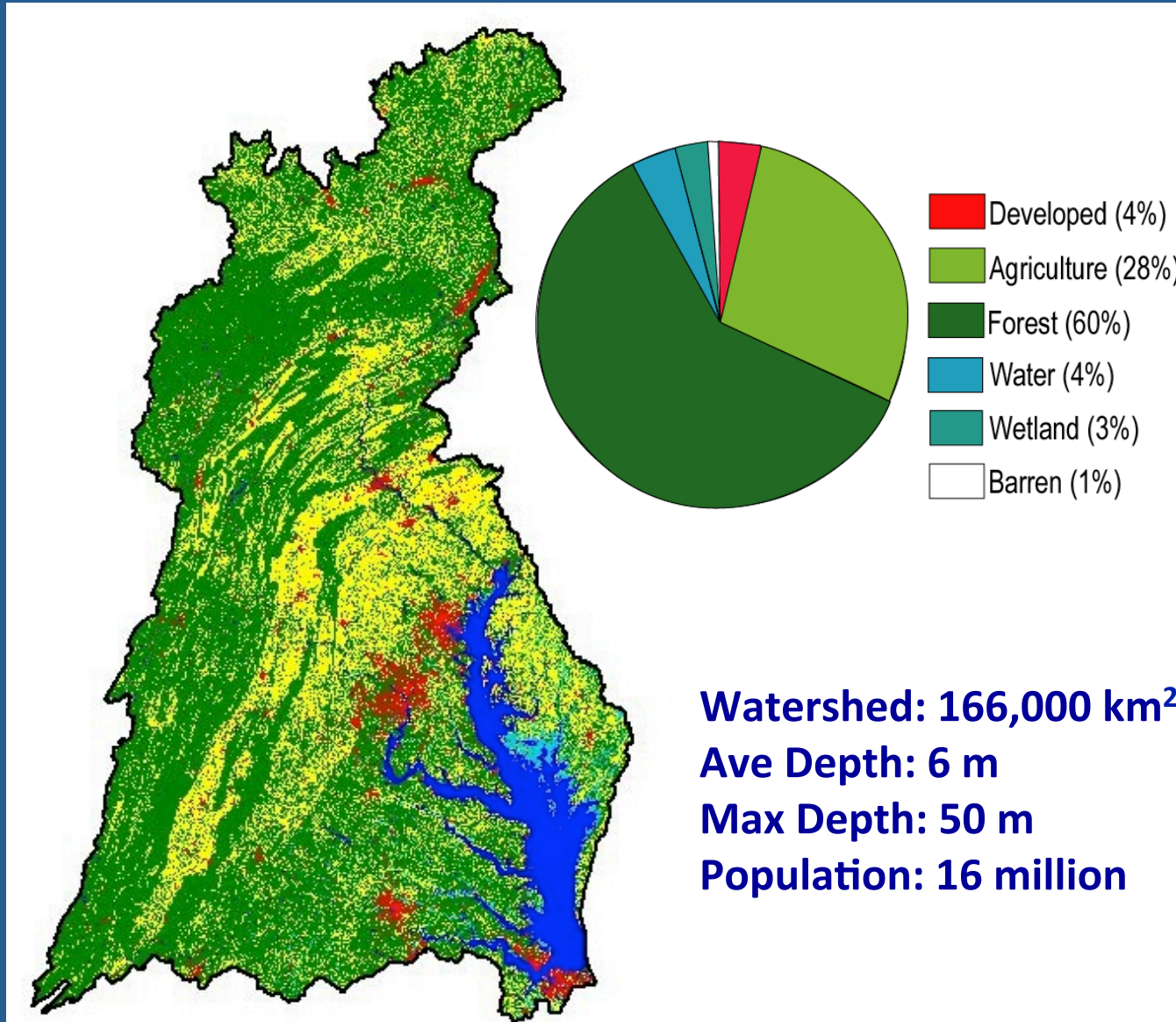
Dave Nemazie and Sarah Lane

*University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science*

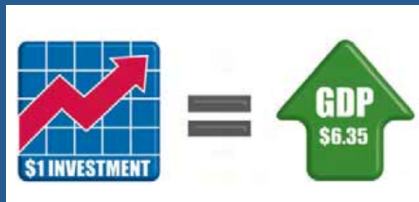
Dr. Tom Simpson

*Aqua Terra Science*

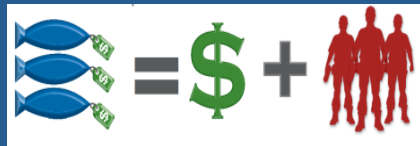
# A Shallow Bay with a Large Watershed



# The Chesapeake Bay is the Economic Engine of the Region



**INVESTMENT:** \$1 of water and sewer infrastructure investment increases private output (Gross Domestic Product) in the long term by \$6.35.



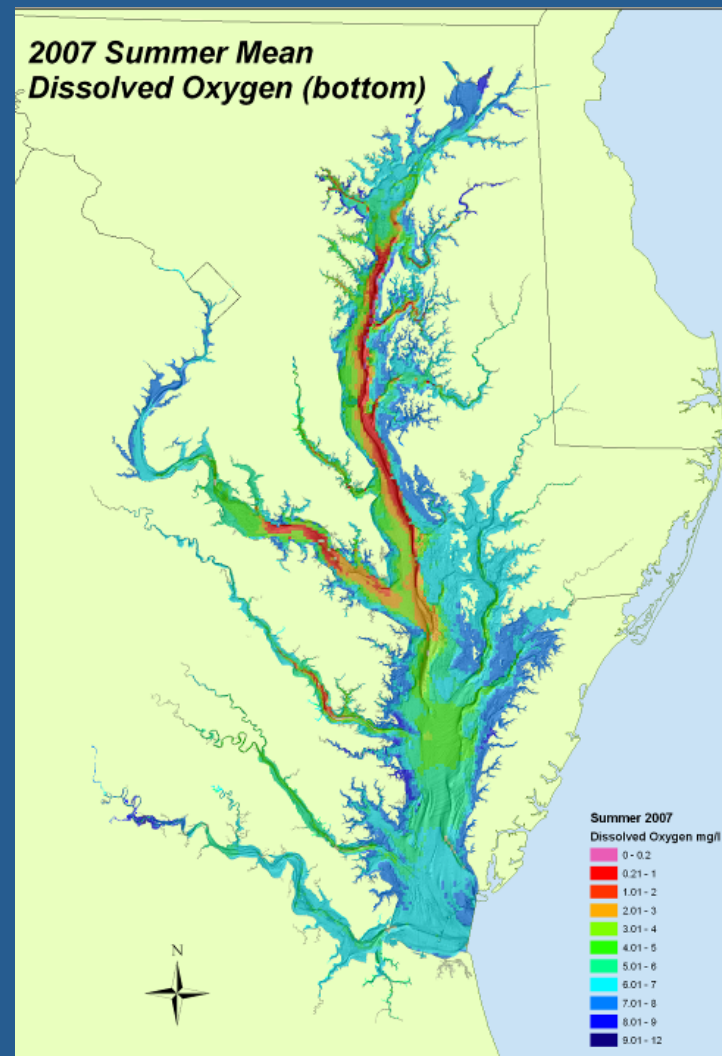
**FISHERIES:** Commercial seafood industry in Maryland and Virginia contributed \$3.39 billion in sales, \$890 million in income, and almost 34,000 jobs to the local economy. (2009 Fisheries Economics of the U.S. report)



**PROPERTY VALUES:** An EPA study indicated that clean water can increase the value of single family homes up to 4,000 feet from the shoreline by up to 25 percent.

# Chesapeake Bay Challenges

- water quality impaired by pollution
  - Extensive low to no summer dissolved oxygen conditions
- historic overfishing
- population growth
- poor land use management
- loss of habitat
- invasive species
- climate change and sea level rise

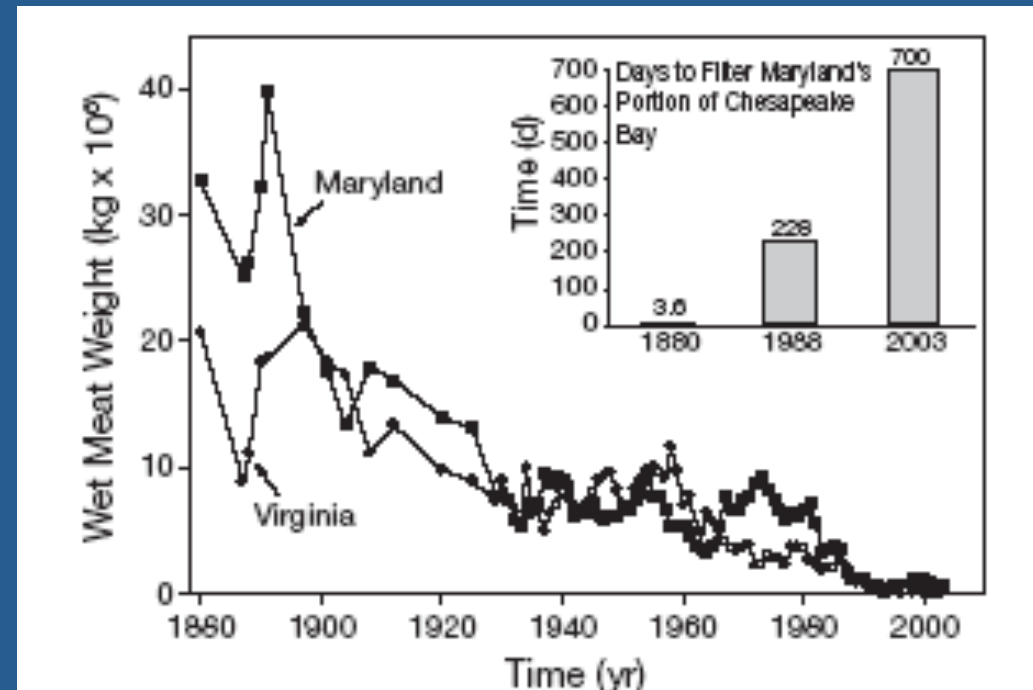


# Key Habitats Declined

- Oysters are at 0.3% of historic populations

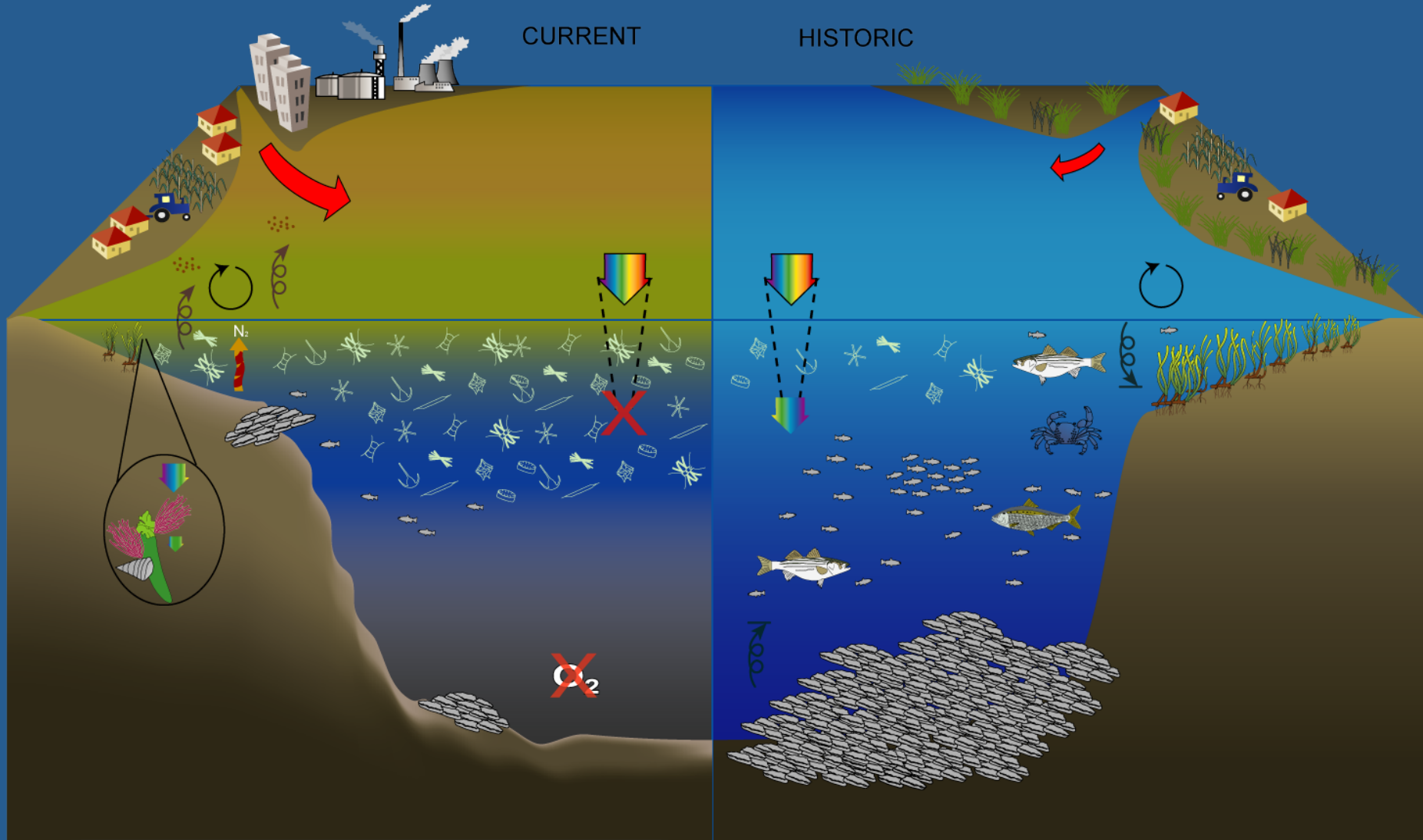
- Decline caused by overfishing and disease

- Oyster reefs are important
- Economic potential
- filtration of water
- Only natural hard substrate
- Increase biodiversity

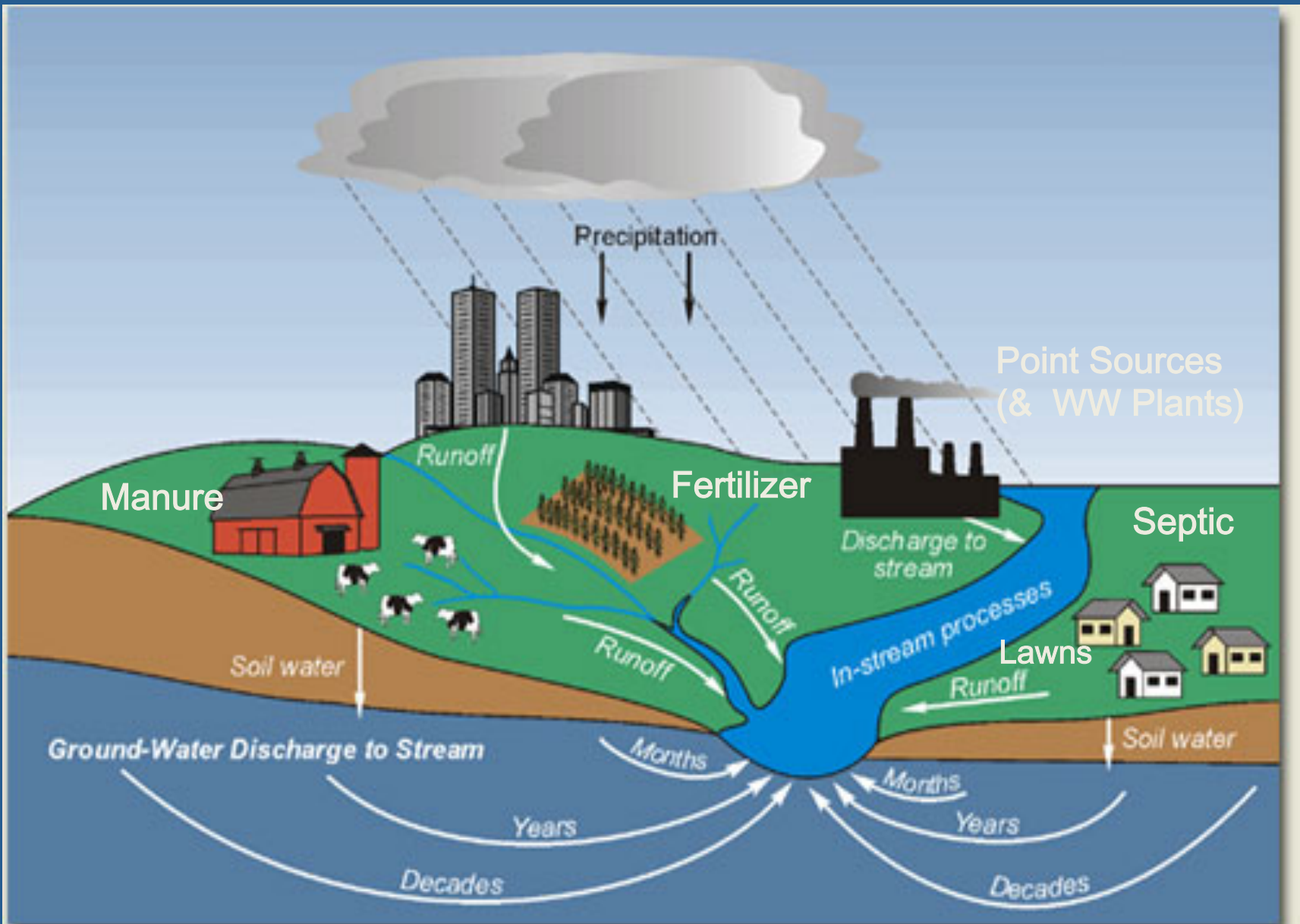


- Sanctuaries and targeted restoration programs
- Stable (but small) population is increasing

# Big Challenge: Nutrient Over-enrichment Causes fundamental, pervasive alteration of the ecosystem



# Nutrients come from all sectors



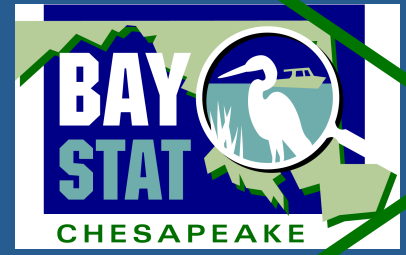
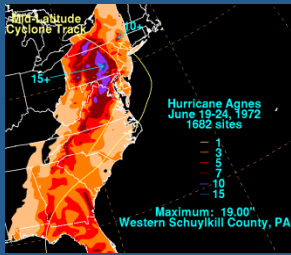
# Chesapeake Bay Management: 25 Years

**Ches Bay Agreement:  
1987-2000**

- Reduce nutrients by 40% from all controllable sources by 2000
- Focus on *modeling* and monitoring

**Accountability Phase:  
2003-2008**

- Focus on *monitoring* and modeling
- Cost and nutrient reduction effectiveness assessments



**Governments Work Together:  
1983 - 1987**

- Md, Pa, Va, DC, and USEPA
- Recognize degradation of Bay after Tropical Storm Agnes (1972)

**Chesapeake 2000:**

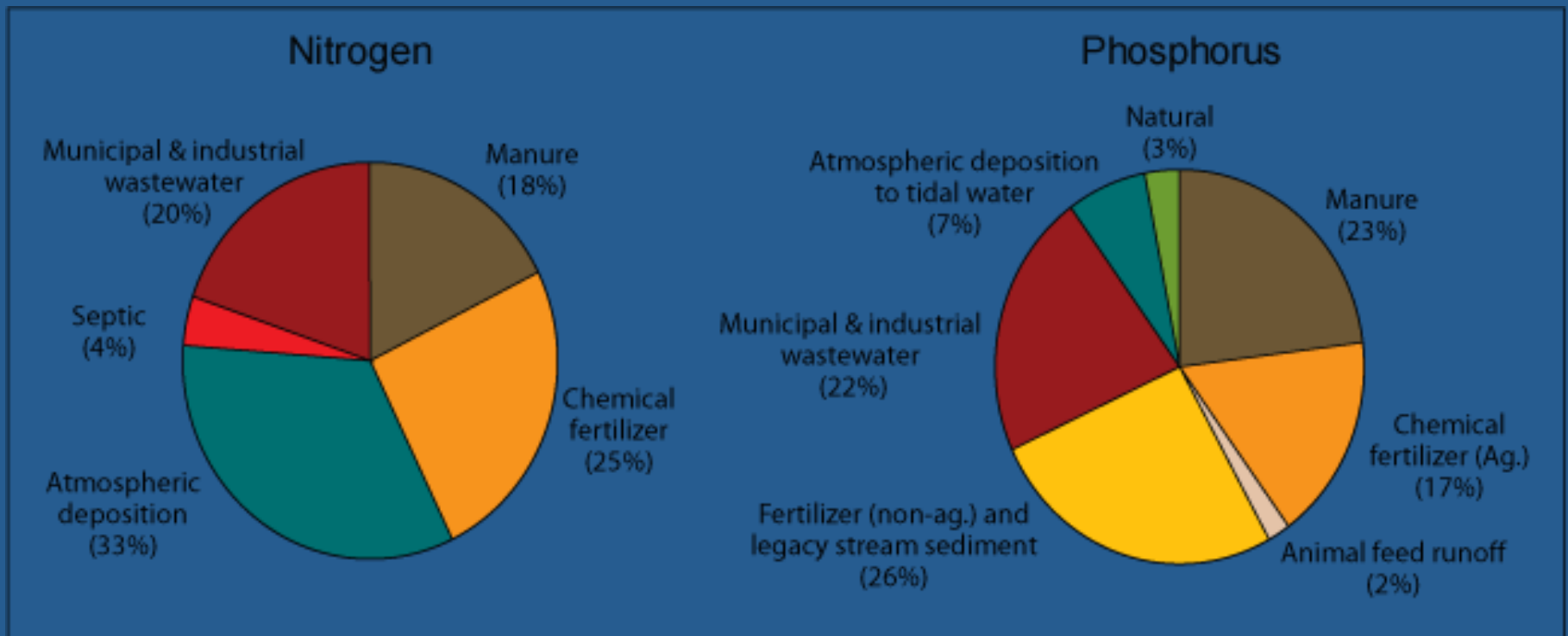
- 1987 nutrient goals remain unmet
- Begin Enforcement of TMDL in 2010
- Establish over 100 new goals – many unrelated to nutrients

**Adaptive Management  
2009 - Future**

- 2 Year Goals to hold politicians accountable
- Enforce TMDL beginning in 2011
- Target problem areas & focus on Bay response

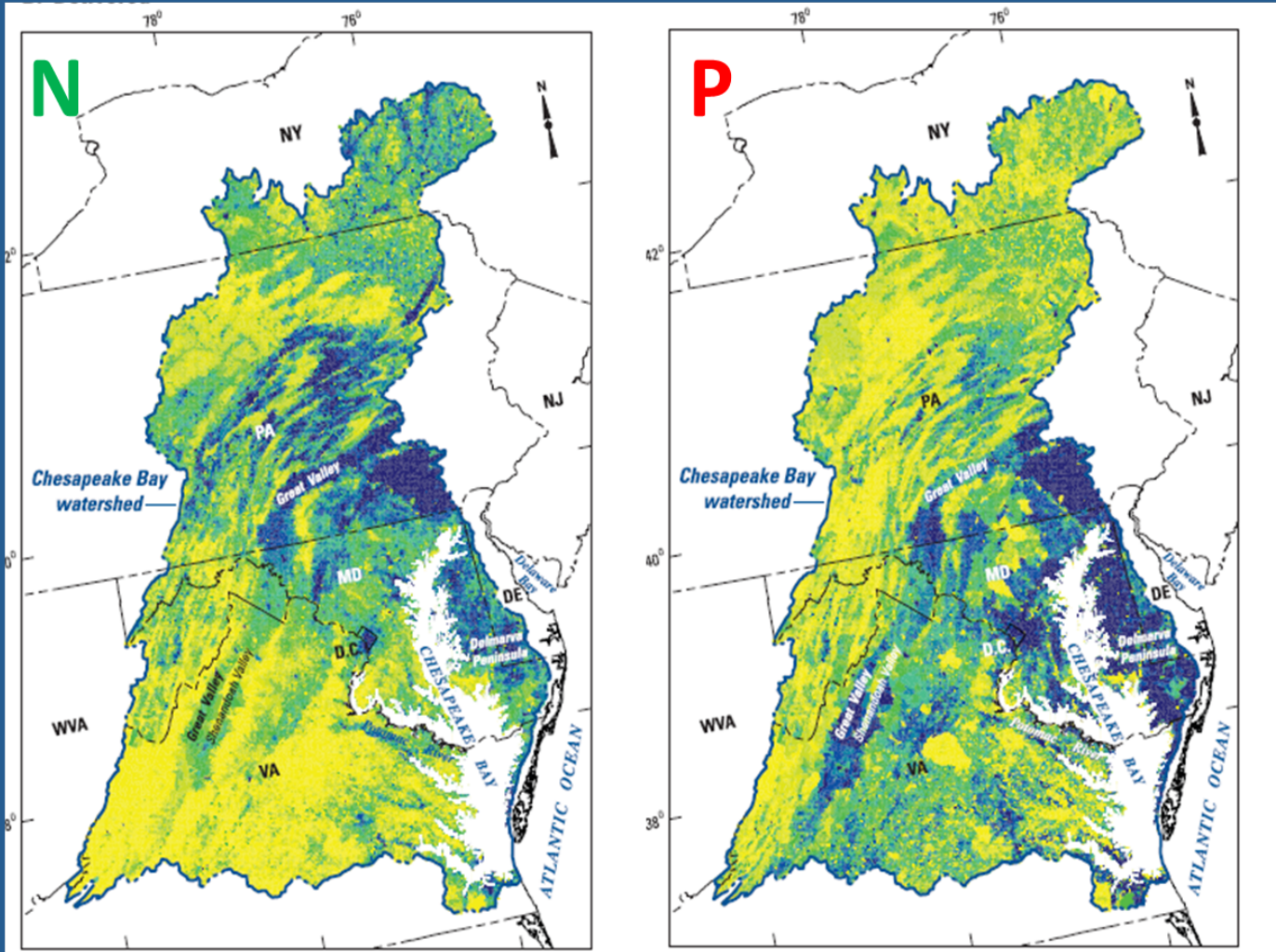


# Sources of N and P to the Bay are Diverse



# Geography Matters

## Delivered loads of Nitrogen and Phosphorous



Based on the SPARROW model, U.S. Geological Survey . 2011. Scientific Investigations Report 2011-5167.

# Applying Adaptive Management Principles



# Origins of 'stat-ing' in New York City

- CompStat (Computer statistics) developed in mid-1990s

Police Department City of New York

Michael R. Bloomberg Mayor      Raymond W. Kelly Police Commissioner

Volume 15 Number 45      **CompStat**      84th Precinct

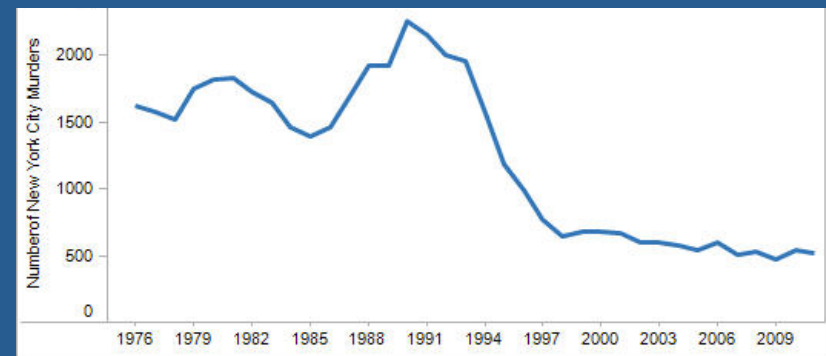
Report Covering the Week of 11/03/2008 Through 11/09/2008

	Week to Date			26 Day			Year to Date*			2 Year	7Year	15Year
	2008	2007	% Change	2008	2007	% Change	2008	2007	% Chg	% Chg	% Chg (2005)	% Chg (1993)
Murder	0	0	****	0	0	****	1	2	-50.0	***	-50.0	-90.9
Rape	0	0	****	0	0	****	2	3	-33.3	-60.0	-60.0	-88.8
Robbery	10	8	25.0	39	20	95.0	215	199	8.0	18.7	-11.8	-80.7
Fel. Assault	5	0	****	19	11	72.7	122	152	-19.7	-7.5	-33.3	-68.0
Burglary	2	2	0.0	19	15	26.6	119	134	-11.1	-11.1	-54.4	-83.2
Gr. Larceny	8	18	-55.5	40	57	-29.8	493	565	-12.7	-15.5	-21.1	-48.4
G.L.A.	2	0	****	7	0	****	51	46	10.8	-16.3	-58.8	-92.0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>-3.57</b>	<b>124</b>	<b>103</b>	<b>20.39</b>	<b>1,003</b>	<b>1,101</b>	<b>-8.90</b>	<b>-8.57</b>	<b>-30.54</b>	<b>-73.89</b>

- Jack Maple & Bill Bratton



- Led to reductions in crime



# BayStat: How it works

**ASSESS...** our progress to evaluate what's working and what's not, and adapt our efforts accordingly.

**COORDINATE...** across agencies and scientific disciplines, pooling resources, expertise and programs to maximize results

**TARGET...** limited resources for maximum efficiency, effectiveness and benefits.

**INFORM...** Maryland's citizens so the process is transparent and their government is accountable

# Developed to track progress in Chesapeake Bay restoration

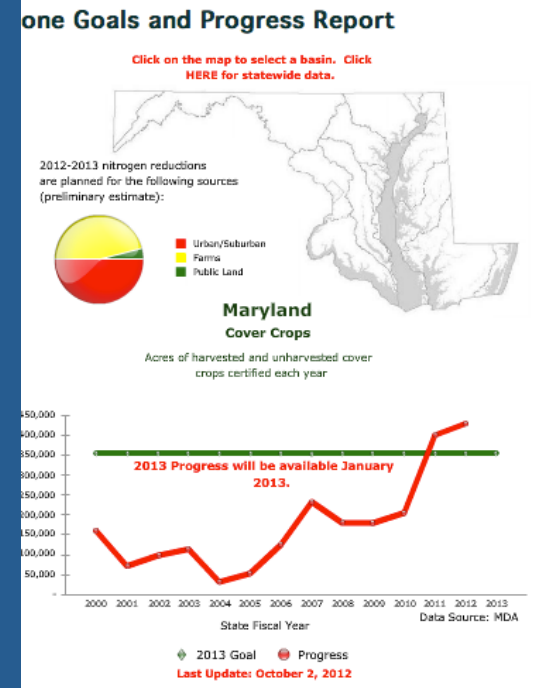
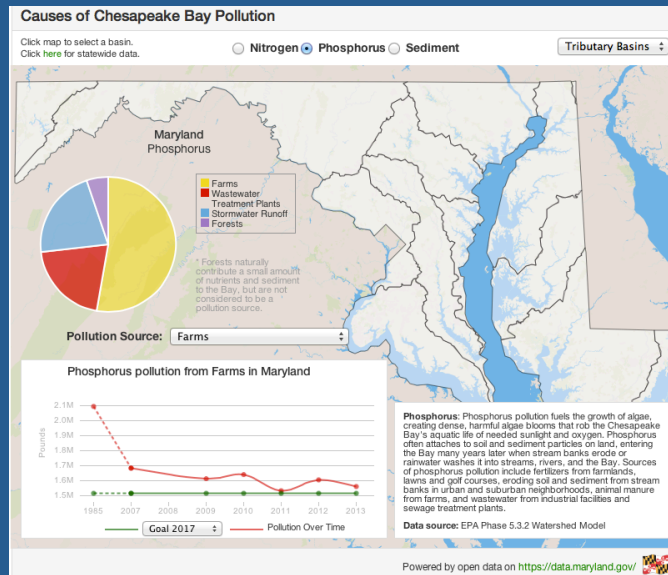
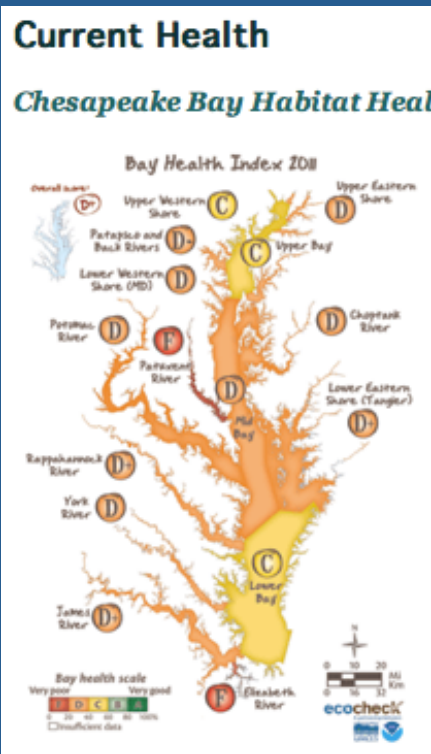
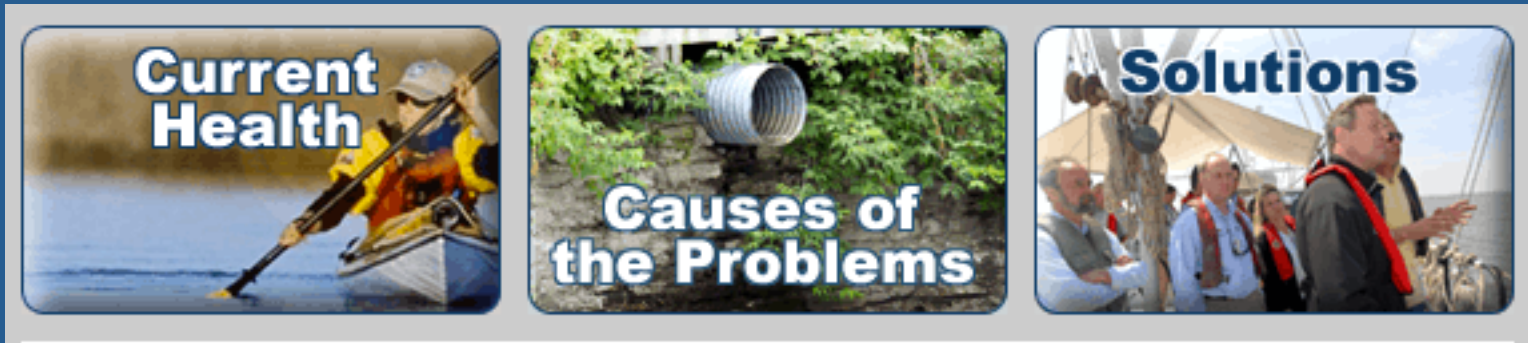
- Socratic method of questioning senior government officials
- Monthly meetings
- Few presentations
- Few participants



## 2 Year Milestones

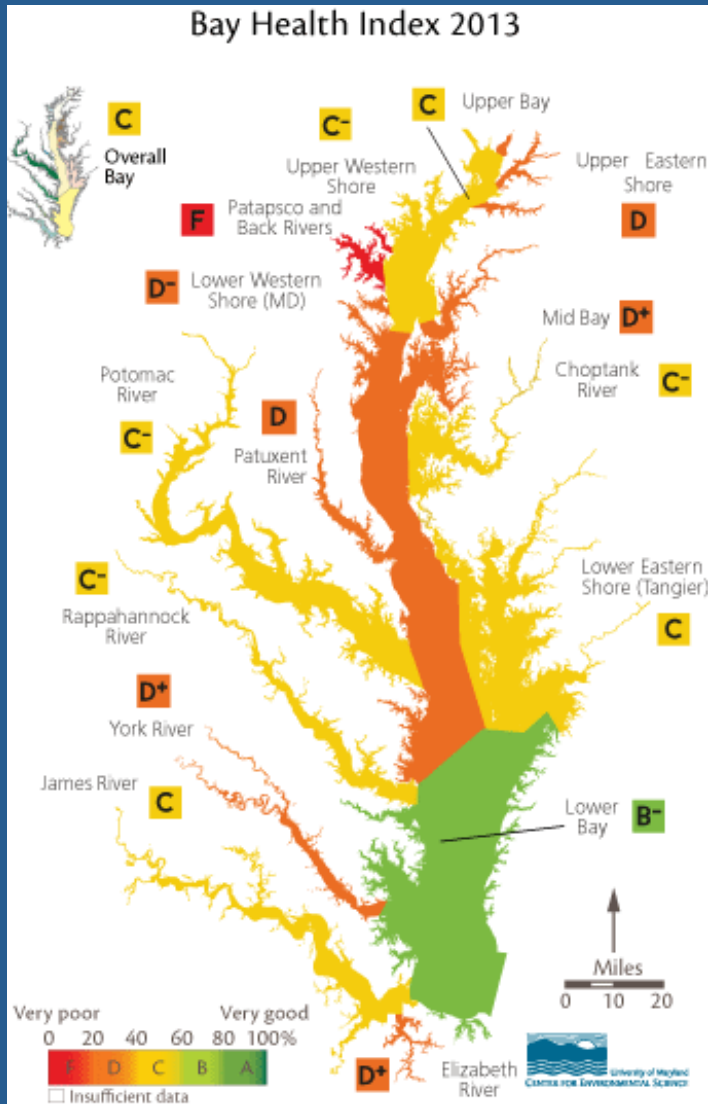
- In the past, political leaders would set goals that were 10-20 years into the future and well beyond their terms in office
- In 2009, 2 year milestones were established to meet interim goals and report in “real time”
- Ultimately, the goal is to meet EPA (federal) Total Maximum Daily Load goals by 2025 or face a regulatory mandated restoration plan

# BayStat tracks health, pressures, and solutions





# Current Health



- ▶ UMCES bases the Bay Health Index on 7 indicators
- ▶ These indicators include:
  - ▶ Water Clarity
  - ▶ Dissolved Oxygen
  - ▶ Nitrogen Concentrations
  - ▶ Phosphorus Concentrations
  - ▶ Aquatic Grasses
  - ▶ Phytoplankton Community
  - ▶ Chlorophyll *a*

CAUSES

# Causes of the Problems

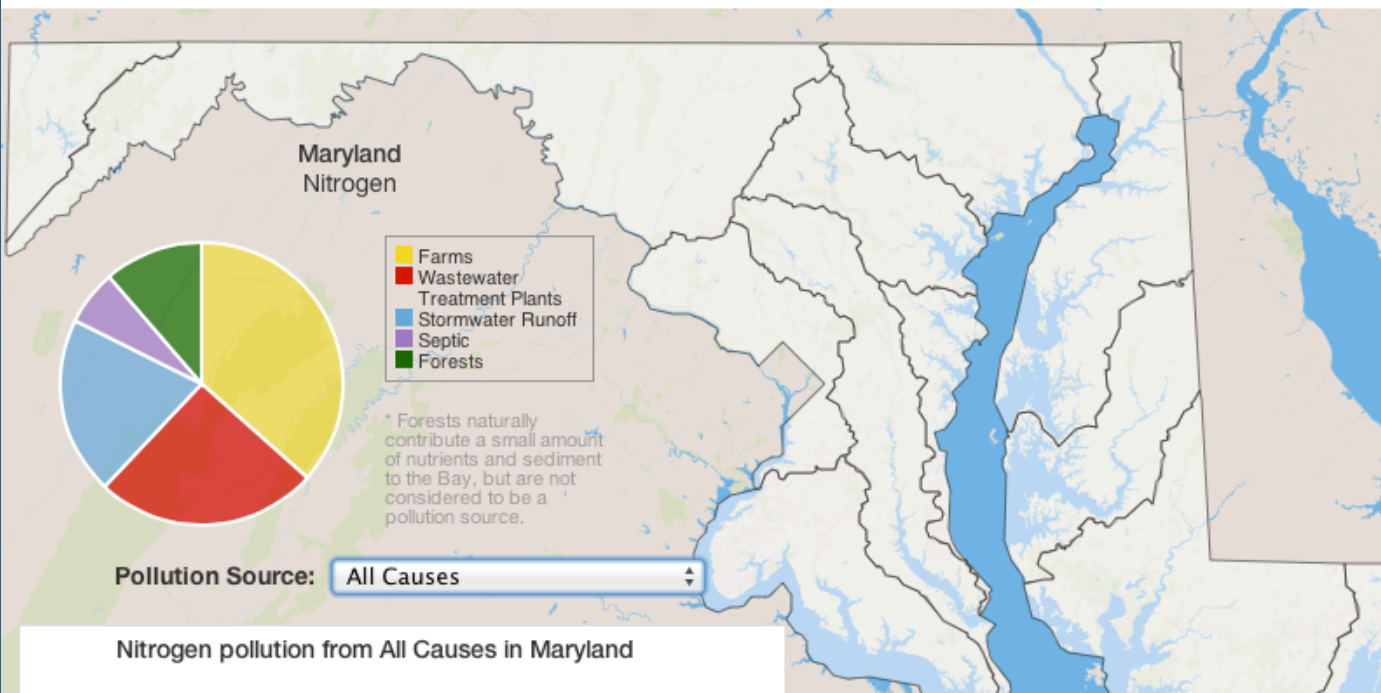
## N – All Sectors

### Causes of Chesapeake Bay Pollution

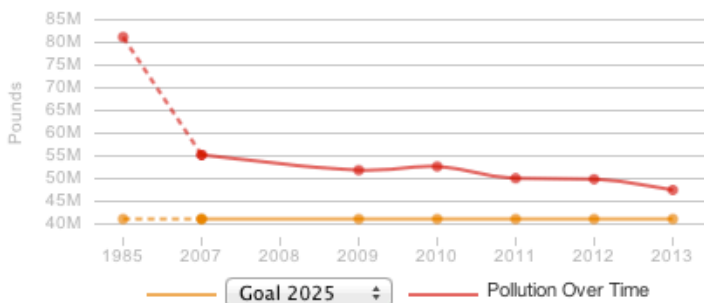
Click map to select a basin.  
Click [here](#) for statewide data.

Nitrogen  Phosphorus  Sediment

Tributary Basins ▾



Nitrogen pollution from All Causes in Maryland



**Nitrogen:** The 1985 scenario is from EPA CBP Phase 5.3.2 using 1985 atmospheric reduction strategies. Atmospheric reduction strategies projected to be in place by 2025 would have reduced Maryland's 1985 statewide nitrogen load by 4.8 million lbs/yr. This reduction is due to actions both within Maryland and in the larger Chesapeake Bay airshed. Changes in pollution over time are the result of a combination of reduction in atmospheric deposition, reduction due to management practices, and change due to new development.

Note that the 2017 goal represents 60% progress toward achieving the 2025 goal

Data source: EPA Phase 5.3.2 Watershed Model



# Causes of the Problems

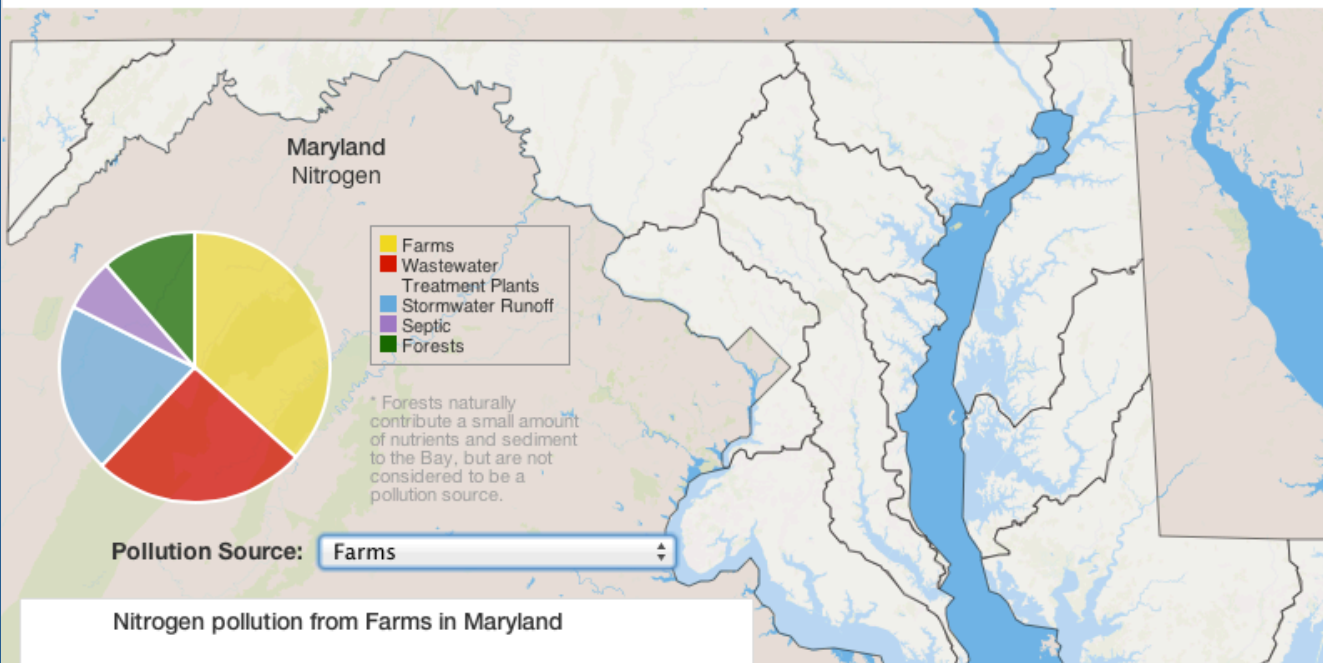
## Example – Farms Statewide

### Causes of Chesapeake Bay Pollution

Click map to select a basin.  
Click [here](#) for statewide data.

Nitrogen  Phosphorus  Sediment

Tributary Basins ▾



Nitrogen pollution from Farms in Maryland



**Nitrogen:** The 1985 scenario is from EPA CBP Phase 5.3.2 using 1985 atmospheric reduction strategies. Atmospheric reduction strategies projected to be in place by 2025 would have reduced Maryland's 1985 statewide nitrogen load by 4.8 million lbs/yr. This reduction is due to actions both within Maryland and in the larger Chesapeake Bay airshed. Changes in pollution over time are the result of a combination of reduction in atmospheric deposition, reduction due to management practices, and change due to new development.

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# Causes of the Problems

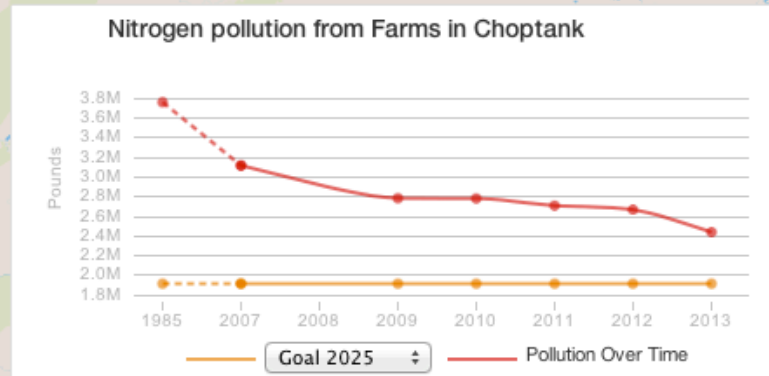
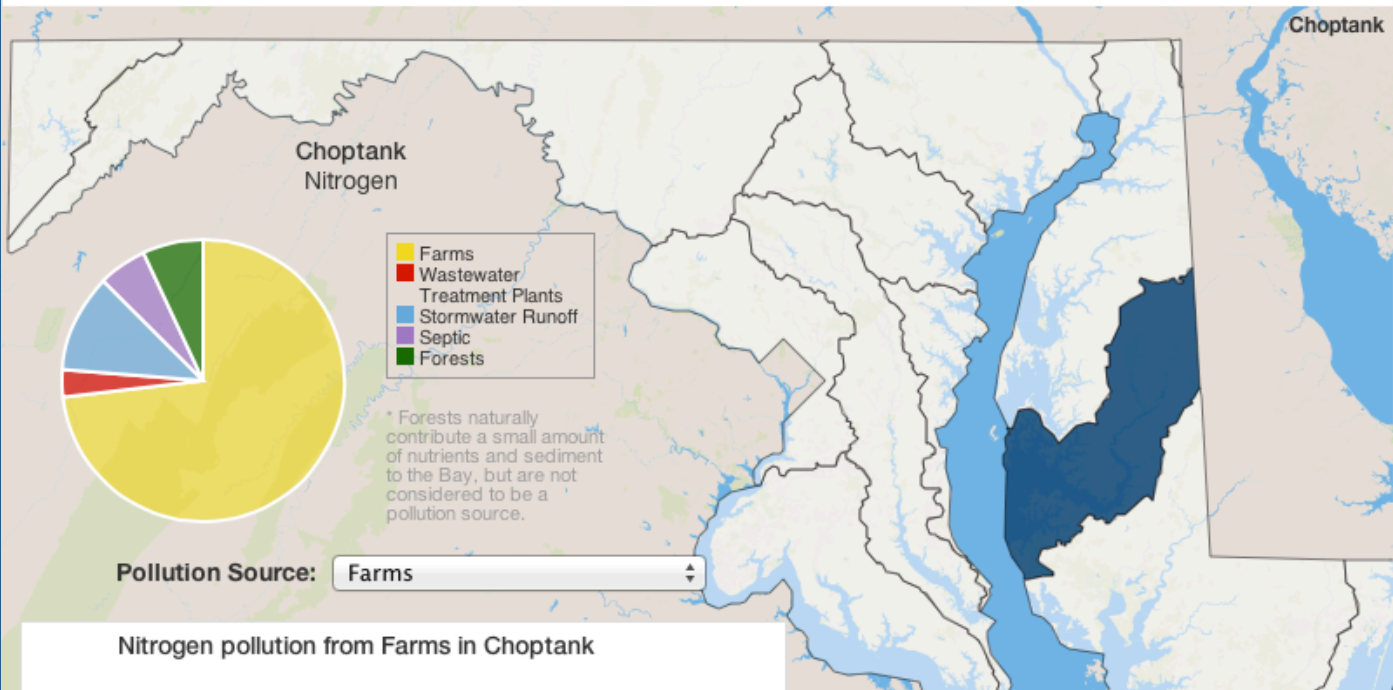
## Example – Farms Region

### Causes of Chesapeake Bay Pollution

Click map to select a basin.  
Click [here](#) for statewide data.

Nitrogen  Phosphorus  Sediment

Tributary Basins ▾



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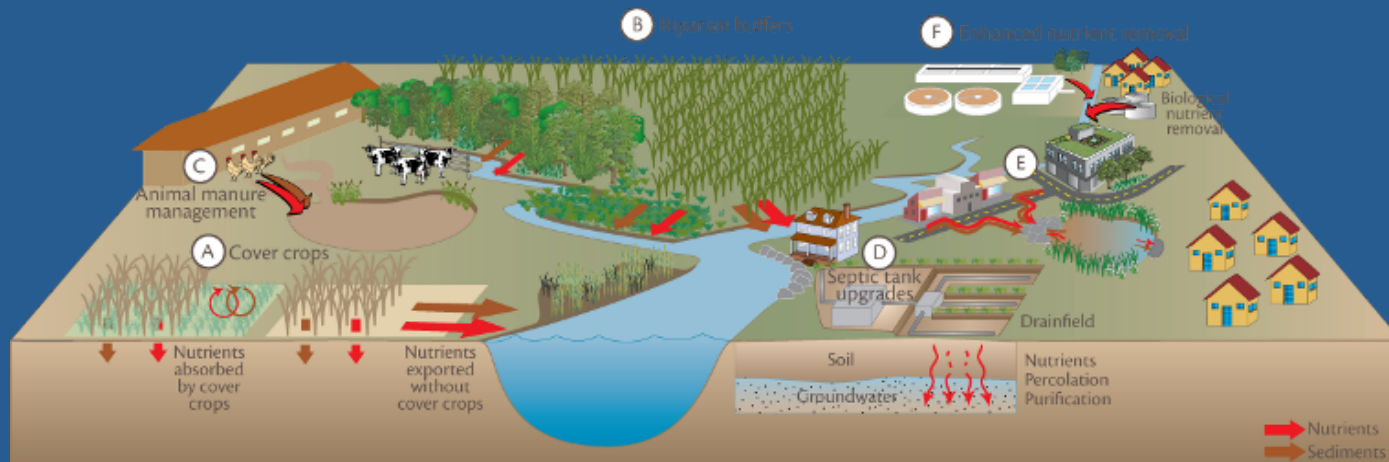
**Data source:** EPA Phase 5.3.2 Watershed Model



# SOLUTIONS

# Solutions must also be diverse

- Critical Areas Law (1984) – protection of shorelines (revised in 2008)
- Phosphate Laundry Detergent Ban (1988) – reduced phosphorous loads
- Water Quality Improvement Act (1998)– nutrient management on farms
- Bay Restoration Fund (2005) – primarily for waste water treatment plant upgrades, also funds cover crops and septic upgrades
- Water Resources Element of Comprehensive Plans (2006) - ensure water and sewer capacity available for growth
- Chesapeake Bay 2010 Trust Fund (2008) – reduce non-point sources of pollution



# Solution – 2 Year Milestone

## Maryland's 2014 - 2015 Milestone Goals and Progress Report

Maryland can only restore the health of the Bay by implementing proven solutions called **Best Management Practices (BMPs)** on the most lands.

Click map to select a basin.  
Click [here](#) for statewide data.

### Implement Best Farming Practices

#### Cover Crops

#### Soil Conservation & Water Quality Plans

#### Stream Protection

#### Manure Management Structures

#### Natural Filters on Private Land

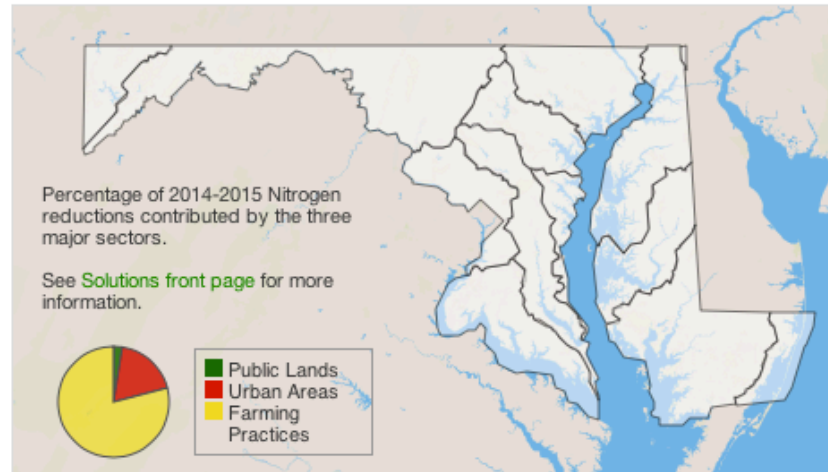
### Reducing Pollution From Urban Areas

### Public Land Restoration and Conservation

#### Definition

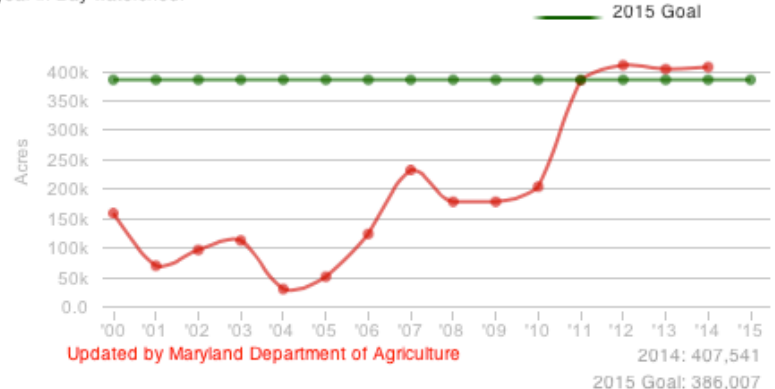
Cover crops are small grains such as wheat or rye that are planted in the fall after the harvest of corn, soybeans and other summer crops to absorb unused fertilizers that may have remained in the soil.

[More Information](#)



### Cover Crops: Maryland

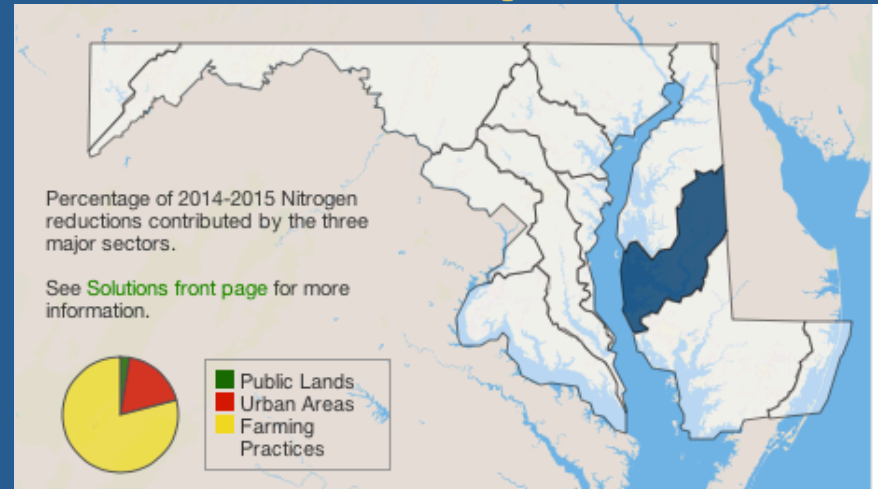
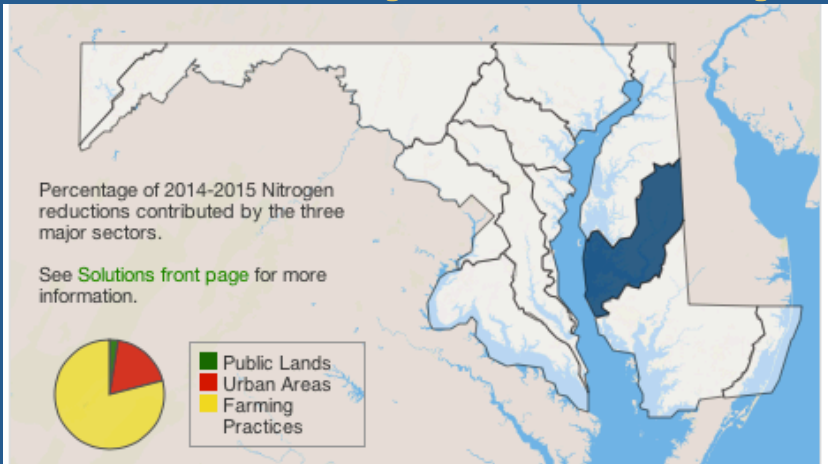
Acres of harvested and unharvested cover crops certified each year in Bay watershed.





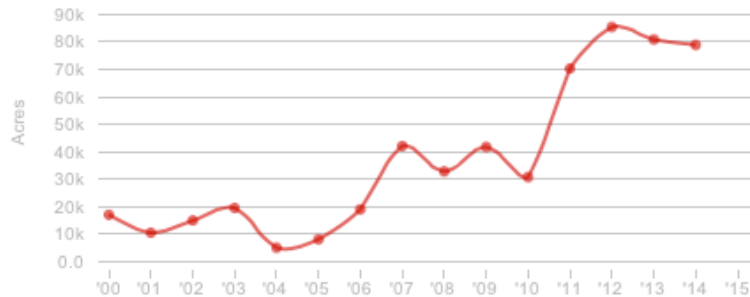
# Solution – 2 Year Milestone

## Example – Choptank Cover Crops and



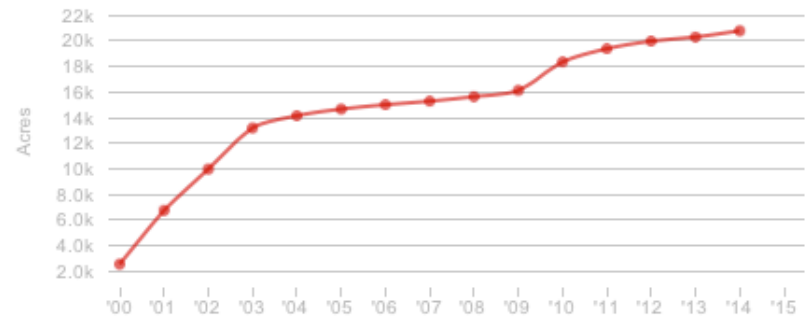
### Cover Crops: Choptank

Acres of harvested and unharvested cover crops certified each year in Bay watershed. — Progress — 2015 Goal



### Natural Filters on Private Land: Choptank

Cumulative acres of buffers along streams and waterways. — Progress — 2015 Goal



Powered by open data on <https://data.maryland.gov/>

# Conclusions

- BayStat has been effective tool in applying adaptive management principles through relentless follow-up
- Transparency of data has motivated greater action by the agencies and key stakeholders
- Establishment of 2 Year Milestones has made measuring progress are a fundamental part of restoration efforts
- BayStat in combination with 2 Year Milestones has led to a series of new laws and policies accelerating restoration

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Websites for more info:

[www.baystat.maryland.gov](http://www.baystat.maryland.gov)

[www.chesapeakebay.net](http://www.chesapeakebay.net)

[www.umces.edu](http://www.umces.edu)