

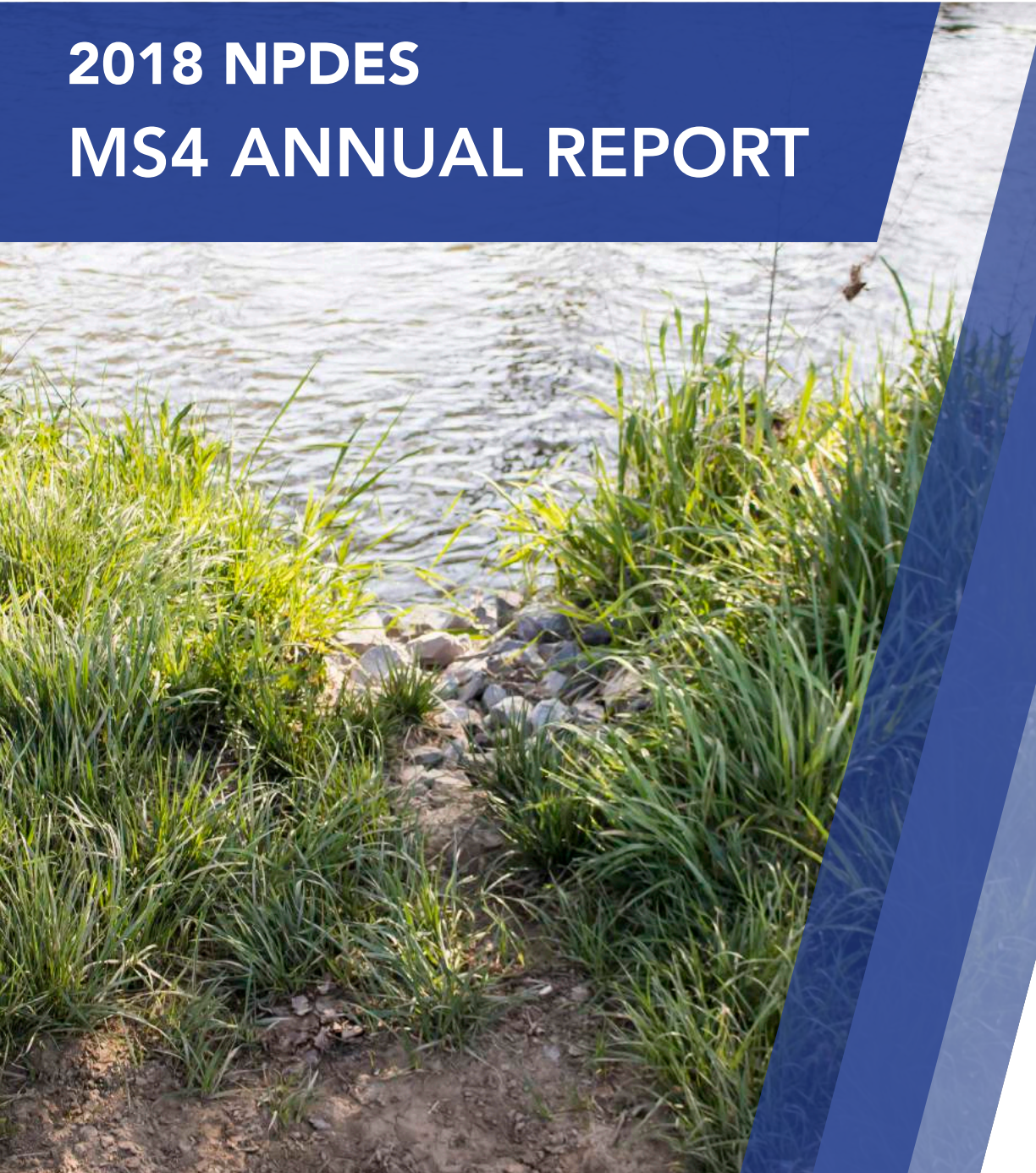


Washington County

M A R Y L A N D

*Protecting waterways through education, public participation  
and stormwater management.*

# 2018 NPDES MS4 ANNUAL REPORT



**Submitted by:  
Division of Environmental  
Management  
January 2019**

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# Part I. Purpose And Scope

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Washington County, Maryland (County) is considered a Phase II Small Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) and therefore must comply with the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) MS4 Phase II permit requirements. On June 11, 2003, Washington County submitted an NPDES Phase II Notice of Intent (NOI) for coverage under the Maryland Department of Environment's (MDE) General Discharge Permit No. 03-IM-5500. Permit coverage was intended for five (5) years with permit renewal required in 2008. On April 4, 2008, MDE informed Phase II MS4 NPDES permit holders that fifth year reports were not required. On January 28, 2010, MDE once again contacted Phase II MS4 NPDES permit holders to inform them that annual reports should resume again and should include any reports not submitted since the last annual report submittal. Washington County has submitted annually as required by state regulation. On December 22, 2016 MDE made a Tentative Determination to Re-Issue the MS4 General Permit to Municipalities. A final determination was made on April 27, 2018 and the new permit became effective October 31, 2018.

This report contains updates implemented from January 1, 2018 to October 31, 2018 by Washington County to meet the criteria for the six (6) minimum control measures.

The County's Phase II MS4 NPDES Permit No. 03-IM-5500 requires the implementation and ongoing management of six (6) minimum control measures:

1. Public Education and Outreach
2. Public Involvement and Participation
3. Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination
4. Construction Site Runoff Control
5. Post Construction Stormwater Management
6. Pollution Prevention and Good Housekeeping

# Part II. Status Of Compliance With Permit Conditions

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Washington County continued to work toward compliance with Phase II MS4 NPDES Permit No. 03-IM-5500 requirements during this reporting period. The County is working to reduce pollutants discharged into the stormwater system by focusing on permit requirements and achieving measureable goals. Descriptions of activities related to each requirement are presented within the following document and illustrations.





# Part III. Reporting

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MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT (MDE)  
WATER MANAGEMENT ADMINISTRATION (WMA)

ANNUAL REPORT  
NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM (NPDES)  
GENERAL PERMIT FOR DISCHARGES FROM SMALL MUNICIPAL SEPARATE STORM SEWER  
SYSTEMS

This annual reporting form is intended for those jurisdictions covered under General Discharge Permit No. 03-IM-5500. Submitting this report constitutes notice that the entity identified below is making progress to comply with all terms and conditions of the general permit. Annual reports shall be submitted to:

Maryland Department of the Environment, Water Management Administration  
Nonpoint Source Program, FL 4, STE 440  
1800 Washington Boulevard, Baltimore, MD 21230-1708  
Phone: 410-537-3543 FAX: 410-537-3553  
Web Site: [www.mde.maryland.gov](http://www.mde.maryland.gov)

## 1. Contact Information

Jurisdiction Name: Washington County, Maryland  
Program Coordinator: John W. Swauger, Jr.  
Mailing Address: 16232 Elliott Parkway  
Williamsport, MD 21795  
Phone Number: 240-313-2611 | Fax Number: 240-313-2601  
Email: [jswauger@washco-md.net](mailto:jswauger@washco-md.net)

## 2. Certification Statement & Signature

I certify under penalty of law that this document and all attachments were prepared under my direction or supervision in accordance with a system designed to assure that qualified personnel properly gathered and evaluated the information submitted. Based upon my inquiry of the person or persons who manage the system, or those persons directly responsible for gathering the information, the information submitted is, to the best of my knowledge and belief, accurate and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of fine and imprisonment for knowing violations.

Signature: 

Date: 1-28-2019

Printed Name: Daniel F. DiVito, Director  
Division of Environmental Management



## Part IV. Permit Administration

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Coordination of the Washington County NPDES Phase II MS4 Permit No. 03-IM-5500 was performed by the Division of Environmental Management. The following entities are responsible for major Phase II MS4 NPDES program tasks:

### Division of Environmental Management (DEM)

- Phase II NPDES MS4 Coordination & Implementation
- Stormwater Management Coordination
- Watershed Planning
- Watershed Implementation Plan
- Solid Waste Recycling Program
- NPDES Industrial Discharge Permits for Landfill Facilities
- Mapping of Stormwater Drainage System

### Division of Construction

- Construction & Maintenance Inspections of SWM BMPs
- Dry Weather Outfall Inspections

### Division of Engineering

- Engineering & Construction of SWM Restoration Projects

### Division of Plan Review and Permitting

- Site Plan Review and Approval for SWM

### Department of Planning and Zoning

- Rural Legacy Program
- Forest Conservation

### Division of Public Works (DPW)

- NPDES Industrial Discharge Permits for Public Works Facilities

#### Highway Department

- Maintenance of Publicly Owned SWM BMPs
- Good Housekeeping

#### Parks & Facilities Department

- Tree Plantings on County Property
- Good Housekeeping

### Department of Geographic Information Systems (GIS)

- Administration of GIS Geodatabase and Mapping
- Technical Assistance to Users of Mapping
- Maintenance of Software for Collection of Attributes

### Washington County Soil Conservation District (WCSCD)

- Sediment & Erosion Control Review
- Pre-Construction Meetings
- Close-out Meetings

### Washington County Public Schools (WCPS)

- Education Curriculum
- Tree Plantings

### Washington County Sheriff's Office

- Prescription Drug Collections

### Washington County Division of Emergency Services (DES)

- Fuel Spill Response
- Hazardous Material Response



# Part V. Minimum Control Measures

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## 1.0 Public Education and Outreach

### Program Description

Washington County utilizes the County website, the public school system, and public venues to disseminate information regarding water quality and stormwater runoff. Washington County's Stormwater Management (SWM) webpage, which can be found at <http://www2.washco-md.net/DEM/swm/index.shtm>, is the primary means of providing information about stormwater management to the public. Washington County's Board of Education (WCBOE) integrates water quality and environmental quality education into the curriculum of the public school system. These educational programs continue to be offered to Washington County students through the public school system.

### 1.1 BMP: Web Page

Goal: Use the Washington County website to disseminate information to citizens regarding stormwater runoff and nonpoint source pollution.

#### 2018 Progress

We continuously update the stormwater management webpage, located on the Division of Environmental Management homepage. The Washington County Department of Public Relations and Marketing is currently revamping the Washington County Government website, including the stormwater management webpage. The new webpage presents an opportunity to better serve, engage and communicate with constituents, businesses, and stakeholders in our community. We will accomplish this by automating common requests for information, standardizing data collection and freeing staff in the field to improve service in ways that matter most. The new webpage is anticipated to be completed in 2019.

### 1.2 BMP Education Curriculum

Goal: Integrate water quality and environmental quality education into the public school system curriculum.

#### 2018 Progress

#### 1.2.1 CLAUD E. KITCHENS OUTDOOR EDUCATION CENTER AT FAIRVIEW

Claud E. Kitchens Outdoor School at Fairview is owned and operated by Washington County Public Schools (WCPS). It is nestled at the foot of Fairview Mountain in Clear Spring, Maryland. With just over 100 acres of land; including hardwood forests, meadows, streams, and ponds, it provides a living classroom for students to study the environment. Students of all grades visit the Outdoor School at various times throughout the school year for hands-on learning about many environmental issues and the effect humans have on the environment. In 2018, the Claud E. Kitchens Outdoor School at Fairview (CEKOS) provided environmental education to over 3,900 students from elementary, middle and high schools; nearly 300 teachers; and more than 650 parents – focusing on the Chesapeake Bay watershed and environmental stewardship.



- Every fifth grader in Washington County visits during the school year to benefit from a fun-filled and educational week. Students spend four days and three nights with their teachers, classmates, and parent chaperones while exploring science and environmental issues with hands-on learning in an outdoor environment.
- The faculty at Outdoor School also provide day trip opportunities for Washington County students K-12. Day trips are provided to students as classroom teachers request and schedule open dates at the outdoor school facility. Day trips are aligned to Next Generation Science Standards at each grade level and supplement student learning on environmental science topics. In 2018 Outdoor School day trips, involved over 2,000 students and 200 WCPS teachers.
- AP Environmental Science (APES) teachers planned and executed a three day residential field camp at CEKOS. 8 high school students from 4 WCPS high schools participated in three days of rigorous environmental studies, designed to front-load key course concepts. Students worked in the field to collect and analyze data related to forest health, invasive species, land use, and water quality. The camp included a canoe trip on Big Pool and studies on the Potomac River. The trip was supported by Washington County Watershed specialist Alex Reed. The camp was a great success. Plans are underway to expand this opportunity to all high school AP science students in 2019
- 69 rising 9th grade students participated in our first ever 3-day STEM day-camp at Outdoor School, June 19-21, 2018. Students used various technologies including drones and robotics while considering solutions for environmental issues.



### 1.2.2 SCIENCE CURRICULUM INTEGRATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND WATER QUALITY



- Environmental science is a part of the Washington County science curriculum for all students in grades K, 2, 5, 6, and in high school biology and AP environmental science. With the full implementation of the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) there is a greater emphasis on environmental understanding and action. These standards were fully implemented in the fall of 2017.
- The Career and Technology Education program at Clear Spring High School includes an Environmental, Natural Resources Academy. Foundations of Agriculture is the entry level course for this academy. The course includes an in depth study of watershed science. As a part of the course students visit the Chesapeake Bay at Taylor's Landing, to participate in micro and macroinvertebrate studies, as well as soil analysis.
- Every 4th grade student (1,600+) in Washington County Public Schools takes part in a joint social studies / science field trip to the C&O Canal at Cushwa Basin where they study the history and environmental features of the area.





- During the first week of April each year, every second and third grade student (approx. 3,300) will take home a tree to plant in honor of Maryland Arbor Day. The trees are provided through the Maryland Department of Natural Resources.
- Approximately 170 students and teachers from six high schools worked with the National Park Service personnel in the fall of 2018 to provide water quality and environmental data for a long term study along the watered areas of the C&O Canal and the Potomac River. In May 2018, 4 students from North Hagerstown High School presented their findings to legislators in Annapolis, as part of the Maryland State Watershed Report Card program.
- On April 20, 2018 county Envirothon was held on the grounds of the WCPS Center for Educational Services. This is part of the ongoing development of these grounds as a school yard for learning. As part of the events of this day WCPS received a "Maryland Big Tree" certificate for having the 6th largest Sassafras tree in the state, located on our campus.
- In 2018 WCPS received a \$30,000.00 grant from the Chesapeake Bay Trust for the development and implementation of systemic Meaningful Watershed Educational Experiences (MWEE). As a result of this grant MWEE opportunities are being established for all students in 4th grade, 7th grade, and high school biology. During the spring and summer 14, WCPS K-12 teachers received 15 hours of professional development on the writing and implementation of MWEE experiences for students. By the fall of 2019 the MWEE experience will be a standard requirement of the 4th grade, 7th grade, and high school biology curricula. New MWEE experiences are occurring in other grades dependent upon teacher participation.
- A comprehensive Environmental Literacy plan for WCPS is currently under development by the science administrative staff in WCPS.
- WCPS science administrative staff are applying for a Chesapeake Bay Trust grant to expand environmental literacy through continual professional learning on the development and implementation of student MWEEs at all grade levels during the 2019-2020 school year.

### 1.2.3 ELECTIVE PROJECTS

Schools may have extracurricular opportunities that involve students in environmental projects such as tree plantings, storm drain stenciling, environmental analysis and action, rain garden / rain barrel projects, etc. The following list of projects were either started, completed or ongoing in 2018:

- Fountaindale Elementary has researched and reclaimed a wetland area on their campus, turning it into an outdoor classroom filled with appropriate flora. Students and teachers at Fountaindale Elementary are regularly involved in nature studies in their wetland/stream area.
- Boonsboro Middle School plants 100 – 200 trees annually in collaboration with the town of Boonsboro to provide a growing buffer area along the stream running through Shafer Park.
- Numerous elementary and middle schools in Washington County plant and care for school vegetable gardens and decorative rain gardens
- Students in agricultural programs at Boonsboro, Clear Spring, and Hancock high Schools study and apply sustainable farming practices that include farming practices designed to protect local waterways.
- Outdoor School staff plan, promote and present community outreach opportunities including the Maple Sugar Festival, Fishing Rodeo, and summer STEAM camp for 3rd grade students, which helps promote environmental awareness and stewardship in the community.



## 1.2.4 FACILITIES PROJECTS

- WCPS has eleven schools who have been awarded green school status as well as one green center (Claud E. Kitchens Outdoor School at Fairview). These schools all incorporate sustainable strategies.
- Artificial Wetland Creation

The Board of Education has incorporated environmental education and activities into construction activity on school property. This includes creation of artificial wetlands within stormwater management structures that are built as part of school construction projects.

## 1.3. Additional Outreach

### Program Description

In addition to the webpage and public education, Washington County staff members participate in various programs, which place an emphasis on water quality. Washington County utilizes these public venues to disseminate information regarding the various aspects of the stormwater management program and the PHASE II MS4 NPDES program.

### 2018 Progress

#### 1.3.1 WASHINGTON COUNTY HOMEBUILDERS ASSOCIATION HOME SHOW



Washington County participated in the 2018 Washington County Home Show on March 10th & 11th, 2018. Information displayed and provided included Stormwater Management (SWM) Best Management Practices (BMPs) for residential lots, recycling, planning, and permitting. Staff members were on hand to provide informational handouts and to answer questions. One commercially manufactured rain barrel and accompanying soaker hose, donated by Home Depot of Hagerstown, were given away as part of a free raffle ticket drawing.

#### 1.3.2 BOONSBORO GREEN FEST

Washington County's Division of Environmental Management participated in the 10th Annual Boonsboro Green Fest on May 19th, 2018. The event was well attended by approximately 3000 visitors. Information provided included single lot type BMPs (rain barrels and rain gardens) that homeowners could implement relatively easily, pet waste management, storm inlet stenciling, watershed education and recycling. Staff members were available to answer questions and to distribute informational handouts. Visitors to the booth were also given a Chesapeake Bay coloring books and recycling activity books for the children. A commercially available rain barrel was given away as part of a free raffle. A first ever rubber duck race was also conducted for the children in an effort to educate them on stormwater and water pollution.



### 1.3.3 STORMWATER INLET STENCILING PROGRAM

The Division of Environmental Management continues to lend out stencils for any interested groups who wish to stencil stormwater inlets. The goal of the program is to educate citizens and build awareness of the impact that stormwater can have on the health of our local streams and rivers, and the impact to fish and animals that depend on these water bodies. The County will be expanding the current scope of the stenciling program to include all HUC8 watersheds in Washington County, not just the HUC8 watersheds with active local TMDLs.

### 1.3.4 PET WASTE MANAGEMENT

Washington County continues to maintain over 20 pet waste stations at 11 County parks as part of a pet-friendly and environment-friendly program. Additional pet waste stations are located at various municipal parks. A partnership with PetSmart made the installation of over 70 pet waste stations possible at parks across the County and within various Municipalities. The Division of Environmental Management anticipates further collaboration with PetSmart in 2019 to establish additional pet waste stations.

### 1.3.5 WASHINGTON COUNTY SOLID WASTE RECYCLING PROGRAM OUTREACH

The Recycling Program Coordinator visited eleven (11) Washington County Public Schools to provide information on recycling and the benefits to the environment. Information about the amount of trash that is thrown away every day is provided to the students. The coordinator then guides the discussion toward the three R's (Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle). Emphasis is put on how recycled materials can be used in the manufacturing of other products that we use every day. Students are provided with the recycling statistics for Washington County and how the County is one of the leaders, in the state, in the recycling effort. Finally the students participate in a game of trying to determine the decomposition time of specific items that are commonly thrown into the trash.

The Department of Solid Waste also provided two (2) tours to Washington County schools. The tour allows students to view the landfill process of accepting and burying trash and to emphasize the need for recycling to prevent the filling of landfills and wasting of valuable resources.

### 1.3.6 MAREW'S STORMWATER ADVENTURE

In an effort to add an interactive method for engaging K-5 students within the county on the topic of stormwater pollution, Washington County developed a children's book that focuses on local water quality by telling a story about a rubber duck, named Marew. The story goes along with a rubber duck race that we have held at Shafer Park in Boonsboro, MD. The children decorate their rubber ducks, listen to the story, and then we do a rubber duck race. The children are able to make the connections from the issues in the story to the stream right in front of them. The story follows Marew as he and other rubber ducks are washed away by a rain event and make their way into the stormwater system of Boonsboro. Along the way the rubber ducks get an up-close look at the sources of stormwater pollution as they travel through the stormwater network and enter the local



stream. In the book, the children see how dirty their ducks are after being in the stormwater and then act to change their own behavior. The story was illustrated by a local artist, Kellie Mele, and we are working on securing funding to have the book published.

## 2.0 Public Participation and Involvement

### Program Description

Washington County provides opportunities for outreach and education related to stormwater runoff through a variety of public participation and public involvement programs. The four primary programs implemented to meet the requirements of the PHASE II MS4 NPDES permit are Reforestation-Streamside Tree Plantings, Rural Legacy Program, Forest Conservation Ordinance and Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP).

The Streamside Tree Planting Program encourages public participation through coordination with the Washington County Soil Conservation District and Washington County's Parks and Facilities Department in planting of trees along the banks and overbank areas of streams in existing County facilities.

The Rural Legacy Program is implemented by the Washington County Department of Planning and Zoning. The program seeks to protect farmland and open space which contains significant agricultural, environmental and cultural/historic features. The Maryland Department of Natural Resources (DNR) funds the program and protects land mainly with the use of permanent easements. The Rural Legacy Program encourages local governments and private land trusts to identify Rural Legacy Areas and to competitively apply for funds to complement existing land preservation efforts or to develop new ones. Easement purchases are sought from willing landowners in order to protect areas vulnerable to sprawl development. In Washington County, this program only purchases easements within a very specific area, surrounding the towns of Sharpsburg, Keedysville, Boonsboro, and the Rural Villages of St. James, Lappans, Fairplay, Rohrsersville, and Gapland to name a few.

The Forest Conservation Ordinance requires that any subdivision of land or development that removes 40,000 square feet of forest area requires mitigation plans to be submitted to the Planning Commission for approval. The Forest Conservation Ordinance strives to limit the loss of forest cover as land is developed. The ordinance, mandated by the State of Maryland since 1991, allows several options to mitigate the loss of forest cover that are implemented during the development review process. Options for remediation include: on-site retention or planting, off-site retention or planting, natural regeneration, and payment-in-lieu of planting or retention. The County, in cooperation with the Washington County Soil Conservation District, has successfully developed a program where the payment-in-lieu of planting funds are used for easement purchases and plantings in sensitive environmental areas. The collected funds provide the opportunity to plant and then protect, by easement, large contiguous areas of forest rather than promote small-scattered forested areas in order to enhance optimum benefit to the environment.

The Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) is part of a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between the United States Department of Agriculture and the State of Maryland. The focus of the MOA is to protect water quality by removing marginal agricultural land from production and replacing it with best management practices including riparian buffers, stabilization of highly erodible soils and





restoration of wetlands. There is a two-tier system to accomplish these water quality improvements. First the landowner enters into a 15-year lease contract (CREP contract) to take land out of production and to install best management practices for water quality. For some of that land, a second step involves permanently protecting the land taken out of production and the best management practices on it by selling a permanent conservation easement. The CREP easement program is administered by the Land Acquisition and Planning Unit and is funded from Program Open Space funds. The easements are acquired by land trusts or counties from interested landowners who voluntarily agree to sell conservation easements. The completed recorded easements are held jointly by the land trust or the county and the Department of Natural Resources (DNR).

These three programs work in conjunction with other existing Agricultural Easement programs to attain the County's overall goal of 50,000 acres of preserved lands.

## **2.1. BMP: Reforestation – Streamside Tree Plantings in County Facilities**

Goal: Improve the existing condition of streams in County facilities by planting trees and other vegetation along the banks and overbank area. The County coordinated this activity with similar Washington County Soil Conservation District programs. Utilizing public participation and involvement where possible.

### **2018 Progress**

Washington County's Department of Parks and Facilities is responsible for planting trees at County owned parks. In 2018, the following trees were planted; thirteen (13) Red Oak and five (5) Persimmon at Doubs Woods Park, nine (9) Red Oak and ten (10) Persimmon at Marty Snook Park, three (3) Persimmon at the Washington County Agricultural Center, and twenty-five (25) River Birch at Camp Harding Park.

## **2.2 BMP: Rural Legacy Program**

Goal: Maintain the Rural Legacy Program and establish the Rural Legacy Board to counteract the effects of sprawl development and other modifications to the landscape in Washington County and to enhance natural resources, agriculture, forestry, and environmental protection while maintaining the viability of resource-based land usage and proper management of tillable and wooded areas through accepted agricultural and silvicultural practices for farm production and timber harvests. Protection will be provided through acquisition of easements from willing landowners, and the supporting activities of Rural Legacy Sponsors and local governments.

### **2018 Progress**

Two (2) easements were executed, for approximately 125.98 acres, at a cost of \$387,040.48. Every project mandates stream buffering with trees and occasionally grasses. Landowners are also asked to provide 100 feet of buffering on each side of stream.



## 2.3 BMP: FOREST CONSERVATION ORDINANCE

Goal: Create and implement the Forest Conservation Ordinance for Washington County. The ordinance will provide requirements and guidance for the preservation or replanting of trees or forests during certain development activities by requiring forest stand delineations, forest conservation plans, maintenance agreements and sureties.

### 2018 Progress

In 2018, Washington County continued implementation of the program as it has since 1993. During the reporting period for 2018, an additional 14.73 acres of mixed forest conservation was protected by four (4) separate easements.

## 2.4 CONSERVATION RESERVE ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM (CREP)

Goal: Create permanent, natural buffers on land adjacent to the County's waterways in order to improve the health of the County's many Potomac River tributaries and to facilitate the natural habitat of the County's native wildlife species. This program works in conjunction with the Natural Resource Conservation Service Farm Service Agency's (FSA) CREP Contract program which establishes 12- or 15-year buffers on County waterways.

### 2018 Progress

Two (2) easement were executed for two properties for a total of 102.14 acres, at a cost of \$328,642.12. Each project mandates stream buffering with trees or grasses over FSA's original CREP Contract area. The project also gives the landowner the option to add additional, less-restricted matching acreage to the easement which aims to minimize agricultural land disturbance.

## 2.5 ADDITIONAL PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AND INVOLVEMENT

### 2.5.1 RECYCLING

The Division of Environmental Management's Department of Solid Waste is responsible for managing the recycling program and promotes recycling through various ads, school presentations and tours. Washington County's recycling program is completely voluntary with the County providing convenient drop sites for use by the public. Washington County's Recycling Program provides the means for voluntary participation in recycling a host of items which helps to reduce stormwater pollution. Various businesses in Washington County also participate in recycling as part of their company culture with some businesses taking in recycled products to use in the production phase of their business. The quantities of products that are recycled by business are reported to the Department of Solid Waste and are available upon request. In 2018, the following notable accomplishments of the program for recycling were recorded (See Table 1 on the following page.)



2018 Recycling Total	
Tires	82 tons
Electronics	73 tons
Batteries	1.1 tons
Yard Waste	Approximately 2,800 tons
Newspapers, glass, plastic, etc.	414 tons
2017 Phone Book Recycling	6,178 books
Oil	13,191 gallons
Antifreeze	1,385 gallons

Table 1

## FOUNTAIN ROCK ELEMENTARY WINS RECYCLING CHALLENGE

### Over 6,000 phone books collected throughout Washington County

HAGERSTOWN, MD (June 7, 2018) – The Washington County Solid Waste Department is excited to announce that as a result of Washington County student efforts, 6,265 phone books were recycled in this year's Grosh's Lawn Service 2018 Phone Book Recycling Challenge. Students saved 7 cubic yards of space in the County Landfill as part of their recycling efforts.

Leading the collection effort with a total number of 4,198 phone books, the Washington County Board of Commissioners is pleased to recognize the outstanding achievement of Fountain Rock Elementary -- this year's first place winner. Fountain Rock Elementary averaged 17.1 phone books collected per student.

Williamsport and Hancock Elementary placed second and third respectively collecting a combined total of 1,607 phone books. Marshall Street School and Heritage Academy rounded out the top five with 192 phone books.

With this tremendous effort, the County's students helped save:

- 40 Trees
- 150 Gallons of Oil
- 99 Gallons of Gas
- 16,450 Gallons of Water
- 141 Pounds of Air Pollution
- 9,894 Kilowatt hours of electricity



The top five schools received prizes ranging from \$70 - \$675 dollars.

Sponsors for the 2018 Phone Book Recycling Challenge prizes include: Grosh's Lawn Service, EZtoUse.com and the Washington County Teachers Federal Credit Union.

For additional information contact Public Relations and Marketing Director Danielle Weaver at 240-313-2384.

###



## 2.5.2 PRESCRIPTION DRUG TURN-IN PROGRAM



The Washington County Sheriff's Office in partnership with the Washington County Health Department completed its sixth year of Prescription Drug Turn-In Program. The agencies conducted several drug collection events during 2018 at various times and locations throughout Washington County and accepted medications from the public at the Sheriff's Patrol Division, 24 hours per day, 7 days per week. In 2018, approximately 2000 gallons of medications were collected during the turn-in events. With this year's collection, the Prescription Drug Turn-In Program has taken in approximately 17,000 gallons of medications since the inception of the program. The reduction in medications collected in 2018 is attributed to the growing number of agencies that are holding collection events. In 2019, the Division of Environmental Management will try to gather information from other collection agencies to better determine the pounds of medications collected in Washington County.

## 2.5.3 TREE PLANTING

In addition to the tree planting completed in Section 2.1 BMP: REFORESTATION – STREAMSIDE TREE PLANTINGS IN COUNTY FACILITIES, other tree plantings were completed in 2018.

The Town of Boonsboro Maryland had 28 trees planted by several volunteer groups:

- Park Board for Arbor Day/Park Clean Up planted 1 tree in old Shafer Park.
- Green Fest Committee for Green Fest 2018 planted 1 tree in old Shafer Park.
- Town of Boonsboro planted 12 trees in the old Shafer Park.
- Environmental Commission planted 14 trees in the new Shafer Park behind the police department.



The Board of County Commissioners participated in an Earth Day Event held at Fountaindale Elementary School with students planting 110 trees within the riparian buffer at the school property.

Claud E. Kitchens Outdoor School at Fairview conducted an Earth Day planting at the Outdoor School campus and planted 25 trees.







## Israel Creek Trash Clean Up (coordinated by Ashlee, BES Student)

Help pick up litter and pull trash out of this South |  
Washington County Creek

**Sunday, October 28, 2018, 10:00 am-11:30 am**

- Meet at the Valley Road Bridge, Sandy Hook, MD for supplies and guidance. *Directions from Boonsboro: take SR-67 South for ~10.5 miles, take right onto Garrett Mill Rd, take left onto Valley Road. Israel Creek Bridge is ~ 0.3 miles.*

- Gloves and bags will be provided. Feel free to bring trash picking tools.
- Wear sturdy shoes and bright colors. This is a walking cleanup, no boats.
- High School Students can earn SSL hours. Bring your SSL card to the cleanup.

**Check our Facebook page for event updates or weather cancellations.**

**This cleanup is supported by:**



**Want to coordinate a cleanup but need assistance?**

Contact the Antietam-Conococheague Watershed Alliance at:



Web: [www.acwamaryland.org](http://www.acwamaryland.org)

Email: [acwamaryland@gmail.com](mailto:acwamaryland@gmail.com)

### 2.5.4 STREAM CLEAN UP

Several volunteer groups are responsible for conducting stream clean up events in Washington County. The following events were held in 2018.

- C&O Canal Trust completed a cleanup on April 14, 2018 along the C&O Canal near Lime Kiln Road. The volunteer effort collected 2.26 tons of tires and .85 tons of trash and debris from the area along the road and canal.
- Israel Creek – On October 28, 2018, Boonsboro Elementary School student Ashlee coordinated a trash cleanup of Israel Creek with support from Washington County and the Antietam Conococheague Watershed Alliance. Ashlee initially became involved with trash clean up related to a school project, and she became really encouraged to make a difference. Ashlee's coordinated effort netted .81 tons of trash and debris being removed from the creek and its banks.
- Antietam Creek at Creekside – Antietam Conococheague Watershed Alliance will be conducting a cleanup at the site on November 4, 2018.



## 3.0 Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination

### Program Description

Washington County currently focuses its efforts in Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination Program development into two categories: infrastructure mapping and investigation of illicit discharge complaints.

### 3.1 BMP: Illicit Discharge Detection And Elimination Program

Goal: Develop a program for identifying and eliminating illicit connections to the portion of the Washington County storm drain system that is located in the 2000 Census Urbanized Area for Hagerstown, MD - WV - PA.

### 2018 Progress

#### 3.1.1 INFRASTRUCTURE MAPPING

Washington County continues to update its GIS Mapping of all SWM BMPs, with the exception of those within the City of Hagerstown. In 2016, the County contracted with Army Corp of Engineers (ACOE) to begin a multi-phase project to map the County's storm drain system. Phase I began in the urbanized area (UA) of the Antietam Creek watershed. In 2018 the third phase continued the mapping project in the Antietam Creek Watershed with an additional 5732 features collected. To date, approximately 13775 points (pipes, inlets, drainage swales) have been mapped as a result of the ACOE mapping project. It is anticipated that the mapping project will continue to finish up the Antietam Creek Watershed and begin mapping of the Conococheague Creek Watershed. Stormwater drainage mapping will be provided as per MDE's reporting guidelines via the geo-database report to MDE.

Approximately 2241 SWM BMPs and their respective outfalls are currently mapped and updates to the map continue. In 2018, 30 County owned SWM BMPs and their respective outfalls were inspected. The GIS Department is currently working on integrating the outfall inspections into the GIS geodatabase in order to better comply with permit inspection requirements. It is anticipated that an Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination (IDDE) ordinance and standard operating procedures for IDDE will be implemented in 2019 as required by the MS4 permit.

#### 3.1.2 INVESTIGATION OF ILLICIT DISCHARGE COMPLAINTS

### Complaints

Washington County currently relies on complaints from the general public to assist in identifying potential illicit discharges. The County's main web page and the Stormwater Management web page contain an Illicit Discharge Complaint link for use by the general public to report suspected illicit discharges. In addition to citizen input, Washington County's Division of Construction's inspectors are required to report any illicit discharges observed, when in the field, as part of their regular inspection duties.



Washington County investigates and relays valid complaints to the Maryland Department of the Environment for investigation and resolution.

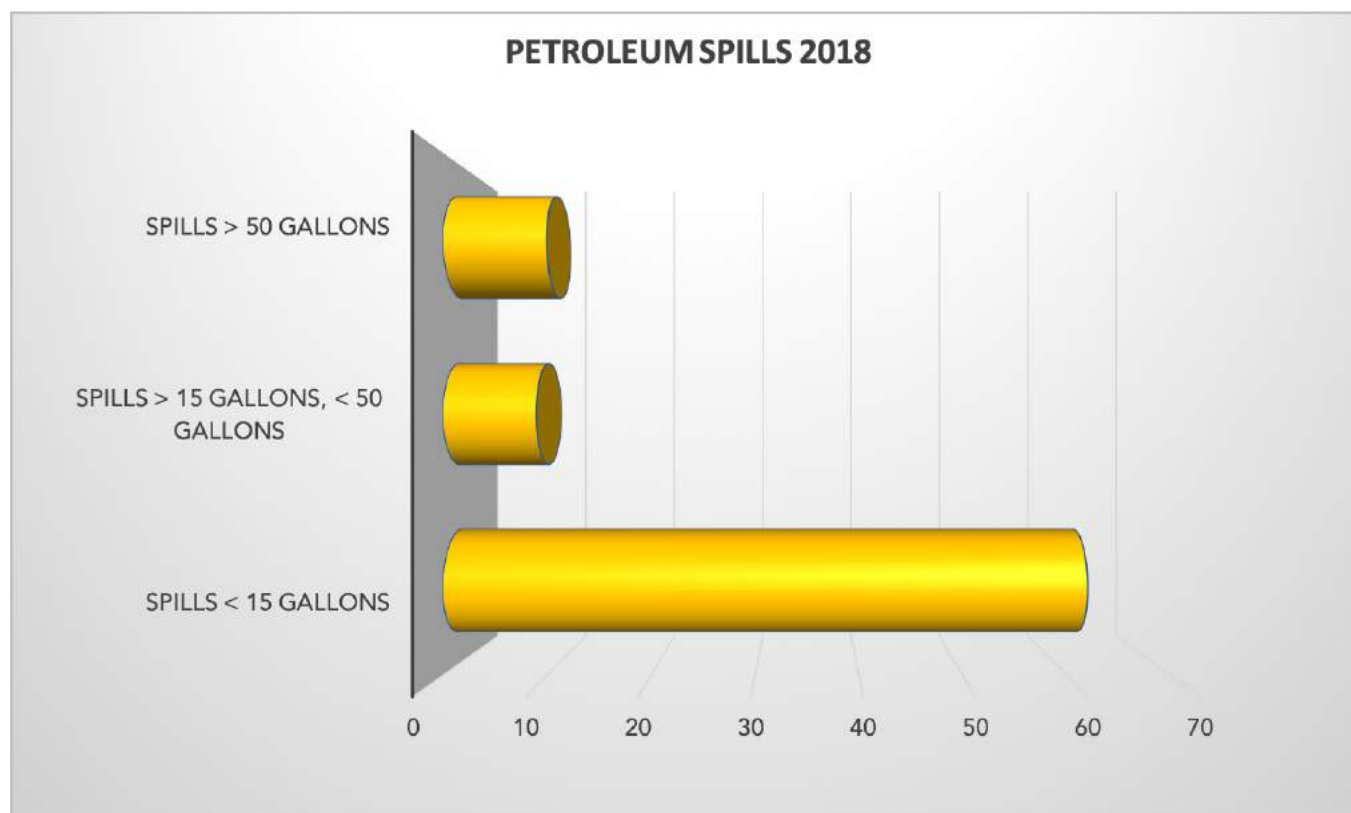
In 2018, two illicit discharge complaints were received.:

**Complaint 1** – Washington County Division of Environmental Management (DEM) received a request from the Maryland Department of Environment to investigate a complaint of a Sharpsburg, MD resident discharging pool water into the street, leaving a white residue. DEM contacted the Town of Sharpsburg who in turn notified the homeowner to refrain from discharging pool water into the street. DEM also provided MDE's "Swimming Pool Maintenance Guidance" to the homeowner and the Town of Sharpsburg. Incident report closed out. (Incident reports are available upon request.)

**Complaint 2** – Tractor-Trailer fuel leaking into storm drain. County inspector went to site and reported that MDE Hazardous Response Team was on site monitoring the spill and in command of operations. Incident report closed out. (Incident reports are available upon request.)

Washington County plans to become more proactive in 2019 with regards to the IDDE program. It is anticipated that an IDDE Ordinance and Standard Operation Procedures will be developed and approved in early 2019. The ordinance will need to be presented in a public hearing and approved by the new Board of Washington County Commissioners. Staff from both DEM and Public Relations have begun the process of developing a plan to engage and inform the public about illicit discharges.

### 3.1.3 FUEL SPILL RESPONSE



Washington County's Volunteer Fire Companies typically serve as the first responders to a spill event based upon calls to the Emergency Communications 911 Center. The immediate goals of this response are safety, containment of the spill and recovery of hazardous materials. Washington County's Special Operations Team responds for specialized type responses requiring immediate, spill containment, mitigation and recovery. In 2018, the Special operations Team responded to 6 hazardous material calls, 62 petroleum spills less than fifteen (15) gallons, 9 petroleum spills greater than fifteen (15) but less than fifty (50) gallons, and 10 petroleum spills greater than fifty (50) gallons. Hazardous material responses and petroleum spill responses are coordinated with the State of Maryland Environmental Spill Response Team as necessary. Emergency response data regarding spills such as location, types of spills, recovery efforts, and any type of information specific to the cause or responsible parties are maintained by Washington County Special Operations and are available upon request.

## 4.0 Construction Site Stormwater Runoff Control

### Program Description

Washington County continues to rely on the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) for inspection and enforcement of sediment and erosion control on active construction sites. Review and approval of Soil Erosion and Sediment Control (ESC) plans are performed by the Washington County Soil Conservation District (WCSCD). Washington County's Division of Construction provides construction inspection for all stormwater management BMPs.

### 4.1. BMP: Continue to Administer the Washington County Erosion and Sediment Control Ordinance in Compliance with the Maryland Erosion and Sediment Control Program

Goal: Develop, implement and enforce a program to reduce pollutants from construction activities that result in a land disturbance of greater than or equal to one acre.

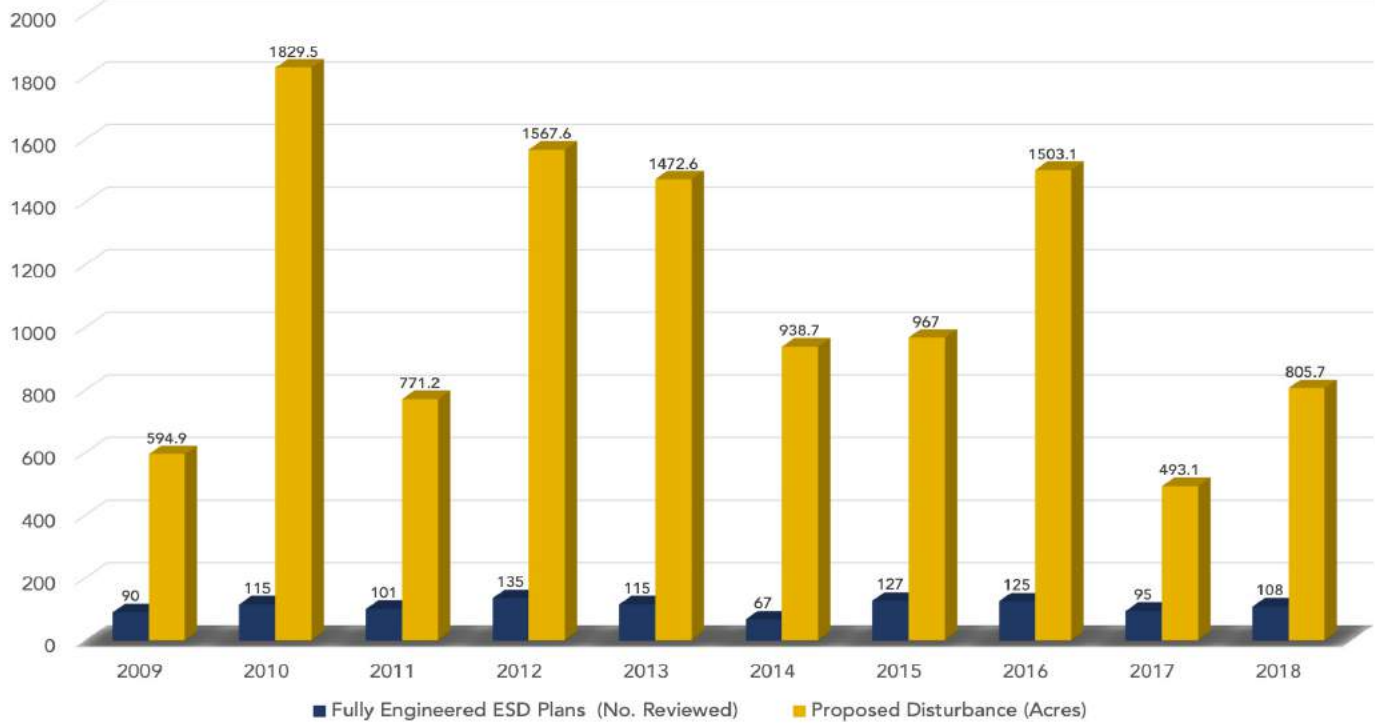
### 2018 Progress

In 2018, Washington County Soil Conservation District (WCSCD) approved 108 ESC plans for sites greater than or equal to 30,000 square feet of disturbance, totaling 805.7 acres and 71 ESC standard plans.

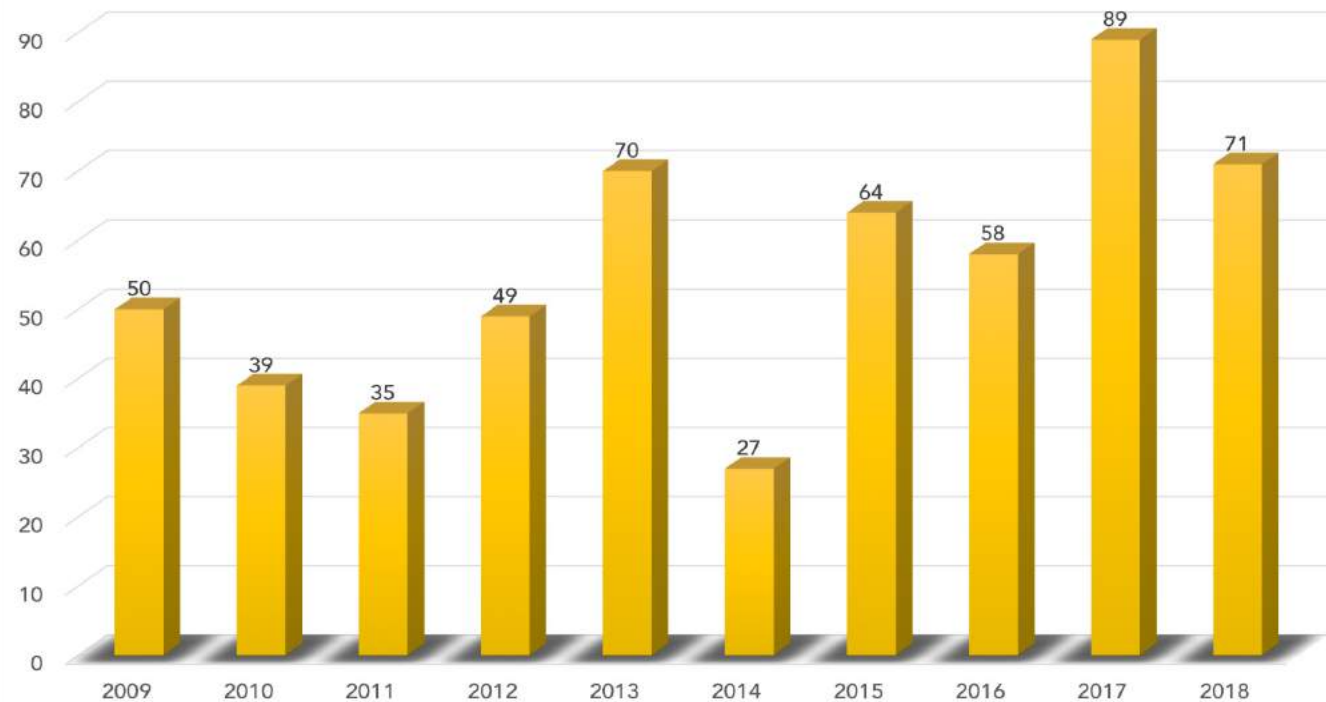




### Erosion Control Sediment Control Review Fully Engineered ESD Plans



### Erosion & Sediment Control Review ESD Standard Plans



During the reporting period Washington County's Division of Plan Review and Permitting reviewed and approved 133 grading permits for a total of 223.16 acres of disturbance for Washington County.



## 4.2 Construction Inspection for SWM

To ensure public safety and to reduce the risk for sediment pollution at construction sites, critical inspections for newly constructed SWM BMPs are completed by Washington County's Division of Engineering. The Division currently utilizes three (3) full time construction inspectors on staff to perform all required SWM field inspections in addition to complaints regarding drainage systems and conveyance systems in Washington County. The Division continues to document inspection data through the use of Accela Automation Inspection Tracking Software. The system tracks SWM construction inspections, maintenance inspections, inspection correspondence, and service requests related to drainage and conveyance systems. In 2018, Construction Inspectors completed a total of 3975 construction inspections for SWM BMPs, attended fifty-one (51) pre-construction meetings for sites proposing new SWM BMPs and completed ninety-eight (98) as-built inspections of completed projects.

Washington County's Division of Construction inspectors have completed the Responsible Personnel Certification as well as staff members with the Division of Public Works and Division of Solid Waste who are responsible for sediment and erosion control on their job sites.



Kiwanis Park Put-in

## 5.0 Post-Construction Runoff Control

### Program Description

Post-construction runoff control involves ensuring that permanent SWM is in place for all development and that maintenance of these systems is adequately performed on a regular basis to maintain proper function. Washington County's post construction runoff control programs include: SWM Regulations for Development and SWM BMP Maintenance Inspections.

### 5.1. BMP: Continue to Administer the Stormwater Management Ordinance for Washington County, Maryland in Compliance with the Maryland Stormwater Management Program

Goal: Develop, implement and enforce a program to address stormwater runoff from new development and redevelopment once the construction phase is complete.

The County has developed and implemented a plan review criteria consistent with current Maryland law and regulations which require that Environmental Site Design (ESD) be used to the maximum extent practicable (MEP) to control stormwater from new and redevelopment.

### 2018 Progress

#### 5.1.1 SWM REGULATIONS FOR DEVELOPMENT

As a County government with delegated authority from MDE for stormwater management, Washington County is required to maintain an adequate, approved and adopted Stormwater Management Ordinance to meet or exceed the minimum requirements of Maryland State law.



The County's current ordinance was adopted by the Washington County Board of County Commissioners (BCC) on August 24, 2010, with an effective date of May 4, 2010. The ordinance was repealed and reenacted with Amendments (Revision 1): Adopted December 18, 2012, effective January 9, 2013. The current ordinance is in compliance with the Stormwater Management Act of 2007 and the 2011 Maryland Standards and Specifications for Soil Erosion and Sediment Control.

The Division of Engineering manages and improves public infrastructure and related stormwater management facilities, such as roads, storm drains, drainage channels, grading and vegetation.

The Division of Plan Review and Permitting is responsible for plan review and permitting land development in compliance with the ordinance. In 2018, the Division of Plan Review and Permitting reviewed twenty-three (23) Environmental Site Design concept plans in addition to reviewing and approving forty-five (45) fully engineered site plans and fifty-two (52) standard stormwater plans in accordance with ESD to the MEP policy. All permitted plans require approval, inspection, and as-built documentation.

In order to stay current on stormwater regulation, trends, and innovations; Washington County Plan Reviewers attempt to attend as many seminars and webcasts as possible. The following list outlines events attended by staff:

- MS4 Seminar presented by AARO Consulting, Inc. on February 8, 2018 at the Washington County Agricultural Center
- MAFSM Spring Conference on June 6, 2018 at Chesapeake College
- Substantial Damage Estimator Training given by Craig Lockhart/FEMA on August 1, 2018 at the Washington County Computer Lab at 35 W Washington St
- FEMA Flood Proofing Workshop (both Community Official and Public meetings) given by MD Silver Jackets (USACOE, MEMA, MDE) on August 9, 2018, at the Washington County City of Hagerstown Library branch.

### 5.1.2 SWM BMP TRIENNIAL MAINTENANCE INSPECTIONS

Washington County's Division of Construction is responsible for maintenance inspections for both privately owned and publicly owned SWM BMPs. For private and public facilities, the County performs triennial inspections to ensure that proper maintenance is being completed, by the owners, on the BMPs. In preparation for the new NPDES Phase II permit requirements, the SWM access database was assimilated into a GIS geodatabase in 2017. All SWM BMP attributes are now maintained in the GIS geodatabase by the Division of Environmental Management with guidance from Washington County's Department of GIS. This change allows for automation and tracking of all SWM BMPs and associated triennial inspections in a GIS environment. The new GIS geodatabase also meets MDE's data reporting requirements of the proposed NPDES Permit.

For the 2018 reporting period, 322 Triennial Inspections were completed of which forty-three (43) BMPs were cited for maintenance issues. All but thirteen (13) BMPs cited were brought back in to compliance in 2018. Primarily, correction notices were related to minor issues; i.e. mowing, woody vegetation removal, minor erosion issues and rodent holes. In addition to performing triennial inspections, the construction inspectors investigated three hundred fifty-seven (357) stormwater/drainage complaints during the reporting period. The increased number of investigations coincide with the third highest year on record, for rainfall received during the reporting period.



### 5.1.3 SWM BMP MAINTENANCE

Washington County's Division of Public Works is responsible for maintenance of all County owned SWM BMPs. The County is currently responsible for all maintenance and repairs of the 175 County owned SWM BMPs. SWM maintenance crews continued to implement a tree planting program within existing dry detention ponds and an additional 300 trees were planted at a number of County owned SWM ponds. The purpose of the pilot program is to evaluate the effectiveness of planting trees on cut-slopes thereby reducing man-hours and materials used in SWM BMP maintenance. It is anticipated that the program will continue in 2019 to further reduce the need for mowing in these areas.

Washington County remains vigilant in its efforts to protect ground water through remediation of sinkholes on publicly owned property as soon as possible after formation. Karst/Sinkhole activity in constructed SWM facilities is a major problem in Washington County as these facilities are designed to concentrate stormwater runoff.

## 6.0 Pollution Prevention and Good Housekeeping

### Program Description

Washington County is required to implement and maintain pollution prevention and good housekeeping techniques and procedures to reduce pollutants from all municipal operations. Components of this minimum control measure include ensuring that all municipally owned facilities are properly permitted under the NPDES or other State or federal water pollution control programs. In addition, this stormwater control measure requires the County to develop Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plans (SWPPP) and implement employee training materials to prevent and reduce pollutant discharges to the storm drain system.

### 6.1 BMP: Permit Coverage Under the Maryland General Discharge Permit for Storm Water Associated with Industrial Activities for Applicable Washington County Facilities

Goal: Obtain permit coverage under the Maryland General Discharge Permit for Stormwater Associated with Industrial Activities for applicable Washington County facilities.

### 2018 Progress

On November 1, 2013, The Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) gave notice that it was reissuing the State/National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) General Permit for Stormwater Discharges from Industrial Facilities, Permit No. 12SW (NPDES No. MDR00. This permit replaced the one issued in December 2002, Permit No. 02SW. The effective date of the permit is January 1, 2014 with an expiration date of December 31, 2018. All facilities are currently covered under the 12SW Permit and are not subject to Chesapeake Bay Restoration Requirements. MDE has approved NOIs and SWPPPS for all facilities that are required to apply for coverage.

The status of County facilities for which NOIs and SWPPPs have been submitted and approved, for the General Industrial Stormwater Discharge Permit 12SW, are shown in Table 2 on the next page.





Facility Name	NPDES Permit No.	NOI & SWPPP MDE Approval Date
Hagerstown Regional Airport	12SW0907	09/05/2014
Eastern Section Highway Building	12SW1450	06/09/2014
Southern Section Highway Facility	12SW1466	06/16/2014
Washington County Highway Department	12SW1467	06/16/2014
Western Section Highway Facility	02SW1965	06/03/2014
Washington County Transit Facility	12SW2227	06/03/2014
Washington County Parks & Facilities Maintenance Facility (Doubs Woods)	12SW2275	06/18/2014
Washington County Forty West Municipal Landfill	02SW1396	04/09/2015
Washington County City/County Landfill	12SW1820	10/06/2017
Washington County Rubble Landfill	02SW0439	04/09/2015
Washington County Hancock Landfill	12SW1294	09/05/2014
Washington County Resh Road II Landfill	12SW1295	09/05/2014

Table 2: Status of County Facilities with NOIs and SWPPPs

## 6.2 Good Housekeeping

### 6.2.1 STREET SWEEPING AND DEBRIS COLLECTION

Washington County's Highway Department removed and disposed of approximately 450 tons of debris/trash that was swept and collected from County roadways. The Highway Department contracted out street sweeping for a spring sweeping of several high traffic areas within the County. 106 deer carcasses were picked up from County roads and disposed of at a local pet crematory. Washington County utilizes the Inmate Crews to remove trash and debris from drainage conveyance channels, roadside ditches and stormwater swales in an effort to reduce pollution of the area's waterways.

During 2018, Washington County purchased and took possession of a Regenerative Air Street Sweeper. The sweeper truck has been assigned to the Division of Environmental Management and will be pivotal to the Clean County Initiative which is expected to aid in implementation of several MS4 permit minimum control measures.



### 6.2.2 PESTICIDE MANAGEMENT PLAN

Washington County in its effort to eliminate the use of herbicides, continues to utilize five (5), State of Maryland, Inmate Crews to maintain roadside weed growth by mowing and weed-wacking on a regular basis. However, the County still employs a Pesticide Management Plan (available upon request) for control of noxious vegetation in County right-of-ways. Washington County's Weed Control Program is a cooperative weed control program between Washington County and the Maryland Department



of Agriculture, Plant Protection and Weed Management Section. When herbicide is applied, it is accomplished by Maryland Department of Agriculture certified applicators. Applicator certifications for County personnel are available upon request.

### 6.2.3 PARKS AND FACILITIES TRASH AND PET WASTE CONTROL

Washington County's Parks and Facilities Department provides trash receptacles at all County parks as well as utilization of cleaning crews to maintain all county parks. The total trash and debris collected and disposed of in 2018 amounted to 80.34 tons, which includes pet waste from the pet waste stations, trash, rubble, white goods and tires. The Parks and Facilities Department continues to maintain 20 existing pet waste stations as part of the partnership between Washington County and PetSmart, for use by patrons of 11 County parks.

### 6.3 Watershed Restoration Plans

Washington County's Division of Environmental Management worked in partnership with the Washington County Soil Conservation District (WCSCD) in completing and receiving approval from MDE on the Antietam Creek Watershed Restoration Plan in 2012.

The WCSCD is the implementer/reporter for the Antietam Creek Watershed Restoration Plan approved by the EPA in 2012. Each year, WCSCD and watershed partners report progress in achieving the sediment and bacteria goals set by the plan.

The watershed restoration plan stresses implementation of agricultural BMP's, such as, cover crops and manure storage facilities, and preparation of Soil Conservation and Water Quality Plans for farm operations.

Another major component of the plan, is implementation of stream restoration projects to reduce stream bank erosion. WCSCD is in the planning stages for stream restoration projects on Beaver Creek and Little Antietam Creek. During 2017 WCSCD issued a Request for Proposals to partner with a private design/build firm with experience in grant writing, design and construction for stream restoration and wetland projects. Ecotone Inc. was selected in the spring of 2018 as WCSCD's partner for stream restoration projects.

WCSCD applied for and was approved for CWA 319(h) funding to complete Phase II of an agricultural project located on Little Grove Creek during 2017. Phase I is was implemented during 2017 and includes, stream fencing to exclude dairy cattle from the stream, planting of a riparian forest buffer, and installation of alternative watering sources for the cattle. Phase II consists of installation of a Best Available Technology (BAT) septic system for the farm headquarters and a barnyard runoff project. The BAT system was completed in 2017. The barnyard runoff project design and bidding for construction is complete. Additional funding was approved to complete the project during 2019. The grant included funding for the design of Phase III of the project, which will address the remaining nonpoint sources at the farm. Phase III of the project was designed and is under construction as of December 2018. Funding in the amount of \$346,805 was obtained from the USDA Regional Conservation Partnership Program to fund the construction of a new manure storage facility, roofed heavy use area with manure storage and decommissioning of the existing manure storage structure. The project will provide for the containment of all barnyard runoff. Additional riparian forest buffer will be planted in the Spring of 2019.



The educational component of the Watershed Restoration Plan requires installation of informational kiosks at ten locations in the watershed. The County and partners will continue to work towards the restoration plan goal of installing ten (10) educational kiosks along the Antietam Creek. To date, five kiosks have been installed at locations on the main stem of Antietam Creek.

## Part VI. Verification

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We submit this report as verification that Washington County continues to implement the requirements of the NPDES Phase II program to the maximum extent possible. Every attempt is made to ensure that we have provided an accurate accounting of the accomplishments made in 2018.

## Part VII. Going Forward

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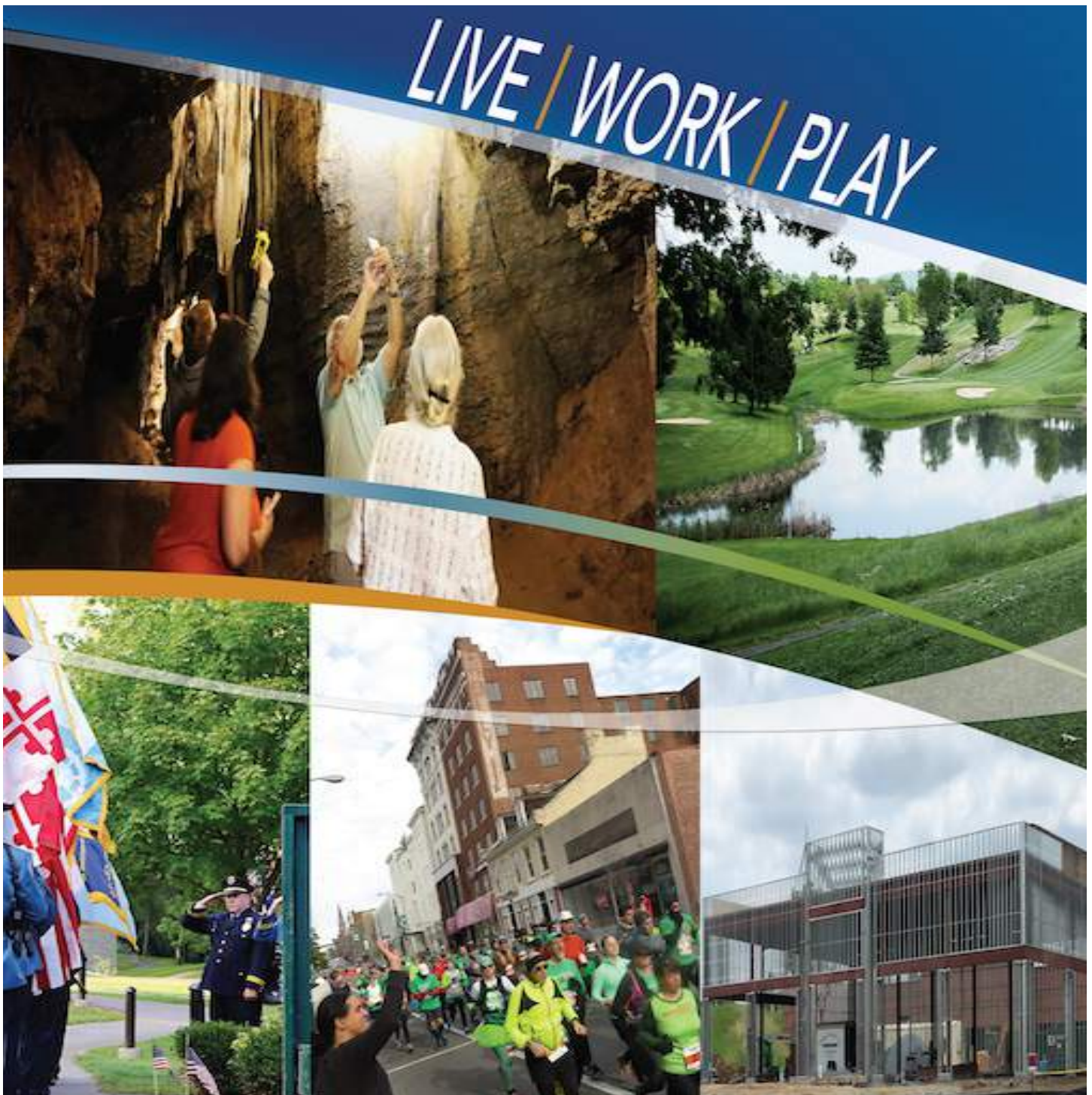
With the recent issuance of the 2nd generation of NPDES MS4 Phase II Permit, Washington County will work toward compliance with the 6 MCMs and the Chesapeake Bay restoration requirement mandate. We will explore new methods to expand the program and promoting our efforts towards meeting the NPDES MCMs and restoration requirements. The Division of Environmental Management intends to host additional meetings and workshops in the future to maintain a cooperative group effort with other MS4 permit owners as we all endeavor to meet the requirements of the NPDES Permit as well as the protection of our waterways.

Washington County, under the direction of the County Administrator, is working on a new initiative to form a “Clean County” program. In an effort to help reduce pollutant and sediment loads to our streams, the County is currently developing a street sweeping and inlet cleaning program. It is the County Administrator’s goal to have the program up and running in 2019.

All of this is possible because Washington County has and will continue to remain focused on the environment and protection of our natural resources and local waterways. This commitment provides the opportunity for staff and citizens to move forward on Stormwater Management initiatives and improving the environment in Washington County.







Washington County  
M A R Y L A N D

### Stormwater Management

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<https://www.washco-md.net/index.php/2018/03/20/dem-smp-home/>