

YORK COUNTY
CHESAPEAKE BAY TMDL
PHASE II WIP SCENARIOS

The County of York has been working diligently with the Hampton Roads Planning District Commission (HRPDC) to analyze and correct data in Virginia Assessment Scenario Tool (VAST) system for the Phase II WIP as it pertains to York County and the region. The short time frame has only allowed staff limited capability to prepare scenarios to meet the 2017 and 2025 milestones. Below are the items requested by DCR for the local input. In addition, York County supports and attaches the HRPDC Phase II WIP as an appendix.

- **Provide DCR with a spreadsheet of the updated BMP's in York County installed for stormwater quality and quantity control.** The attached spreadsheet was updated since the last annual report submittal to DCR as part of our MS4 permit requirements. It does not separate out the systems based on regulated and non regulated areas of the County. It does however, list by year of design/on line for the BMP's so staff was able to determine those that were required to meet the MS4 design requirements. All development in York County was required by ordinance to meet the same criteria after 2003.
- **Provide DCR with a more accurate land use/land cover data based on the County of York GIS data.** This information was provided to HRPDC for their use in the regional scenario and is being provided separately to DCR as an attached spreadsheet. Data has also been put into the VAST system. Staff's input accuracy is based on the way it is presented. York County has several federal and state properties within its boundaries. In addition there are three drinking water reservoirs and two inactive reservoirs that other entities control or own a large amount of land surrounding them. Most of the forested area in the County is either on federal, state or reservoir property. Newport News Waterworks, owner of two of the reservoirs, periodically harvests some of their forestry. But the model does not take into account that these reservoirs are in fact large regional BMP's with only large storm events providing runoff and some nutrient loading into the Bay and its tributaries.

York County has very little agriculture and livestock. The limited amount of livestock is in the form of horses and cows. VAST lists hogs for slaughter but there is no such operation of this nature in the County.

- **The 2017 and 2025 Phase I WIP preferred BMP scenarios** that the County of York supports and works within our jurisdiction. The County of York has very little agricultural land. Any agricultural land in the County receives assistance from the Virginia Soil and Water Conservation District. York County also has an extensive and long term maintenance program for meeting a DEQ sanitary sewer overflow consent order for our sewer system. In addition, our utility staff is extending sewer to several areas of the County over the next several years and

support the conversion of septic to sewer, pump out of septic, and will support VDH in pursuit of nitrogen reduction. The current number of septic systems listed in the County of York in the VAST system is twice as much as what York County actually has at this time. Vast lists it at 5545 and the County currently has 2625 septic systems as of December 1, 2011 and with the extension of sewer expects that number to be reduced to 1,130 by 2025.

All of York County is serviced by HRSD treatment plants which have gone through extensive upgrades and will continue to meet Virginia requirements for treatment. For the last 10 years, York County has also required septic pump out in all areas of York County, not just the Chesapeake Act buffer areas. The stormwater staff has worked with the septic pumping companies and VDH in a coordinated effort to get compliance, document and report this information.

York County was permitted by DCR for the stormwater program as a VSMP Phase II MS4 since 2003. Although only portions of the County are urbanized, the stormwater staff has required water quality treatment throughout the entire County since the adoption of our stormwater ordinance in 2003. Between 1990 and 2003, the County required water quality treatment only in the Chesapeake Bay areas. In addition, the County also has had an ordinance requirement for water quality treatment in areas designated to drain to the public or private reservoirs. Further, York County has had since the early 80's, a robust Erosion and Sediment Control program. More important, the E&S program follows the MS19 rule which stipulates on-site retainage of stormwater quantity to predevelopment levels if the downstream system is inadequate. This rule required the majority of development to install quantity control BMP's that met the standards of that time. Most of these BMP's also provide some quality control as well. The majority of these BMPs are on private property. Lastly, staff will continue compliance with the VSMP MS4 program and continue to update our data on land use and systems that are already in place.

As is in most Counties in the Commonwealth, all public roads in York County are owned and maintained by VDOT, a state agency, and any BMP's associated with these roads, including street sweeping, should be the responsibility of the state.

York County's public properties, including schools, and athletic fields have already begun utilizing Nutrient Management Plans that limit fertilizers to only those areas that are necessary and are part of the actual fields. In addition some athletic fields have been converted to artificial turf and need no fertilizers.

- **The preferred BMP strategies** the County of York will utilize to implement in order to meet the 2017 and 2025 goals as part of the Virginia WIP are as follows.
 - Utilities staff will continue the installation of sewer systems and disconnecting septic systems to further reduce the nitrogen load.
 - York's stormwater staff will continue requiring septic pump-out of those remaining septic systems that are in place as our ordinances requires.

- Stormwater staff will continue our stormwater MS4 program and provide data to DCR on an annual basis and specify those that meet the TMDL strategies.
 - Stormwater staff will update and add data of BMP's that are not already included in the strategies to date.
 - Stormwater staff will continue managing the existing Capital Improvement Program (CIP) for stormwater projects, such as stream restoration and stormwater retention BMPs, keeping in mind benefits to the TMDL program. We have added a study to the CIP for additional projects and associated costs necessary to meet the 2017 and 2025 milestones.
 - Lastly staff, will update ordinances to comply with the latest stormwater regulation requiring stricter water quality treatment for new and redeveloped sites.
- The County of York has already expended over \$56 Million to provide sewer for the existing septic tank removals and have budgeted an additional \$36 Million for the projects scheduled up to 2025. This funding is in addition to the increased costs of \$44 million allocated for compliance of the sanitary overflow DEQ Consent Order.

The County of York's Stormwater CIP expends approximately \$2 Million a year funded out of the general fund. Further increases in TMDL costs are not anticipated because of the efforts already completed show that York County has complied and exceeded pollution and nutrient removal requirements to date.

York County has expended \$10'S of millions to reduce bacterial and nutrient pollution to the Chesapeake Bay and has existing programs/projects that will further this effort. Implementing more strategies until such time as the data is corrected and locality loads and targets are significantly more accurate may be warranted, but is not currently anticipated.