

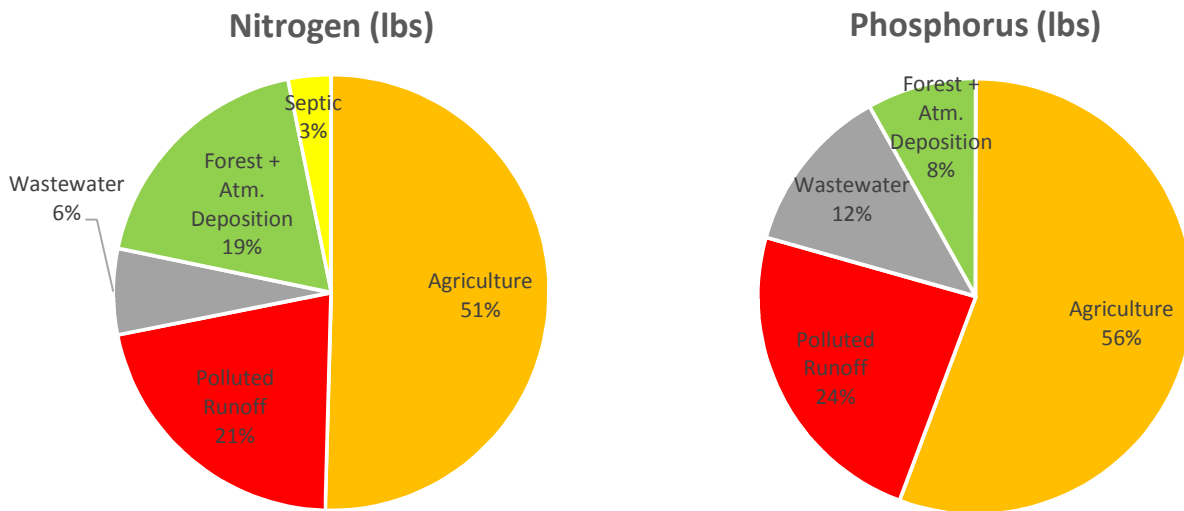


January 2014

**FREDERICK COUNTY HAS A PROBLEM: POLLUTED RUNOFF**

Polluted runoff from urban and suburban areas is the second largest source of water pollution in Frederick County's creeks and rivers. In the Upper Potomac River watershed, about 21 percent of the nitrogen pollution comes from polluted runoff, and 24 percent of the phosphorus pollution. Dog waste, chemicals, lawn fertilizer and other contaminants run off county streets, parking lots, and other surfaces during a rain storm, and in many cases discharge straight into county creeks. This runoff makes water unfit for human recreation and marine life. Runoff also increases local flooding. As an area is paved over, rain that would have soaked into the ground rushes with increasing volume and speed over the hardened landscape. The result: flooded basements and streets. Frederick City and the county have worked to reduce this runoff, but as the county continues to grow so will the problem. The county needs a reliable source of funding to reduce polluted runoff.

**Upper Potomac River pollution**



Source: Chesapeake Bay Program 2011 Progress Run Modeled Loads



**Sound familiar?** “More than 2 inches of rain fell on the Frederick area Friday afternoon, flooding basements and streets in downtown Frederick, authorities said... The sudden rainfall overloaded the city's drainage system and flooded streets, said Chip Stitley, superintendent of stormwater and sanitary sewer for the city's Department of Public Works.”  
Frederick News Post July 9, 2011

**FREDERICK CITIZENS, GOVERNMENT WORKING TO REDUCE RUNOFF, BUT FUNDING WOEFULLY SHORT TO MEET FEDERAL PERMIT**



**Stormwater Revenues as a percent of Projected Stormwater management Costs Fiscal 2014-2018**

Jurisdiction	Total Revenues to Expenditures (percent)	Fee Revenue to Expenditures (percent)
Anne Arundel	100	27.4
Baltimore City	102	56.5
Baltimore	102	72.8
Carroll	67.7	0
Charles	89.9	15.5
Frederick	20	0
Harford	47.8	47.8
Howard	46.5	25.9
Montgomery	82.1	44.2
Prince George's	88.2	12.9

Frederick County has met the requirements of its current federal National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit, according to the county's 2012 annual report (although the permit period was extended from five to 10 years). The permit requires the county to reduce polluted runoff. Frederick government and citizens should be commended for planting trees, sweeping streets, using rain barrels and other practices. But Frederick is about to receive a new permit that will DOUBLE expectations. The chart on the left from the Maryland Legislative Services Department shows Frederick anticipates having only 20 percent of necessary funds to meet the goals of the new permit – far less than any other jurisdiction subject to similar permits. Unlike nearly all other jurisdictions, Frederick has no reasonable stormwater fee. Other counties are using a mix of fees and general funds.

**Frederick needs a reasonable stormwater fee.**



**CHESAPEAKE BAY FOUNDATION**  
Saving a National Treasure

Founded in 1967, the Chesapeake Bay Foundation is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) conservation organization dedicated to saving a national treasure—the Chesapeake Bay and its rivers and streams. Its motto, Save the Bay, defines the organization's mission and commitment. With headquarters in Annapolis, MD, offices in Maryland, Virginia, Pennsylvania, and the District of Columbia, and 17 field centers, CBF works throughout the Chesapeake Bay's 64,000-square-mile watershed to build an informed citizenry, advocate pollution-reduction strategy, and enforce the law. CBF is supported by more than 200,000 active members and has a staff of 170 full-time employees. Approximately 80 percent of CBF's \$23.6 million annual budget is privately raised.

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