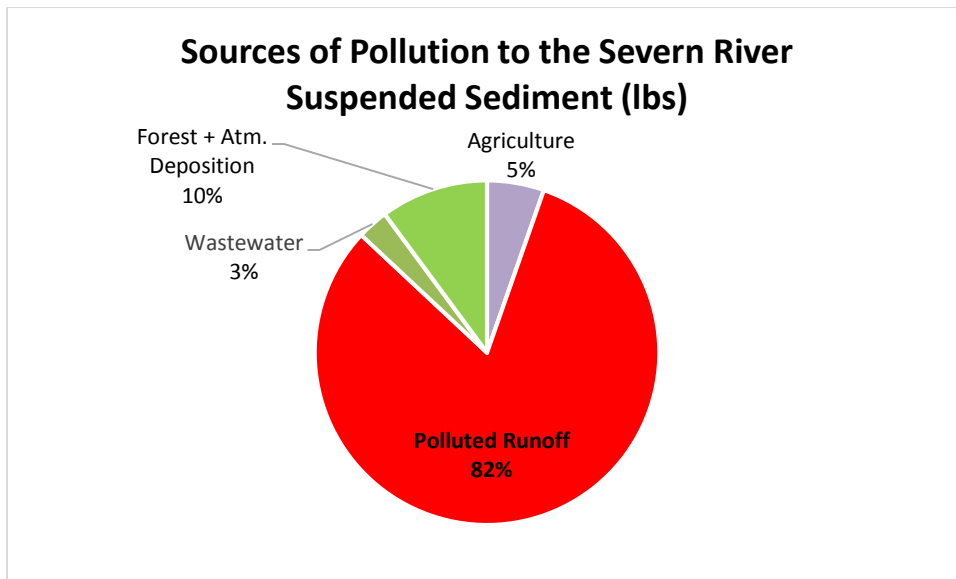




November 2013

**ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY HAS A PROBLEM: POLLUTED RUNOFF FOULS OUR WATER, CLOSES OUR BEACHES, THREATENS OUR HEALTH**

Polluted runoff is a major source of pollution to all county rivers and creeks. (For example, in the Magothy River it is responsible for 44 percent of nitrogen pollution; 66 percent of phosphorus pollution, and 90 percent of sediment pollution.) Runoff is the reason we have closed beaches and swimming advisories each summer. It's the reason the county health department warns all residents to avoid contact with county rivers and streams for a full 48 hours after a significant storm because runoff carries dangerous levels of bacteria into swimming areas. Unhealthy bacteria levels were recorded at least 25 times on the Severn River alone this past summer, some readings as high as 15 times higher than safety limits. We've nearly finished upgrading sewage plants. Now it's time to fix our stormwater systems.



Source: CB Watershed 5.3 2011 progress run edge of stream load estimates.



Caption. Tom Zolper/CBF Staff

**THE COUNTY’S EFFORTS HAVE BEEN INSUFFICIENT; RELIABLE FUNDING IS NEEDED**

Watersheds	Impervious acres	Impervious acres managed by BMP	% Impervious acres restored by county	Remaining impervious acres not restored
Patapsco tidal	8,626	1,320	9.3	4,958
Patapsco non-tidal	4,166	713	1.9	2,014
Little Patuxent	4,408	incomplete	1.4	2,419
Severn River	8,183	1,877	9.0	2,834
Magothy River	4,425	930	4.6	2,622
South River	4,430	1,384	16.2	1,505
Bodkin Creek	614	111	0.0	354
Upper Patuxent	1,225	174	2.6	727
Herring Bay	824	incomplete	0.0	651
West River	492	incomplete	1.0	383
Rhode River	473	incomplete	0.6	341
Middle Patuxent	1,172	incomplete	0.0	779
<b>Total</b>	<b>39,255</b>		<b>6.2</b>	<b>19,586</b>

Source: Anne Arundel County NPDES MS4 Annual Report 2012—Table 12.

This table shows the county has fallen well short in reducing polluted runoff with current funding. It has built some excellent best management practices (BMPs) to reduce pollution from streets, parking lots and other hard (impervious) surfaces, but it has failed its federal National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) stormwater management permit. The permit required AAC to restore 10 percent of its impervious acres over a five-year permit cycle. The county accomplished 6.2 percent over *eight years*. And that’s BEFORE the federal government required permit holders to DOUBLE the rate of improvement in the next five-year permit cycle. While AAC has an excellent restoration program, **funding is clearly insufficient to reduce polluted runoff, and to make the county’s rivers and creeks clean as required by the permit.**



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.