PENNSYLVANIA FARMERS: 
Striving for a Legacy of Healthy Soils and Clean Water

Farming is the backbone of much of Pennsylvania’s economy and culture.

- 52,700 farms statewide, 97% are family owned
- 7.3 million acres farmed
- 43% of farms have cattle; 13% have dairy
- $132.5 billion a year in total economic impact

Farm conservation practices, like streambank fencing and streamside forests, are some of the most cost-effective solutions to Pennsylvania’s clean-water challenges.
It’s a core part of our culture, heritage, identity, and legacy. It’s also a critical part of our economy.

A 2022 study found that the states’ 1.2 million anglers, 780,000 hunters, and hundreds of thousands of outdoor enthusiasts generate:

- $58 billion in economic output (up 25% from 2016)
- Support for 430,000 jobs (up 16% from 2016)
- $6.5 billion in federal, state, and local tax revenue (up 62% from 2016)
Pennsylvania has over 86,000 miles of rivers and streams. These waters and the lands that feed into them, impact the health, well-being, and quality of life of all Pennsylvanians. 27,866 miles (32%) are considered impaired in the 2022 state report.

**Top 3 Identified Sources**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SOURCE</th>
<th>TOTAL MILES (AGGREGATE)</th>
<th>COMMON POLLUTANTS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Agricultural Activities</td>
<td>7,921</td>
<td>Nitrogen, phosphorus, sediments, pathogens</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acid Mine Drainage</td>
<td>5,536</td>
<td>Toxic metals, acid</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Urban and Suburban Runoff</td>
<td>5,476</td>
<td>Nitrogen, phosphorus, sediments, pathogens, oils and greases, volume</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Healthier streams mean more brook trout and eastern hellbenders, cleaner drinking water, and more vibrant communities.