

New York Chesapeake Bay Restore Clean Water Action Items
Final 2020-2021 Programmatic and Numeric Milestones

Target Date	Milestone (WIP page reference) ¹	Deliverable	Lead Agency	Comments/Status Updates
<i>Agriculture Sector</i>				
12/31/2021	NYS funding for agricultural technical assistance through the Agricultural Environmental Management (AEM) Program (P.59)	<p>Implement two years of the AEM Base Program, supporting technical assistance by Soil & Water Conservation Districts through the AEM Tiers:</p> <p>Tier 1: Resource Inventory Tier 2: Environmental Assessment Tier 3: Conservation Planning Tier 4: BMP System Implementation Tier 5: Evaluation of Implemented Practices or Plan Update</p> <p>This program is funded through New York’s Environmental Protection Fund (EPF). During the last milestone period, the total amount of technical assistance provided by Soil and Water Conservation Districts was estimated to be \$2.26 million for the counties in the watershed.</p>	NYS Department of Agriculture and Markets (NYSDAM)/NYS Soil and Water Conservation Committee (NYSSWCC)	
12/31/2021	NYS funding for agricultural practice implementation through the Agricultural Nonpoint Source Abatement and Control Program (AgNPS) (P.60)	<p>Implement two rounds of the NYS Agricultural Nonpoint Source Abatement and Control Program (AgNPS). This program is funded through New York’s Environmental Protection Fund (EPF). \$18 million of statewide funding is proposed in the SFY 2020-2021 budget. During the last milestone period, a total of \$6.3 million was spent implementing 179 BMPs on 25 farms in the watershed, of which \$1.57 million was cost shared by the farmer. Installation of BMPs</p>	NYSDAM/NYSSWCC	

¹ As part of the adaptive management process for achieving water quality goals, jurisdictions may submit programmatic milestones that modify, are in place of, or are in addition to milestones listed in their Phase I WIPs so long as the jurisdiction can demonstrate that they will be as effective toward meeting water quality goals.

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		implemented in the watershed through this program will be reported on an annual basis.		
12/31/2021	NYS funding for agricultural practice implementation through the Climate Resilient Farming Program (P.61)	Implement two rounds of the program. Program funds are available for projects that mitigate the impact of agriculture on climate change and enhance the on-farm adaptation and resiliency to projected climate conditions. This program is funded through New York's Environmental Protection Fund (EPF). \$4.5 million of statewide funding is proposed in the SFY 2020-2021 budget.	NYS/DAM/NYSSWCC	
12/31/2021	NYS funding for Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plans (CNMPs) for small farms through the Dairy Acceleration Program (DAP) (P.64)	Implement two rounds of DAP to cost-share farm business planning and CNMP development/updates for dairy farms with fewer than 300 cows. This program is funded through the state Environmental Protection Fund (EPF). \$700,000 of statewide funding is proposed in the SFY 2020-2021 budget. BMPs implemented in the watershed through this program will be reported on an annual basis.	Cornell University, NYS Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC), NYSDAM/NYSSWCC	
12/31/2021	Cover Crop Implementation Program (P.64)	Execute a contract amendment to increase funding for the USC's existing cover crop implementation program. A contract will be executed in 2020 and 2,000 acres of cover crops will be implemented per year in Fall 2020 and Fall 2021. Funding will be increased from \$200,000 per year to \$350,000 per year.	Upper Susquehanna Coalition (USC)	

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12/31/2021	BMP data collection and reporting (P.55)	Collect agriculture BMP data following the Agricultural Environmental Management approach and using USC's online data management system to collect farm BMP data and convert to NEIEN-compliant format for the 2020 and 2021 Progress Runs. BMP data collection is supported by Chesapeake Bay Implementation Grant Funding (CBIG).	USC	
12/31/2021	Increase capacity of Reporting/Verification program, Enhanced BMP reporting (P.72-73) through the development of mobile application for annual practice reporting and verification	Using 2020 WIP assistance funds, the USC will oversee the development of a mobile "app" that will be used on a farm-by-farm basis either by the landowner or with assistance from their Soil and Water Conservation District to assist with reporting annual agricultural practices including Cover Crops, Tillage Practices, Precision Feed Management, Manure Incorporation, and Nutrient Management.	USC, NYSDEC	
12/31/2021	Increase capacity for agricultural BMP verification (P.72-73)	Execute contract amendment with the USC to increase funding for agriculture BMP data collection and reporting in 2020. Implement and refine verification procedures for agricultural BMPs in the Chesapeake Bay watershed. Any updates to verification procedures will be reflected in New York's Nonpoint Source QAPP on an annual basis as needed. Continue to evaluate program to be sure that all BMP's are verified through "Whole Farm Verification" prior to the end of their lifespan. BMP verification is supported by Chesapeake Bay Implementation Grant Funding (CBIG).	USC, NYSDEC	

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12/31/2021	CAFO BMP data collection program	Continue BMP data collection program for CAFO farms by combining NYSDEC compliance inspections with SWCD data collection and verification visits. Data collected will include both cost-shared and non-cost-shared BMPs to the extent possible to generate a complete record of implementation on CAFO farms. The CAFO BMP data collection program is supported by Chesapeake Bay Implementation Grant Funding (CBIG).	NYSDEC, USC	
12/31/2021	Agricultural Environmental Management (AEM) Outreach and Education (P.71)	Deliver outreach programs for farmers and agricultural professionals in the watershed about agricultural environmental management, including Cornell Cooperative Extension, Soil & Water Conservation District, NYSDAM, and NRCS workshops as well as two years of multi-day trainings, including: Conservation Skills Workshop, Certified Crop Advisor (CCA) Training, and Water Quality Symposium.	USC, NYSDAM, Cornell University, NRCS	
12/31/2020	Compliance and enforcement of CAFO permits (P.27)	Continue to implement enhanced oversight of facilities in the Susquehanna and Chemung River Basins regulated by NYSDEC SPDES permits.	NYSDEC	
12/31/2021	Pursue additional funding sources for agricultural implementation (P.79)	USC coordinator(s) and team leader(s) along with SWCD will review and submit grant applications to appropriate funding sources to further the USC mission in our focus areas, implementation efforts for the CB program and staff support. Funding opportunities may include but not limited to NFWF, RCPP, and state funding sources.	USC, NYSDEC	

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12/31/2021	Increased incentives for producers, expand assistance for maintenance of riparian buffers (P. 70-71) through the “Comprehensive Riparian Buffer Establishment in the Susquehanna River Basin” program.	NYSDEC has allocated \$500,000 of CBIG funding as a continuation of the CREP state incentive program that began as part of the USDA-FSA Chesapeake Bay Riparian Forest Buffer Initiative. Funding will continue the CREP state incentive for riparian forest buffers. Additional funding has also been allocated for CREP re-enrollment activities, assessment and planning of new riparian buffer sites, evaluation and maintenance of existing buffer sites, and piloting a new non-CREP incentive program for focused on implementation of riparian buffers on cropland acres. BMPs implemented in the watershed through this program will be reported on an annual basis.	NYSDEC, NYSDAM, USC	
5/31/2020	Susquehanna Watershed Riparian Buffer Enhancement Project (This project is supported by the USFS/NRCS Joint Chiefs’ Landscape Restoration Partnership)	Provide education to promote riparian forest buffer implementation to landowners, develop and provide buffer workshops and trainings, coordinate buffer workgroups, and track implementation in the watershed. BMPs implemented in the watershed through this program will be reported on an annual basis throughout the grant period.	USC	
09/30/2020	Integrated Watershed Approach for Improved Headwaters Water Quality (This project is supported by a NFWF INSR grant)	This project will address nutrient and sediment loading from stream corridor and riparian areas by utilizing stream, wetland, and buffer restoration techniques on public and private rural lands in the watershed, as well as working with producers to exclude livestock and promote grazing practices that take into consideration riparian areas and their importance. Major outputs include restoration	USC	

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		of 10 acres of wetland, rehabilitate 5,000 feet of stream, plant 100 acres of riparian buffers, implement grazing practices including cattle exclusion to protect and stabilize the riparian corridor and adjacent upland areas.		
12/31/2021	Soil health implementation and outreach	This is an ongoing effort to promote the widespread use of soil health practices and demonstrate effective outreach programs for delivering technical assistance to small dairies implementing whole farm strategies to reduce nutrient and sediment loss. BMPs implemented in the watershed as a result this program will be reported on an annual basis.	USC	
12/31/2020	Upper Susquehanna Agricultural BMP Implementation (This program is supported by 2016 RCPP funding from USDA-NRCS)	Hold sign-up for additional EQIP practices using funding from the Regional Conservation Partnership Program. In 2020, plan to hold a Round 3 of signups for water quality improvement practices. SWCD staff are currently working on design and implementation of previously contracted projects.	USC, NRCS	
12/31/2020	Sustainable Streamside Buffer Establishment in the Upper Susquehanna (NY) (This project is supported by a NFWF CB Stewardship Grant)	This project will support the Upper Susquehanna Coalition Buffer Program to plant additional riparian buffer acreage and facilitate management on riparian buffer practice acres. This project will educate and manage riparian buffer stewards to evaluate and assess buffers throughout the watershed to determine plant survival and management needs and facilitate management activities. Deliverables include; 14 acres of buffer implementation, and evaluate	USC	

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		600 acres of existing riparian buffer, steward 300 acres.		
9/30/2021	Expanding Engagement in the Upper Susquehanna Coalition Buffer Program (This program is supported by a NFWF CB Small Watershed Grant)	Expand and engage new partners and populations in the Upper Susquehanna Buffer Program. This project will build outreach opportunities and engage populations that have yet to be engaged in pilot projects incorporating riparian restoration, livestock exclusion, agricultural land retirement, green infrastructure, and natural stream corridor restoration. Deliverables include 10 acres of grass buffer and 25 acres of forest buffer, engage with 150 landowners and recruit 20 volunteers, as well as implement 2 pilot natural infrastructure projects in the Upper Tioughnioga Watershed.	USC	
<i>Developed Sector</i>				
12/31/2021	NYS funding for non-agricultural nonpoint implementation through the Water Quality Improvement Project (WQIP) Program (P.120)	Implement two rounds of the NYS Water Quality Improvement Project (WQIP) Program This program is funded through New York's Environmental Protection Fund (EPF). \$6 million of statewide funding is proposed in the SFY 2020-2021 budget. In the last milestone period, seven nonpoint source implementation projects were awarded, totaling \$1.29 Million and are expected to be implemented by 2021.	NYSDEC	
12/31/2021	NYS funding for non-agricultural nonpoint project planning and design through the Nonpoint Source Planning Grant (NPG)	Implement two rounds of the Nonpoint Source Planning Grant (NPG) program. This program is funded through New York's Environmental Protection Fund (EPF). \$1 million of statewide funding is proposed in the SFY 2020-2021	NYSDEC	

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		budget. In the last milestone period, a road culvert assessment study was awarded for \$30,000 and is expected to be completed by 2021.		
12/31/2021	NYS funding for green infrastructure projects to reduce stormwater impacts through the Green Infrastructure Grant Program (GIGP) (P.119)	Implement two rounds of the Green Infrastructure Grant Program (GIGP). This program is funded through New York’s Environmental Protection Fund (EPF). \$15 million was awarded in 2019 and a similar level of funding is expected in 2020 and 2021. In the last reporting period, three GIGP projects were awarded \$1.76 million and are expected to be completed by 2021.	NYS/DAM/NYS SWCC	
12/31/2020	Expand BMP reporting through new developed BMP database (P. 124)	DEC is in the process of developing a new database for developed sector BMPs. The completed urban BMP database will be used to track and verify construction stormwater BMPs (including erosion and sediment control acres and post-construction BMPs), BMPs implemented by MS4 and non-MS4 communities, including good housekeeping practices such as catch basin clean outs and street sweeping. Lastly, the database will also be used to track forestry BMPs, including private and public lands timber harvesting erosion and sediment control and urban forestry BMPs. The goal will be to have a fully-functional database by deadline for submittal of 2020 BMP data.	NYSDEC	
12/31/2019	Expand BMP reporting and verification (P.124) through	NYSDEC will work with two regional planning boards to collect developed BMP data in both MS4 regulated communities and non-regulated	NYSDEC	

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	partnership with Regional Planning Boards	communities. BMP data collection outside of non-regulated communities will include new urban forestry BMPs. All urban stormwater will be converted to NEIEN-compliant format for the 2020 and 2021 Progress Runs and reported to the Bay Program by the December 1 st deadline.		
12/31/2021	Expand BMP reporting and verification (P.124) through development of statistically survey procedures	Using 2020 WIP assistance funding, NYSDEC will work with Tetrattech to develop statistically survey procedures to be used in New York's developed BMP verification protocols. Tetra Tech will focus on employing statistics to validate the existence and performance of BMPs where large implementation numbers make verification of every BMP unrealistic. After statistical procedures have been developed, Tetra Tech will complete an assessment of how the draft procedures align with existing NY protocols, and provide recommendations for implementation.	NYSDEC	
12/31/2021	Compliance and enforcement of MS4 communities, industrial stormwater and construction sites (P.100) through New York Phase II Stormwater Program	Continue to implement enhanced oversight of facilities in the Susquehanna and Chemung River Basins regulated by NYSDEC SPDES permits.	NYSDEC	
12/31/2020	MS4 general permit update (P.101)	DEC will work with EPA through the established coordination process before the draft MS4 permit is released for public comment to ensure consistency with New York's Watershed Implementation Plan.	NYSDEC	

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12/31/2021	Expanding Wetland Work in the Upper Susquehanna River Watershed (This project is supported by a NYSDEC WQIP Grant)	Through this project, the USC Wetland Team and partners will strive to increase private landowner participation in wetland restoration through education and outreach along with the physical restoration of wetlands throughout the Upper Susquehanna River Watershed. Deliverables include restoring 36 acres of wetland and enrolling 20 acres of wetlands in partner programs.	USC	
Wastewater				
12/31/2021	Modify Significant facility permits (P.84-85, 91)	NYSDEC will initiate permit modifications for 32 Significant facilities to include 2025 wasteload allocations and concentration limits. Permits that are up for renewal have been or are in the process of being modified with 2025 wasteload allocations. The remaining permits will be modified together as a mass modification during the milestone period. The number of permits modified will be reported on an annual basis.	NYSDEC	
12/31/2020	Reconstruction of Binghamton-Johnston City wastewater treatment plant (P.92)	Oversee compliance with consent order that outlines the schedule of construction and dates for achieving effluent limits. The treatment plant is expected to meet final effluent limits in 2020.	NYSDEC	
12/31/2021	Continue to use EPA's Integrated Compliance Information System (ICIS) (P.81)	Continue to use the ICIS data management system to submit individual SPDES permit data as appropriate.	NYSDEC	

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12/31/2021	Compliance and enforcement of wastewater permits (P.81-82)	Continue to implement enhanced oversight of facilities in the Susquehanna and Chemung River Basins regulated by NYSDEC SPDES permits.	NYSDEC	
12/31/2021	NYS funding for wastewater treatment improvement through the Water Quality Improvement Project (WQIP) Program (P.120)	Implement two rounds of the NYS Water Quality Improvement Project (WQIP) Program This program is funded through New York's Environmental Protection Fund (EPF). \$6 million of statewide funding is proposed in the SFY 2020-2021 budget. In the last milestone period, \$4.63 million was awarded for three nutrient reduction projects at facilities in the watershed that are expected to begin construction by 2021.	NYSDEC	
12/31/2021	NYS funding for wastewater treatment improvement project planning and design through the DEC/EFC Wastewater Infrastructure Engineering Planning Grant (EPG)	Implement two rounds of the DEC/EFC Wastewater Infrastructure Engineering Planning Grant (EPG). In the last milestone period, \$480,000 was awarded to eleven facilities in the watershed for wastewater planning and designs that are expected to be completed by 2021.	NYSDEC/EFC	
<i>Growth, Offsets and Trading</i>				
12/31/2021	Track trading amount individual SPDES	Track nutrient trades among Significant wastewater facilities and modify permits accordingly.	NYSDEC	
12/31/2021	Identify and report offsets	Identify facilities that secured offsets by assimilation of existing septic systems or consolidation with other facilities.	NYSDEC	

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Numeric Milestones

Best Management Practices	Unit	2020 Milestone	2021 Milestone	Milestone Program/Funding Sources
Nutrient Management Core N & P	Acres	88,000	96,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agricultural Nonpoint Source Abatement and Control Program (AgNPS) • Climate Resilient Farming (CRF) • Cornell Dairy Acceleration Program (DAP) • CAFO Compliance • Enhanced BMP reporting (2020 WIP Assistance)
Nutrient Management Rate, Timing, Placement N & P	Acres	82,000	92,000	
Cover Crops	Acres	14,000	15,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agricultural Nonpoint Source Abatement and Control Program (AgNPS) • Climate Resilient Farming (CRF) • USC Cover Crop Implementation Program • Enhanced BMP reporting (2020 WIP Assistance)
Forest Buffers on Fenced Pasture Corridor	Acres	2,500	2,900	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agricultural Nonpoint Source Abatement and Control Program (AgNPS) • Climate Resilient Farming (CRF) • Comprehensive Riparian Buffer Establishment in the Susquehanna River Basin Program • Susquehanna Watershed Riparian Buffer Enhancement Project • Expanding Engagement in the Upper Susquehanna Coalition Buffer Program
Grass Buffers on Fenced Pasture Corridor	Acres	1,300	1,500	
Forest Buffers	Acres	1,350	1,650	
Grass Buffers	Acres	470	540	
Soil and Water Conservation Plan	Acres	210,000	250,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agricultural Nonpoint Source Abatement and Control Program (AgNPS) • Climate Resilient Farming (CRF) • Enhanced BMP reporting (2020 WIP Assistance)
Livestock Waste Management Systems	Animal Units	79,700	83,800	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agricultural Nonpoint Source Abatement and Control Program (AgNPS) • Climate Resilient Farming (CRF) • CAFO Compliance
Dairy Precision Feeding	Animal Units	12,600	13,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agricultural Nonpoint Source Abatement and Control Program (AgNPS) • Cornell Dairy Acceleration Program (DAP) • Enhanced BMP reporting (2020 WIP Assistance)
Reconstruction of Binghamton-Johnston City wastewater treatment plant	Nitrogen reduction at edge of tide (lbs/yr)	382,772		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wastewater Compliance

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