



# Chesapeake Bay Nutrient and Sediment Reduction Program

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## PARTNERS

- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
- Chesapeake Bay Program
- Altria Group
- USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- U.S. Forest Service

## ABOUT NFWF

Chartered by Congress in 1984, the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) protects and restores the nation's fish, wildlife, plants and habitats. Working with federal, corporate and individual partners, NFWF has funded more than 5,000 organizations and generated a total conservation impact of \$6.1 billion.

Learn more at [www.nfwf.org](http://www.nfwf.org)

## NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

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Farmland in Lancaster County Pennsylvania

## OVERVIEW

The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF), the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and the Chesapeake Bay Program partnership recently announced 2021 funding for Chesapeake Bay Innovative Nutrient and Sediment Reduction Grants projects. Eleven water quality improvement grants totaling \$9.6 million were awarded, generating more than \$28 million in match from the grantees, providing a total conservation impact of nearly \$38 million.

The Innovative Nutrient and Sediment Reduction Grants program is a core component of NFWF's Chesapeake Bay Stewardship Fund, dedicated to protecting and restoring the bay by helping local communities clean up and restore their polluted rivers and streams. The fund also advances cost-effective and creative solutions with financial and technical assistance to local communities, farmers, and private landowners. NFWF manages the Stewardship Fund in partnership with government agencies and private corporations and in close coordination with the federal-state Chesapeake Bay Program partnership. Major funding is provided by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency through the Chesapeake Bay Program Office.

*(continued)*



Oyster beds on Chesapeake Bay

Since 1999, the Stewardship Fund has worked with the public and private sectors to deliver on-the-ground conservation successes benefiting the communities, farms, habitats, and wildlife of the Chesapeake Bay region. In addition to competitive programs like the Innovative Nutrient and Sediment Reduction grants program, NFWF also makes targeted investments that support networking and information-sharing among restoration partners on emerging technologies, successful restoration approaches, and new partnership opportunities. These programs directly engage agricultural producers, homeowners, churches, businesses and others in on-the-ground restoration actions that improve the quality of life in communities throughout the watershed, while ultimately improving the health of the Chesapeake Bay.

**Stewarding Riparian Buffers and Conservation Workforce through a Resilient Collaborative Model (VA)**

Grantee: James River Association  
 Grant Amount: ..... \$1,000,000  
 Matching Funds: ..... \$1,000,000  
 Total Project Amount: ..... \$2,000,000  
 Project Summary: Restore riparian habitats through forested buffers and explore streambank erosion solutions in the Middle and Upper James River watershed. Project will develop innovative solutions towards the following goals: 1) build a resilient collaborative model to sustain consortium, 2) accelerate riparian buffer implementation in the James River Watershed, and 3) increase local competency in streambank erosion and stabilization.

**Lancaster Clean Water Partners Collaborating and Scaling Up Stormwater Management (PA)**

Grantee: Conservation Foundation of Lancaster County  
 Grant Amount: ..... \$969,326  
 Matching Funds: ..... \$982,640  
 Total Project Amount: ..... \$1,951,966  
 Project Summary: Coordinate stormwater management projects in priority catchments where Lancaster County’s agriculture and stormwater land uses intersect in unique ways. Project will accelerate efforts to implement the Countywide Action Plan, advancing conservation education, sustaining outreach, delisting up to half-mile segments of stream in priority catchments, and extend the impact of the Lancaster Clean Water Partners’ collaborative

**Accelerating Conservation Action through Clean Water Partnerships (VA)**

Grantee: Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay, Inc.  
 Grant Amount: ..... \$1,000,000  
 Matching Funds: ..... \$1,175,000  
 Total Project Amount: ..... \$2,175,000  
 Assist farmers with developing conservation plans that prioritize installing agricultural best management practices on dairy farms such as: livestock exclusion from streams, riparian forest buffers, rooftop runoff controls, manure management, and nutrient management plans. Project will leverage existing partnerships to engage the corporate community in incentivizing their dairy producers to implement these practices and promote sustainably sourced dairy products.



Farm in Pennsylvania

**Accelerating Green Infrastructure Implementation in Wyoming Valley (PA)**

Grantee: Wyoming Valley Sanitary Authority  
 Grant Amount: ..... \$848,440  
 Matching Funds: ..... \$1,250,000  
 Total Project Amount: ..... \$2,098,440

Implement green infrastructure demonstration projects, form a stormwater steering committee, recommend updates to municipal codes and policies to remove implementation barriers, provide education and training for design, and assess areas for further opportunities. Project will scale up green infrastructure implementation, build broader public and private sector acceptance, accelerate the rate of water quality improvements, and cultivate and enhance partnership and network growth.

**Creating Healthy Watersheds through Partnerships and Implementation in Flourishing Landscapes (PA)**

Grantee: Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources  
 Grant Amount: ..... \$1,000,000  
 Matching Funds: ..... \$1,000,000  
 Total Project Amount: ..... \$2,000,000

Accelerate implementation pace of watershed forestry best management practices like riparian forest buffer, urban forest planting, and conservation landscaping implementation through partner-funded outreach, large contract plantings, investments in professional development, and creation of experiential learning labs. Project will galvanize Pennsylvania's existing riparian forest buffer and lawn conversion partnerships to elevate their ability to outreach and implement.

**Creating a Regenerative Organic Dairy Industry (PA)**

Grantee: Pasa Sustainable Agriculture  
 Grant Amount: ..... \$997,506  
 Matching Funds: ..... \$17,390,000  
 Total Project Amount: ..... \$18,387,506

Integrate dairy farms to an education and peer-to-peer learning network, coordinate regenerative farm business plan processes for dairy farms to regenerate soil and set the farm on a sustainable and profitable pathway, certify dairy farms in the Regenerative Organic Certified standard. Project will work with project partners TeamAg and the Origin Milk Company to pioneer a model of 100% grass-fed dairy that grows soil health, improves water quality, and sustains family farms.

**Project Name: Accelerating the Scale and the Rate of Living Shoreline Implementation in Rural Coastal Virginia**

Grantee: Virginia Dept of Conservation & Recreation  
 Grant Amount: ..... \$1,000,000  
 Matching Funds: ..... \$2,000,000  
 Total Project Amount: ..... \$3,000,000

Develop a cache of shovel-ready projects with engineering designs, provide financial incentives to construct new living shorelines, and document installation of recently implemented shoreline management projects. Project will grow and enhance existing partnerships and measurably accelerate both the geographic scale and the rate of implementation of living shorelines across Rural Coastal Virginia, a priority best management practice in Virginia's Phase III Watershed Implementation Plan.



Marsh along the Chesapeake Bay in Maryland

**Berkeley County Green Infrastructure Implementation and Workforce Development Partnership (WV)**

Grantee: Canaan Valley Institute

Grant Amount: ..... \$751,476  
 Matching Funds: ..... \$841,721  
 Total Project Amount: ..... \$1,593,197

Combine implementation of stream restoration and green infrastructure projects with hands on training to create the region’s first green collar workforce. Project will combine design, installation and maintenance of best management practices for water quality improvements with training, improve local understanding and appreciation for sediment and nutrient removal methods, and create a workforce pipeline for local governments and nonprofits to pull from for future implementation.

**One Water Partnership: Innovative Network for Scaled Conservation (MD)**

Grantee: Interfaith Partners for the Chesapeake

Grant Amount: ..... \$882,750  
 Matching Funds: ..... \$1,310,720  
 Total Project Amount: ..... \$2,193,470

Extend engagement of private land-owner congregations to address fragmented non-source pollution issues through implementation and stormwater management, diversify communities and partners engaged, and adaptively manage practices and partnerships through a uniquely developed hub benchmarking system. Project will accelerate water quality outcomes across targeted geographies in the Chesapeake Bay through an integrated conservation value chain across private landowners, implementers and funders.

**Connecting Urban and Agricultural Sectors for Accelerated Water Quality Improvements (PA)**

Grantee: Blair County Conservation District

Grant Amount: ..... \$664,428  
 Matching Funds: ..... \$748,840  
 Total Project Amount: ..... \$1,413,268

Install stream restoration projects, riparian buffers, and green infrastructure through municipality partnerships and partner with farmers to stabilize farm lanes and in-field erosion/scouring sites, and host workshops to encourage the adoption of these practices. Project will accelerate water quality improvements by networking with existing and new partners to install sound water quality improvements in Blair County - the Beaverdam, Frankstown, and Little Juniata Watersheds.

**Clean Water Cumberland: Scaling Up Implementation in Cumberland County (PA)**

Grantee: Cumberland County Commissioners

Grant Amount: ..... \$500,000  
 Matching Funds: ..... \$582,136  
 Total Project Amount: ..... \$1,082,136

Provide infrastructure to bundle contracting of agricultural best management practices across several priority farms. Project will formalize and enhance capacity of Clean Water Cumberland, and create impactful improvements to water quality in Cumberland County and downstream.