

**KENT COUNTY, MD**  
**Program Enhancement Milestones for 2012 – 2013**

Below please find revised narrative detail outlining both the County and Municipal efforts to achieve the goals outlined in the 2011 Kent County Phase II Local Watershed Implement Plan: Two-year Milestones Document. What is reflected below are efforts captured in the County and the 5 incorporated towns covering the programmatic milestone period from 1 January 2012 to the current date.

**1) Stormwater retrofit program enhancements for 2012 & 2013:**

Betterton:

- The town continues to inventory properties within the town limits for possible retrofit/restoration.
- The town continues to support an urban canopy planting goal of approximately 19 trees to occur on public land.
- The town is going out to bid in June 2014 for redesign of Wheeler Avenue in order to improve stormwater management of the road and adjacent ravine.

Chestertown:

- Continues to implement its street sweeping initiative which covers approximately 87.44 acres per year (47.5lbs/acre/year for TN, 10.68lbs/acre/year for TP, and 10lbs/acre/year for TSS). The town has loaned the street sweeping vehicle to the town of Rock Hall for use during a special event.
- Wilmer Park projects have been implemented and include a 450 linear foot living shoreline and a .36 acre wetlands restoration.
- Plans are currently under review at the Nicholson site (corner of bypass and High Street) relative to the development of a trail head for the rails to trails with stream restoration, tree plantings.
- At three town parks, 5,000 square feet of rain gardens have been installed, treating a total area of approximately 3.5 acres.
- Rolling Road: 35 feet of open area adjacent to a walking path (.6 mile) which has been enhanced with tree plantings. Total reforestation area is 3 acres.
- The Rails to Trails path which is approximately 2.32 miles (with a 66-foot right of way) of trail has been treated for swm with bioswales and enhanced with tree plantings. Total area treated is 16.9 ac.
- The Town of Chestertown continues to work with MDE and the USACE to implement a restoration plan at the head of Radcliffe Cliff which is planned to treat a major intersection and shopping center located in the town. Total linear feet of restoration is 1238 and treated area is approximately 123 acres (37 acres of which is impervious surface). Baseline stream restoration credit is 0.02lb/linear foot/year of total nitrogen; 0.0035lb/linear foot/year for total phosphorus; and 2.55lbs/linear foot/year for total suspended solids.
- Town of Chestertown has identified in its Comprehensive Plan Kent Plaza and Dollar General/WIN Plaza as redevelopment sites to include: porous pavers, tree islands, and grass swales. These plans have not yet been implemented.
- Neither the County nor the town has moved forward with its goal to investigate leasing/renting out the town street sweeping vehicle to the other 4 municipalities.
- Remembrance Park is a linear park located adjacent to a tributary of the Chester River on which the following bmps have been completed: an approximate 750 feet stream restoration

incorporating tree and grass planting and approximately 1,199 square feet of porous pavers installed plus 6,503 sq. ft. of pervious walkways.

Galena:

- A retrofit to the WWTP will be implemented in 2014 (this project may be delayed into 2015). Design and engineering have been completed and the town and county continue to coordinate with MDE regarding its license to update the WWTP.

Millington:

- The town participated in a Chesapeake Bay Foundation grant program which resulted in the construction of 10 rain barrels at a workshop (in addition to the 17 already constructed) and the installation of 3 rain gardens in 2012. Sites are at the town hall, fire hall, elementary school, and Methodist church adjacent to existing public ditch (pda).
- Existing pda recently cleaned and erosion problems corrected. CRA collaborated with the Town to plant trees and shrubs adjacent to ditch.

Kent County:

- Four wetland restoration ponds at a cost of \$33,000.00 have been constructed by Ducks Unlimited in the Middle Chester River Watershed in 2012 (funded by the 2010 Local Implementation Grant program).
- The County, with Ducks Unlimited, has identified additional swm ponds in the county which qualify for retrofits and will be funded through the remaining funding in the MD Local Implementation Grant.
- The County has generated new standard and formal stormwater management plan forms which identify best management practices to be installed. The County continues to develop a tracking and reporting mechanism of best management practice installation in the county and in the towns. This is perhaps the biggest challenge for the County. We are working closely with several partners to generate a database, but, ultimately, will most likely need to apply for a grant and hire a consultant to assist the County with this task.
- The County continues to consider a stream restoration project on Mill Creek in Chesapeake Landing subdivision. Funding streams will be sought via Local Implementation Grant, Chesapeake Bay Trust Watershed Assistance Grant, or National Fish and Wildlife Foundation Wildlife and Habitat Conservation Charter Grant.
- Work with communities/villages interested in retrofits for stormwater management/stream restoration to seek funding from a Chesapeake Bay Trust Watershed Assistance Grant or National Fish and Wildlife Foundation grant to implement retrofit specific to drainage area.
- The County will inventory county-owned and community association land for opportunities for retrofits and restoration. The Chester River Association is working in partnership with the County to get this initiative off of the ground.

**2) Septic system program enhancements for 2012 & 2013:**

- Installation of BAT to systems in the Middle Chester River Watershed through the 2010 Trust Fund Program.
- Approximately 30 systems have been installed in the Critical Area per our 2013 goal.
- Outreach and education to properties inside and outside of the Critical Area continues through coordinated efforts between the local health department and watershed organizations.

**3) Programmatic steps needed to assure septic systems connected to an advanced WWTP for 2012 & 2013:**

- Housing Improvement Funding is being utilized to connect homesteads where property owners meet the income requirements in the Chesterville Forest area. It should be noted that all connections are subject to funding and consistency with Priority Funding Area requirements.

**4) Key programmatic actions to enable WWTP Upgrades for 2012 & 2013:**

- Betterton engineering studies have been finalized and plans for implementation developed.
- Galena WWTP design has been completed; licensing and construction are planned to occur in the near future.
- The County continues to coordinate with the Town of Galena with treatment plant and collection system design. The estimated completion date of the treatment plant is July 2016; the estimated completion date of the Collection System is August 2015.
- Kent County and the Town of Rock Hall have been actively supplementing the cost of power generated at their wastewater treatment facilities by installing solar energy systems on land adjacent to WWTPs and using any excess power generated by their systems to offset the energy being consumed through their other meters.
- **Organizational Enhancements /Internal and External Coordination:** Kent County Department of Water and Wastewater sewer cleaning equipment to municipalities on a regular basis.

**5) Other: The towns and the County are committed to continue implementation of the following ongoing initiatives:**

Betterton:

- Urban Canopy and street tree implementation funding to be sought through the CBT Community Greening Grant Program;
- Buffer Management and Enhancement Plans;
- Forest Stewardship Planting Plans;
- Critical Area afforestation; and
- noncritical area afforestation;

Chestertown:

- Urban Canopy and street tree implementation funding to be sought through the CBT Community Greening Grant Program;
- 130 tree plantings at Bailey Park in Chestertown
- Buffer Management and Enhancement Plans;
- Forest Stewardship Planting Plans;
- Critical Area afforestation; and
- noncritical area afforestation.

Galena:

- Urban Canopy and street tree implementation funding to be sought through the CBT Community Greening Grant Program.

Millington:

- Urban Canopy and street tree implementation funding to be sought through the CBT Community Greening Grant Program;
- Buffer Management and Enhancement Plans;
- Forest Stewardship Planting Plans;
- Critical Area afforestation; and
- noncritical area afforestation.

Rock Hall:

- Urban Canopy and street tree implementation funding to be sought through the CBT Community Greening Grant Program;
- Buffer Management and Enhancement Plans;
- Forest Stewardship Planting Plans;
- Critical Area afforestation; and
- noncritical area afforestation.

Kent County:

- Forest Stewardship Planting Plans (approximately 25 acres of new plantings can be expected on average every two years);
- Develop a tracking mechanism for: Buffer Management and Enhancement Plans; Critical Area afforestation; noncritical area afforestation; and other best management practice and provide that template to the municipalities.
- CRA is planning on planting about 150 trees and shrubs on marginal farmland that currently just has sod on it, not in cropland, in order to create buffers.
- **Legal Authority Enhancements:** The County and the Municipalities have adopted updates to their SWM and Sediment Control Ordinances which qualify as legal authority enhancements (new ordinances) as they are certainly enhancements with ESD to the MEP strictly outlined. In addition, recently updated County and Municipal Floodplain Ordinances also address engineering studies required relative to fill and dispersment of floodwaters.
- **Public Engagement:** The County and Municipalities continue to engage the TMDL Committee every other month and continue to partner with a wide variety of organizations such as the Chester River Association, the Sassafras River Association, and the Center for Watershed Protection as they apply for grants to both implement BMPs and to develop our local tracking system. The County would consider the TMDL Committees' engagement rate as HIGH, as the Committee serves as a conduit for not only dialogue but BMP implementation. County staff also continues to give presentations to a wide variety of groups regarding our WIP (recently having addressed our high school freshmen, for example).
- **BMP Implementation:** Implementation progress is occurring in both the county and municipalities through wetlands restoration projects, tree plantings at Worton Park and Kent County High School, stormwater BMPs, and septic upgrades.
- **Resource Enhancements/New Staff Assigned:** While local staff is shrinking, the County Commissioners have approved a staff person in the FY15 budget who would be assigned to develop a tracking system for the County and the Towns. This GIS Specialist will begin work on July 2014.
- **Resource Enhancements/Tracking/Reporting:** Development of a tracking and reporting mechanism is an important commitment that should be pursued and reflected in future milestones. This is a key shortcoming and priority to be addressed by our new GIS Specialist. We feel that

once we are able to input existing practices and then move forward to input current practices, we will be in a better position to both revise our MAST Scenarios and to make better implementation decisions (once we can truly see where the gaps are).

- **Planning and Studies/Public Engagement:** The original milestone for outreach and education to property owners has been met. County and municipal staff are truly tied in to public engagement and continue to partner to implement as many practices as possible. Staff coordinates very closely with Environmental Health and watershed organizations in order to promote septic upgrades and other BMPs. As a matter of fact, the County level of engagement is so high, that community members often start with the County when making inquiries and staff puts residents in touch with the best agency to meet their needs.
- **Comprehensiveness/ Septic Systems:** Programmatic milestones are modest but it is noted that upgrades and connections are being implemented. Staff coordinates very closely with Environmental Health and watershed organizations in order to promote septic upgrades. We have also been directly engaged in several grants (several original BRF grants, as well as a LIP/2010 Trust Fund grant) which focused directly on this initiative. As a result, again, the County is often the “go to” spot for residents with questions.