National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System

# MUNICIPAL SEPARATE STORM SEWER SYSTEM
# DISCHARGE PERMIT NUMBER: MD0068365
# STATE DISCHARGE NUMBER: 22-DP-3322

## CHARLES COUNTY, MD
## ANNUAL REPORT
## JULY 2024 - JUNE 2025

**Prepared for:**
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## Executive Summary

Charles County was issued a new National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) permit on December 30, 2022. This is Charles County's fourth generation MS4 permit, which covers the period from December 30, 2022 through December 29, 2027. Under Part V of the MS4 permit Charles County is required to submit annual progress reports.

This MS4 Annual Report covers a 12-month period from July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025, which is Fiscal Year (FY) 2025. Highlights from the permit year include:

### *Capital Programs*

- Construction of 2,449 linear feet of stream restoration, converting a dry pond to a pocket pond and installing two bioretention facilities, totaling 33.2 acres of impervious surface restoration credit.

### *Financial Programs*

- Increasing the Stormwater Remediation Fee from $156 (FY 2025) to $162 (FY 2026) per improved parcel, which raises the FY 2026 Watershed and Protection budget to $8.81 million.

### *Operational Programs*

- Street sweeping 1,649 lane miles and removing 82.31 tons of debris.
- Vacuuming 84.57 tons of debris from storm drains and repairing inlets at a cost of $549,518.
- Septic pump-out reimbursements for 815 applications and septic riser reimbursements for 117 applications as part of bringing public attention to the importance of routine septic maintenance.

### *Planning Programs*

- Awarding Watershed Restoration and Outreach grant awards to two organizations:
  - University of Maryland Environmental Finance Center for continuation of a project titled, "Increasing Capacity to Maintain Stormwater BMPs in Charles County;" and
  - Resilience Authority of Charles County for "Bensville County Park Restoration Demonstration, and Training for Resilience."
- Initiating the first year of countywide biomonitoring, the chloride monitoring station, and bacteria monitoring beginning in Spring 2025.
- Completing Good Housekeeping Plans for 35 applicable County owned facilities.
- Completing the Charles County Salt Management Plan.

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## I. Identification

*Permit Number:* 22-DP-3322 MD0068365

*Permit Area:* The permit covers all stormwater discharges from the municipal separate storm sewer system (MS4) owned or operated by Charles County, Maryland.

*Effective Dates:* December 30, 2022, through December 29, 2027.

FY 2025 Status

Charles County, Maryland has been operating its MS4 under a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) MS4 permit since 1997, when the first five-year permit was issued by the Maryland Department of Environment, Water Management Administration (MDE/WMA). On July 31, 2002, the County was issued a second, five-year permit. Each permit issuance or renewal is referred to as a generation, for example, first generation, second generation, and so on. The County's first and second generation permits covered stormwater discharges from the MS4 within the Development District, designated as the County's northern urban area which has public water and sewer service.

The third generation, five-year MS4 permit was issued on December 26, 2014. It expanded permit coverage to the entire county and added significant permit conditions. New conditions included expanding the Geographical Information System (GIS) data countywide, restoring 20 percent of the County's untreated impervious surface area countywide, and preparing watershed restoration plans to address total maximum daily loads (TMDLs) for both local waterways and the Chesapeake Bay. This permit was modified on November 8, 2019, to add Part IV.E.3 titled, "Nutrient Trading," which allows the County to acquire total nitrogen, total phosphorus, and total suspended solids credits in accordance with the requirements of the Maryland Water Quality Trading and Offset Program for purposes of meeting the 20 percent impervious surface area restoration requirement of the permit.

The County's fourth generation MS4 permit was issued on December 30, 2022, including new initiatives such as Good Housekeeping Plans for applicable County properties, developing a Salt Management Plan, and restoring 13 percent of the County's untreated impervious surface.

As part of this comprehensive water quality control permit, the County is required to provide annual progress reports on permit implementation to MDE/WMA. The annual reports are based on State and County fiscal year, which runs July 1 to June 30, and are due on the anniversary date of the permit.

This annual progress report is organized in the same order of the MS4 permit and includes each permit condition followed by a description of the work completed by the County to fulfill the requirements of the permit.

## II. Definitions

*Terms used in this permit are defined in relevant chapter of the Code of federal Regulations (CFR) or the Code of Maryland Regulations (COMAR). Terms not defined in CFR or COMAR shall have the meanings attributed by common use unless the context in which they are used clearly requires a different meaning.*

## III. Water Quality

The permittee must manage, implement, and enforce a stormwater management program in accordance with the Clean Water Act (CWA) and corresponding National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) regulations, 40 CFR Parts 122-124.

Compliance with conditions in Parts IV through VII of the permit shall constitute compliance with Subsection 402(p)(3)(B)(iii) of the CWA and adequate progress toward compliance with Maryland's receiving water quality standards and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) established or approved stormwater waste load allocations (WLAs) for this permit term.

## IV.A. Permit Administration

Overview of Permit Conditions

1. *Charles County shall designate an individual to act as liaison with MDE for implementation of this permit. The County shall provide the coordinator's name, title, address, phone number, and email address. Additionally, the County shall submit in its annual reports to MDE, including an organizational chart detailing personnel and groups responsible for major NPDES program tasks in this permit. MDE shall be notified of any changes in personnel or organization relative to NPDES program tasks.*

FY 2025 Status

Listed below are the County's liaisons to MDE for permit implementation. The contact information for the FY 2025 liaisons is listed below.

Liaisons' address:

Charles County Planning Division
200 Baltimore Street,
La Plata, MD 20646

Liaisons' Phone and E-mail Contact Information:

Charles Rice, Planning Director
301-645-0651 (P), RiceC@CharlesCountyMD.gov

Lynn Knaggs, Environmental Programs Supervisor
301-638-0810 (P), KnaggsL@CharlesCountyMD.gov

Karen Wiggen, Planner III
301-645-0683 (P), WiggenK@CharlesCountyMD.gov

Organizational Chart:

The MS4 program tasks in this permit are divided between three departments in Charles County: Planning and Growth Management (PGM), Department of Public Works (DPW) and Recreation, Parks, and Tourism (RPT). These departments coordinate with other departments, such as the County's Attorney's Office and the Department of Fiscal and Administrative Services, as necessary to implement the permit.

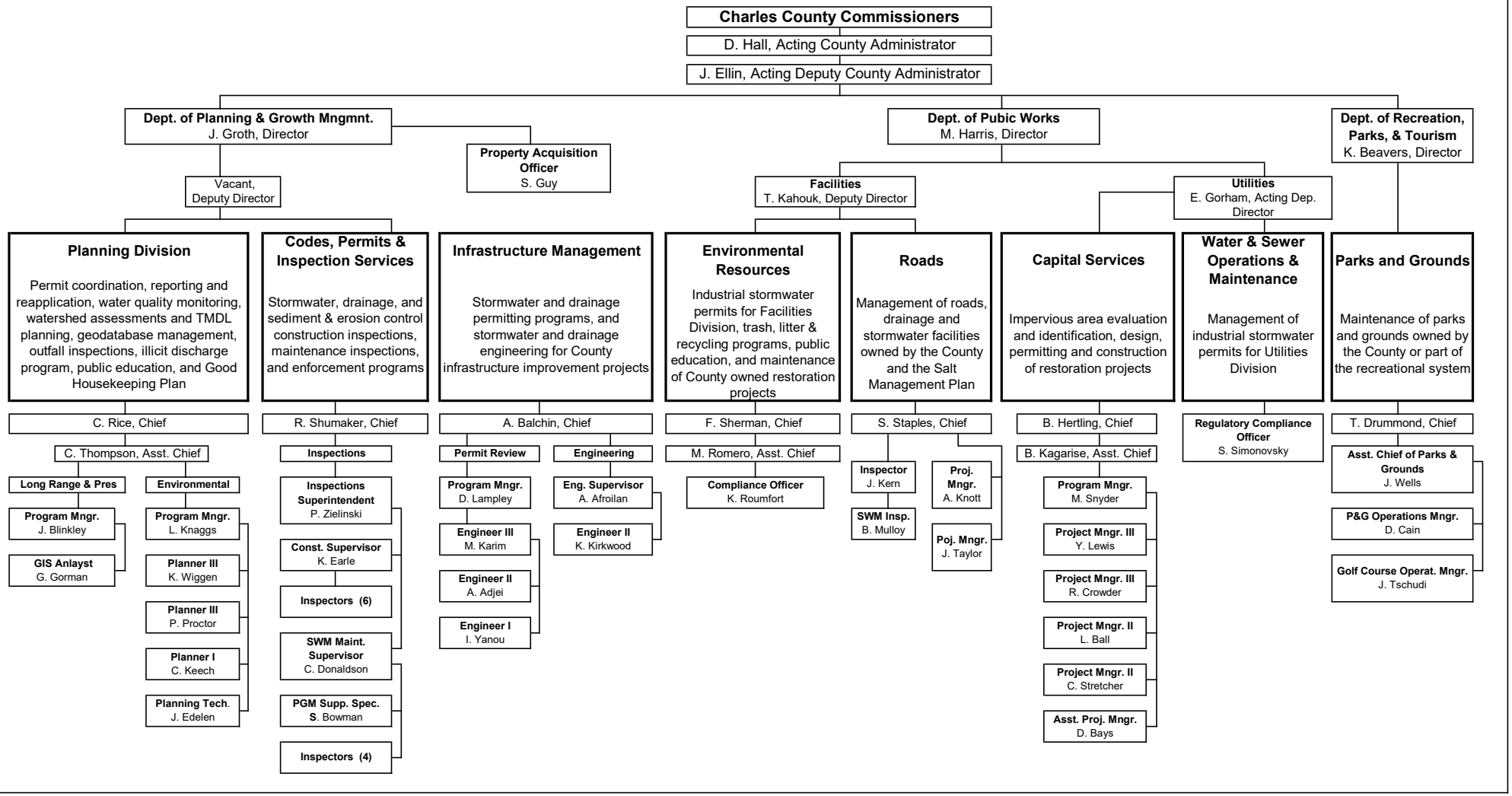
PGM's responsibilities primarily include implementation of the stormwater and erosion and sediment control permitting and inspection programs, stormwater infrastructure management in the MDE geodatabase, water quality monitoring, watershed assessments, watershed restoration planning, the illicit discharge elimination and detection program, the septic pump-out program, public outreach, and managing the countywide Good Housekeeping Plan. DPW's responsibilities primarily include design and construction of capital restoration projects, maintenance of County owned roads, public stormwater management facilities and the public drainage system, implementation of the Salt Management Plan and stormwater pollution prevention plans for County owned facilities, the litter and floatables program, and public outreach. RPT's responsibilities include implementation of stormwater pollution prevention plans for County owned parks and grounds.

In FY 2021 the *Code of Charles County, Maryland* was revised to add Chapter 299: Resilience Authority for the purpose of undertaking resilience infrastructure projects that mitigate the effects of climate change by offering a range of financing structures, forms, and techniques that leverages public and private investment and stimulates demand for resilience infrastructure projects throughout Charles County. The Resilience Authority Board was appointed in February 2021 and a Climate Resilience and Sustainability Officer began work in FY 2022. Many of the Resilience Authorities projects and activities align with the MS4 permit.

The following organizational chart details personnel and divisions responsible for major MS4 program tasks in this permit.

# FY 2025

## NPDES MS4 Permit Responsibilities Organizational Chart



## IV.B. Legal Authority

Overview of Permit Conditions

*Charles County shall maintain adequate legal authority, in accordance with NPDES regulations 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(I), throughout the term of this permit. In the event that any provision of its legal authority is found to be invalid, the County shall make the necessary changes to maintain adequate legal authority.*

FY 2025 Status

The County will maintain adequate legal authority throughout the term of this permit, and in the event that any provision of its legal authority is found to be invalid, the County will make the necessary changes to maintain adequate legal authority.

## IV.C. Source Identification

Overview of Permit Conditions

*Sources of pollutants in stormwater runoff jurisdiction-wide shall be identified and linked to specific water quality impacts on a watershed basis. A georeferenced database shall be submitted annually in accordance with MDE NPDES MS4 Geodatabase Design and User's Guide (Version 1.2, May 2017), (hereafter MS4 Geodatabase) or as noted below that includes information on the following:*

1. *Storm drain system: infrastructure, major outfalls, inlets, and associated drainage areas;*
2. *Industrial and commercial sources: industrial and commercial land uses and sites that the County has determined have the potential to contribute significant pollutants;*
3. *Urban best management practices (BMPs): stormwater management facility data including outfall locations and delineated drainage areas;*
4. *Impervious surfaces: public and private land use delineated, controlled and uncontrolled impervious areas based on, at minimum, Maryland's hierarchical eight-digit sub-basins;*
5. *Monitoring locations: locations established for chemical, biological, and physical monitoring of watershed restoration efforts and the 2000 Maryland Stormwater Design Manual, unless participating in the pooled monitoring program as described in Part IV.G; and*
6. *Water quality improvement projects: restoration projects implemented in accordance with Part IV.E.3 including stormwater BMPs, programmatic initiatives, and alternative control practices in accordance with the Accounting for Stormwater Wasteload Allocations and Impervious Acres Treated Guidance for NPDES Permits (2021) (hereafter 2021 Accounting Guidance) including projects proposed, under construction, and completed with associated drainage areas delineated.*

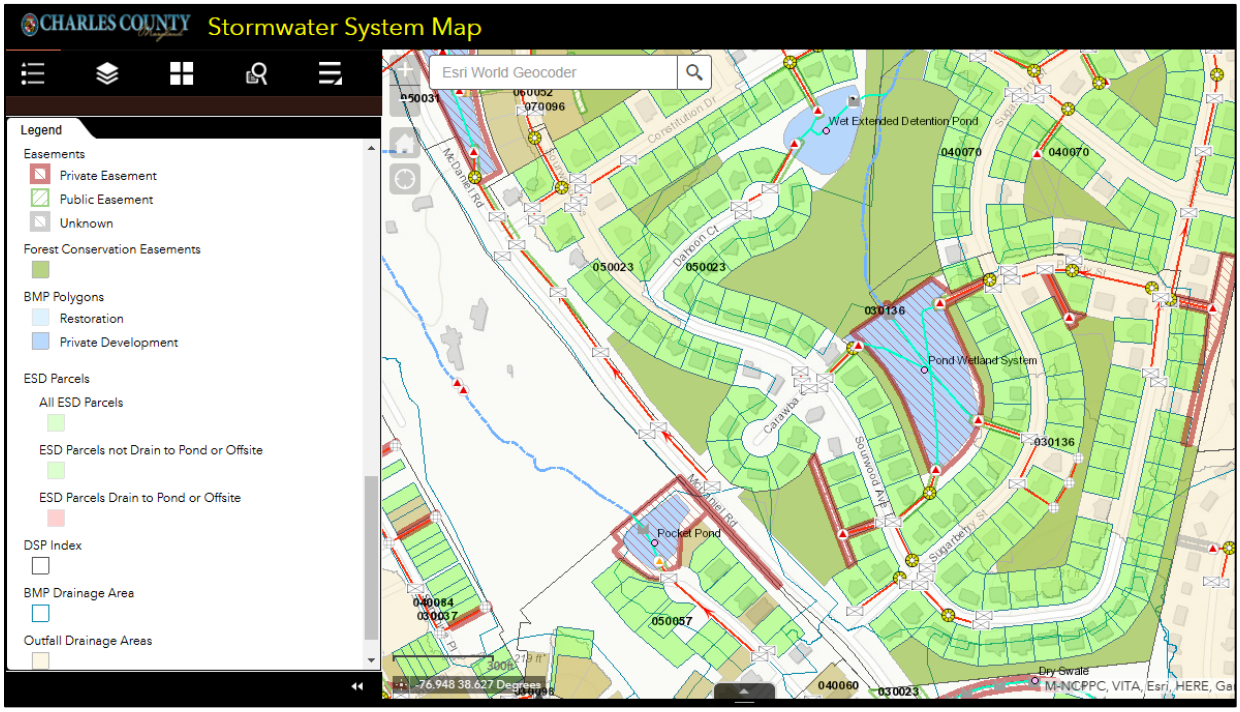
FY 2025 Status

Charles County began compiling the above listed GIS data on a countywide basis in FY 2012. The GIS data coverage is a useful resource for County staff in maintenance of the public storm drain system and stormwater best management practices (bmps), review of stormwater and environmental permit applications, maintenance inspection of stormwater facilities, and planning watershed restoration.

In 2013 the County established a web-based Stormwater System Map to provide the stormwater data on a platform that would be easily accessible by County maintenance providers, permit reviewers, inspectors and consultants. To ensure users understand how the map functions and to provide an opportunity for feedback, staff trainings occur on a regular basis.

The County's Stormwater System Map includes the ability to search the location of stormwater facilities and other features and provides linked and/or attached data such as: last inspection status, outfall photos, residential permit drawings and large development permit drawings.

- Locator tools are available for finding:
    - BMPs and restoration projects by local bmp identification numbers and stormwater water management maintenance (SWMM) numbers
    - Properties by address
    - Permit plans by permit number
    - Outfalls by outfall number
    - Forest Conservation Easements by Forest Conservation plan number
- Related data retrievable from the features:
    - BMPs link to the facility's inspection data and drainage area.
    - Outfalls have inspection photos attached and links to drainage areas.
    - Permit plans, as-builts, and easement documents are linked to the respective permit plan features for easy viewing.
    - ESD BMP Parcels have permit drawings attached to the features.
    - Stormwater management, storm drainage and restoration project easements.
    - Aerial imagery for 2014, 2017, 2023 and Nearmap imagery flown for the northern part of the County every three months, and drone imagery.
    - Storm drainage system with feature data including flow direction.
    - Trace tool used to trace flow in a drainage system upstream for identifying potential sources of illicit discharges. (This tool was disabled in 2023.)



***MDE's NPDES MS4 Geodatabase Design and User's Guide***

Early in 2015, MDE released the *NPDES MS4 Geodatabase Design and User's Guide Versions 1.0* and *1.1*. Revisions were subsequently reflected in Version 1.2, released in May 2017.

In November 2021, MDE released a *Draft Supplement to the Geodatabase Design and User's Guide (Version 1.2 Draft Updates)*. The corresponding geodatabase updates were included in draft *Version 2.0*, released in March 2022. Additional geodatabase updates occurred in September 2023, which were used for the County's FY23 submittal. MDE released the final *Version 2.0* September 2024, which was used for the County' FY24 submittal.

In July 2025, *Version 2.1* of the *User's Guide* was released to address comments received on the prior version. This version is used for the County's FY25 submittal.

Several feature classes and tables for reporting Assessment of Controls were removed from the *Version 2.0* geodatabase and are now reported using spreadsheets. These include *Monitoring Site FC; Monitoring Drainage Area FC; Chemical Monitoring table; Local Concern Monitoring table (optional); and Biological Monitoring table.*

MDE's *Versions 2.0 and 2.1* MS4 Geodatabase formats include the following 9 feature classes (FC) and 15 tables. These are associated with the permit conditions as follows:

- **Permit Administration:** *Permit Information table.*
- **Source Identification:** *Outfall FC; Outfall Drainage Area FC; BMP FC; BMP Drainage Area FC; Alternate BMP Line FC; Alternate BMP Point FC; Alternate BMP Polygon FC; Discharges from Grey Infrastructure Protocols table; Stream Restoration Protocols table; and Shoreline Management Practices table.*
- **Management Programs:** *BMP Inspections table; Alternate BMP Inspections table; Erosion and Sediment Control Program table; Quarterly Grading Permits FC; Stormwater Management Program table; Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination Screening table; Municipal Facilities FC; and Chemical Application table.*
- **Restoration Plans and Total Maximum Daily Loads:** *Impervious Surface table; Chesapeake Bay TMDL Progress table; and Local TMDL Progress table.*
- **Assessment of Controls:** Reported using spreadsheets.
- **Program Funding:** *Fiscal Analysis table.*
- **Narrative Files:** *Documents, Charts and Reports table.*

Following is an overview of data in the MDE MS4 geodatabase, and the County's Storm Drain System and Planimetric geodatabases. In addition to MDE's *Geodatabase Design and User's Guide*, the County maintains *Charles County Department of Planning and Growth Management Stormwater Geodatabases User Guide,* dated 12/31/2023. This guide describes database elements, methods used to populate fields, quality control processes, and how to extract data for preparing the annual MDE submittal.

- **Storm Drain System:** The FY 2025 dataset includes 30,656 enabled pipes and culverts and 56,089 enabled drainage related structures. Of the enabled structures 12,045 are 'SWM Junctions' which allow the GIS network trace tool to work but are not physical structures.

- **Urban Best Management Practices (BMPs):** The FY 2025 there are 3,567 active Macro BMPs and 24,153 active Micro BMPs. The Micro BMPs are located on 5,959 residential lots. A narrative summary of the BMP data is included in Part IV.D.1. of this report.

- **Impervious Surface Baseline:** In 2013, the County first delineated impervious surface polygons based on 2011 aerial photographs. An analysis of the impervious surface to determine the controlled acres based on era of stormwater management was completed and provided to MDE in 2017. This data is maintained in the County's Impervious geodatabase.

- **Monitoring Locations:** The feature class containing 25 stations were moved from the MS4 Geodatabase to the Storm Dain System geodatabase for the FY24 submittal. Some monitoring stations are no longer being used but are maintained for historical purposes. A narrative summary of monitoring data is included in Part IV.G. of this report.

- **Water Quality Improvement Projects:** Stormwater management best management practices that are completed, under construction and proposed, have been added to the BMP feature class and shown as points according to the latest *User's Guide*. Additional water quality improvement projects have been included under Alternate BMP lines (streams, shoreline and outfall stabilizations), Alternate BMP points (septic upgrades, connections and pump-outs), and Alternate BMP polygons (inlet cleaning and tree planting) according to the latest *User's Guide*. A narrative summary of the water quality improvement projects is included in Part IV.E. of this report.

- **Planimetric, Impervious Surface and Topography Updates:** In 2023 the County obtained aerial imagery and LiDAR data for the entire county, which was used to produce updated planimetric, impervious surface and topography GIS layers. The County intends on updating planimetric and impervious data every three years and topography every ten years or sooner if budget allows.

## IV.D. Management Programs

Overview of Permit Conditions

*The following management programs shall be implemented jurisdiction-wide by Charles County. These management programs are designed to control stormwater discharges and reduce associated pollutant loadings to the maximum extent practicable (MEP) and are to be maintained for the term of the permit. Additionally, these programs are to be integrated with other permit requirements to promote a comprehensive adaptive approach toward solving stormwater discharge water quality problems. Annual reports for the management programs shall be in accordance with Part V.A. of the County's MS4 permit and the MS4 Geodatabase.*

1. Stormwater Management

*An acceptable stormwater program shall continue to be maintained in accordance with the Environment Article, Title 4, Subtitle 2, Annotated Code of Maryland. County activities shall include following items a-d.*

*a. Implementing stormwater management design policies, principles, methods, and practices found in the latest version of the 2000 Maryland Stormwater Design Manual. This includes:*

*i. Complying with the Stormwater Management Act of 2007 (Act) by implementing Environmental Site Design (ESD) to the MEP for new and redevelopment projects;*
*ii. Tracking the progress toward satisfying the requirements of the Act and identifying and reporting annually the problems and modifications necessary to implement ESD to the MEP; and*
*iii. Reporting annually the modifications that have been or need to be made to all ordinances, regulations, and new development plan review and approval processes to comply with the requirements of the Act.*

FY 2025 Status

Current Stormwater Regulations

The County continues to implement the stormwater management design policies, principles, methods, and practices found in the 2000 Maryland Stormwater Design Manual and COMAR 26.17.02. The County's most recent comprehensive update of this regulation became effective in August 2010, when the Stormwater Management and Drainage Ordinance was separated into two ordinances and stormwater management was revised to comply with the Maryland Stormwater Management Act of 2007.

Maryland is currently proposing updates to its stormwater codes per 2021 Senate Bill 227. On October 16, 2025 MDE published an Advanced Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (ANPRM) in the Maryland Register to update stormwater regulations in COMAR 26.17.02 and the Maryland Stormwater Design Manual. The draft regulations and design manual updates were posted on MDE's Stormwater Management webpage and three listening sessions were hosted by MDE. Written comments were accepted through December 19, 2025. The formal proposed regulations are expected for publication in the Maryland Register in 2026. Once the regulations are adopted by the State they will then be incorporated into the County's local ordinance.

Charles County programmatic modifications made FY 2023 – FY 2025:

- An additional requirement for projects with small pond approval was implemented to better track and ensure submittal of as-built drawings within 90 days of completion to the State for review. To ensure this step is complied with, no County permitted project can progress to completion until the County receives a confirmation of compliance letter from the Charles Soil Conservation District.

- PGM Notice 23-02 "Onsite Dedication Document Approval Requirements for Development Services Permit Issuance" was released on March 7, 2023. This requires the County Attorney's Office to approve all easement, right-of-way, and covenant documents prior to issuance of the development services permit (DSP).

- PGM Notice 23-03 "Clarification of Submerged Gravel Wetland Requirements" was released on March 30, 2023. This notice is to ensure the Environmental Site Design (ESD) to the Maximum Extent Practicable (MEP) is not compromised.

- PGM Notice 24-04 "As-Built Requirements for Residential New Dwelling Permits" was released on June 24, 2024. This notice is to ensure the grading, stormwater management measures, and drainage conveyance system/drainage pattern(s) of the constructed lot comply with the specifications contained in the approved plans.

- PGM Notice 25-01 "Revised Stormwater Management Summary and Stormwater Management Notice of Construction Completion (NOCC) Forms and Spreadsheets" was released on March 10, 2025. This notice is to update the NOCC items to include additional data fields needed for the revised MS4 Geodatabase, Version 2.0. A copy is in Appendix B.

<u>2021 Senate Bill 227 – Advancing Stormwater Resiliency in Maryland (A-StoRM)</u>
Charles County staff has participated on and followed progress of MDE's committees for A-StoRM. The Stormwater Regulations Technical Advisory Committee (TAG) has met about twelve times between June 2022 and September 2024 to develop regulatory updates on four primary topics:

(1) Precipitation and Design Storms,

(2) Managing water quality impacts and providing channel protection,
(3) Managing for flood risk, and
(4) Conveyance capacity analysis.

Also of interest to Charles County is the Watershed Studies Technical Advisory Group which has met seven times between December 2022 and June 2024 to discuss MDE's anticipated projects such as:

(1) Mapping and sharing of inundation areas below high hazard and significant hazard dams,
(2) Creating a State floodplain ordinance and watershed prioritization/flood potential map,
(3) Developing a State-wide training program for flood provisions and related land use policy, and
(4) Completing analysis of higher standards for resiliency.

*b. Maintaining programmatic and implementation information related to the stormwater management program including, but not limited to:*

*i. Number of Concept, Site Development, and Final Plans received and number of those approved. Plans that are re-submitted as a result of revision or in response to comments should not be considered as a separate project;*
*ii. Number of redevelopment projects received and the number of those approved;*
*iii. Number of stormwater exemptions issued; and*
*iv. Number and type of waivers received and issued, including those for quantity control, quality control, or both. Multiple requests for waivers may be received for a single project and each should be counted separately whether part of the same project or plan.*

FY 2025 Status

Since the County's adoption of the stormwater management regulations (August 1, 2010) requiring environmental site design (ESD) to the maximum extent practicable (MEP), through FY 2025 a total of 496 projects have submitted Concept SWM Plans, which is Step 1 of the regulation. During that same time period, 453 projects have also submitted Site SWM Plans, which is Step 2 of the regulation.

*Table 1: Stormwater Management Concept and Site Plans Per Fiscal Year*

| | 2020 Received | 2020 Approved | 2021 Received | 2021 Approved | 2022 Received | 2022 Approved | 2023 Received | 2023 Approved |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| CSWM (Step 1) | 29 | 9 | 25 | 21 | 38 | 28 | 24 | 13 |
| SSWM (Step 2) | 23 | 3 | 25 | 15 | 27 | 20 | 38 | 16 |
| Total | 52 | 12 | 50 | 36 | 65 | 48 | 62 | 29 |

*Table 1 Continued*

| | 2024 Received | 2024 Approved | 2025 Received | 2025 Approved |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| CSWM (Step 1) | 21 | 13 | 23 | 22 |
| SSWM (Step 2) | 24 | 23 | 34 | 26 |
| Total | 45 | 36 | 57 | 48 |

For the FY 2025 time period, the County received 30 new Development Services Permit submissions (these permit submissions may also include the Final Stormwater Management Plans, which is the Step 3 of the regulation).

For FY 2025 time period, 1 redevelopment projects were received under a Concept SWM Plan application; 2 redevelopment projects were received under a Site SWM Plan application, and 3 redevelopment projects received final permit approval. These projects are listed in the following tables.

*Table 2: Redevelopment Concept (CSWM) and Site SWM (SSWM) Plans Received for Review*

| Plan Number | Name |
|---|---|
| CSWM-250005 | Medstar Shah Medical Building |
| SSWM-250008 | Chase Bank – Shops at Waldorf |
| SSWM-250022 | Medstar Shah Medical Building |

*Table 3: Redevelopment Final Stormwater Management Plans Approved*

| Plan Number | Name |
|---|---|
| DSP-240027 | Shops at Waldorf – Sprouts Farmers Market |
| DSP-230054 | Promenade Self Storage |

In addition to the two stormwater redevelopment plan permits receiving final approval on the above table, there were 30 stormwater management plan permits for new development that received final approval and the associated development services permits were subsequently issued in FY 2025 (some of these issued permits were plan revisions). A table of FY 2025 issued SWM permits follows.

*Table 4: Final Approved Stormwater Management Plan Permits in Fiscal Year 2025*

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| DSP 230056 | DSP 230015 | DSP 240027 | DSP 240026 | DSP 240062 |
| DSP 240007 | DSP 250040 | DSP 240055 | DSP 240005 | DSP 230054 |
| DSP 200029 | DSP 240028 | DSP 230025 | DSP 250026 | DSP 230053 |
| DSP 240031 | DSP 250032 | DSP 240063 | DSP 240023 | DSP 190097 |
| DSP 210007 | DSP 230029 | DSP 250023 | DSP 240029 | DSP 250021 |
| DSP 240006 | DSP 240057 | DSP 240018 | DSP 240040 | DSP 230023 |

* This table does not include Redevelopment Plan Permits, which are shown on table above.

For the FY 2025 time period, the County did not receive or grant any requests for Exemptions or Administrative Waivers for quality and/or quantity.

Once stormwater BMPs have been constructed, As-built drawings of the BMPs are verified and approved by the County, then a final acceptance inspection is completed by the County, and finally a warranty period begins prior to bond release.

*Table 5: As-Builts Approved In Fiscal Year 2025*

| Permit Number | Name | Approval Date |
|---|---|---|
| VR_150006 | Keswick Section 1 Phase 1 | 7/2/2024 |
| DSP-210011 | Marylea Court Extension | 8/15/2024 |
| DSP-190019 | 925B Pump Station Replacement* | 9/13/2024 |
| DSP-210041 | Panera Bread | 10/1/2024 |
| DSP-220009 | Parklands Neighborhood Smokey Mountain Drive | 10/22/2024 |
| DSP-190023 | Bensville Crossing | 12/10/2024 |
| DSP-180005 | Stonehaven Neighborhood | 12/27/2024 |
| VC_180004 | Henry Ford Circle | 12/27/2024 |
| DSP-180011 | Chapin Woods | 1/3/2025 |
| DSP-220047 | McDonalds Improvements* | 1/3/2025 |
| DSP-190060 | Waldorf Park | 2/4/2025 |
| DSP-220040 | Chick-Fil-A | 2/14/2025 |
| DSP-190034 | NPDES: Worthington Subdivision Wilton Court | 2/18/2025 |
| DSP-240014 | Bensville Park Multipurpose Field* | 2/21/2025 |
| DSP-200053 | Bryans Village Phase 2 | 3/24/2025 |
| DSP-220013 | Magnolia Gardens Apartments Washington Avenue Entrance | 4/7/2025 |
| DSP-220007 | CPV - St. Charles Black Start Grid | 4/15/2025 |
| VR_180010 | Mill Spring Estates* | 4/28/2025 |
| DSP-210031 | Dyson Storage | 4/30/2025 |
| DSP-220017 | Sunstone Grove | 4/30/2025 |
| DSP-230019 | SMECO Oliver Shop Substation* | 5/1/2025 |
| DSP-190080 | NPDES: Ruth B. Swann Nothern Section Stream Restoration | 5/2/2025 |
| DSP-230011 | CSM Health Technology Building Renovation | 5/2/2025 |
| DSP-230033 | Dash-In* | 5/13/2025 |
| VC_170039 | Belair Body Shop* | 5/30/2025 |
| DSP-230018 | Wakefield Community Center | 6/23/2025 |
| DSP-220001 | Chapel Point Park Renovation Phase 2 Improvements | 6/25/2025 |

* = Permits which will be reflected in the geodatabase in the next Fiscal Year

c. *Maintaining construction inspection information is to be maintained according to COMAR 26.17.02 for all ESD treatment practices, structural stormwater management facilities, and stable conveyance and capacity to receiving waters, including the number of inspections conducted and violation notices issued by Charles County.*

FY 2025 Status

In accordance with COMAR 26.17.02.10 Construction Inspection and Enforcement, County personnel perform the various inspections, as outlined for the ESD treatment practices and structural stormwater management facilities. The County also reviews the as-built plans and certifications, including the submission of the Notice of Construction Completion Forms.

In January 2019, Charles County Department of Planning and Growth Management fully transitioned to a permit management software system called EnerGov. This system schedules and tracks review and inspection activities associated with all types of construction permits. The EnerGov module provides a location in each permit file to store photos, permit drawings, reports, data forms, and documents such as inspection reports, violation notices, and letters.

The number of stormwater management facility construction inspections is shown on the following table. The inspections of residential micro-stormwater practice inspections count as one per permit, even if there are multiple stormwater practices per permit. There were no stormwater construction violations or stop work orders specifically associated with stormwater, as the leverage of the permit is used to hold the developer accountable to make the needed changes to bring non-compliant stormwater facilities into compliance.

*Table 6: Stormwater Best Management Practice (BMP) Construction Inspections*

| | FY 2021 | FY 2022 | FY 2023 | FY 2024 | FY 2025 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Development Services Permits (DSP)<br>(BMPs not on Residential Lots) | 363 | 286 | 232 | 293 | 299 |
| Residential Permits (RESD)<br>(BMPs on Private Residential Lots) | 1,080 | 1,361 | 1,154 | 667 | 522 |
| Construction Violations (Stop Work Orders) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

d. *Conducting preventative maintenance inspections according to COMAR 26.17.02, of all ESD treatment systems, structural stormwater management facilities, and stable structural conveyance and capacity to receiving waters, at least on a triennial basis. Documentation identifying the ESD systems and structural stormwater management facilities inspected, the number of maintenance inspections, follow-up inspections, the enforcement actions used to ensure compliance, the maintenance inspection schedules, and any other relevant information shall be submitted in the County's annual reports.*

FY 2025 Status

The County continues conducting preventative maintenance inspections of all stormwater management (SWM) devices on a triennial basis. In FY 2021 inspections were expanded to include Charles County Government and Public School owned BMPs located in the Towns of La Plata and Indian Head.

In February 2020, the SWM Maintenance Inspections fully transitioned to the new EnerGov software. Since then, each existing and new stormwater BMP not on a private residential lot is assigned a Stormwater Management Maintenance (SWMM) permit number in EnerGov. These are referred to as macro-BMPs. Residential micro-stormwater practices are inspected under the original construction permit number and not assigned a separate SWMM permit. This is because the multiple BMPs on residential lots are inspected under a single inspection entry whereas the stormwater macro-BMPs are inspected and tracked individually. By the end of FY 2025 there were 3,468 active SWMM permits for macro-BMPs.

*Table 7: SWM Maintenance Permits for Macro-BMPs Entered in EnerGov for Inspection*

| | FY 2021 | FY 2022 | FY 2023 | FY 2024 | FY 2025 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| # SWMM Permits Entered | 1,484 | 1,339 | 209 | 111 | 366 |

Maintenance inspection photos and reports are recorded directly into the EnerGov software module on electronic field tablets during the inspection of each BMP. If necessary, certified letters are sent to initiate compliance and these are also saved within the individual permit file within EnerGov.

The EnerGov software provides the following options for each inspection result: “Pass” or “Re-inspection Required”. Inspections with “Pass” results are recorded as “Pass” and the inspections with “Re-inspection Required” results are recorded as “Fail” in the MS4 Geodatabase. It should be noted that the reasons for “Re-inspection Required” vary widely and include not being able to access the site, needing minor maintenance, and structural failure. Therefore, a “Fail” in the MS4 geodatabase does not indicate severity of the situation. Owners are notified that maintenance is required and re-inspections are scheduled on the timeframe determined suitable by the inspector. If the owners do not rectify the situation, the cases are referred to the County Attorney’s Office for enforcement. In FY 2025 thirteen stormwater management facilities were referred for enforcement.

*Table 8: SWM Maintenance Inspections for BMPS not on Private Residential Lots*

| | FY 2022 | FY 2023 | FY 2024 | FY 2025 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Total Inspections | 1,547 | 1,112 | 1,720 | 2,641 |
| Failed Inspections | 345 | 667 | 793 | 1,112 (42%) |
| Total # BMPs Inspected | 1,371 | 692 | 1,283 | 1,459 |
| Noncompliant BMPs | 203 (15%) | 273 (39%) | 365 (28%) | 404 (28%) |

**Noncompliant BMPs are those with fail status at end of Fiscal Year.*

*Table 9: SWM Maintenance Inspections for BMPs on Private Residential Lots*

| | FY 2022 | FY 2023 | FY 2024 | FY 2025 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Total Inspections | 219 | 2,099 | 4,019 | 1,631 |
| Failed Inspections | 101 | 929 | 1,648 | 467 |
| Total # BMPs Inspected | 984 | 4,801 | 11,274 | 4,248 |
| Total # Private Residential Lots Inspected | 175 | 1,348 | 2,578 | 1,256 |
| Total # Lots w/Noncompliant BMPs | 44 (25%) | 213 (16%) | 230 (9%) | 102 (8%) |

**Noncompliant BMPs are those with fail status at end of Fiscal Year.*

*Table 10: SWM Maintenance Inspections for Restoration BMPs**

| | FY 2022 | FY 2023 | FY 2024 | FY 2025 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Total Inspections | 1 | 9 | 36 | 20 |
| Failed Inspections | 1 | 7 | 11 | 8 |
| Total # BMPs Inspected | 1 | 4 | 30 | 15 |
| Noncompliant BMPs | 1 | 2 | 5 | 3 |

**These inspections are included in the totals found in Table 8.*
**The total does not include stream and shoreline BMP inspections which are found in Section 4.D.4 Property Management. *Noncompliant BMPs are those with fail status at end of Fiscal Year.*

**Addressing Overdue BMP Inspections**

MDE noted at FY 2024 year-end, only 84% of all BMPs in the geodatabase had been inspected within the last three years. In FY 2025 the County has taken steps to ensure all BMPs are inspected every three years.

The first step included generating inspection reports from the EnerGov software. The reports were then compared to the geodatabase to determine which BMPs had fallen out of the triennial inspection cycle and why. Some were due to the software not properly generating next inspection dates, and many were due to the BMPs not having been entered into the inspection module for various reasons. These issues were addressed, and lessons were learned from this exercise to prevent recurrences.

Once the EnerGov was updated, catch-up inspections started. The table below indicates the number of BMPs inspected the first four months of FY 2026. This concerted effort represents significant progress towards bringing all BMPs back into the required triennial cycle. Full compliance is expected by the end of FY 2026.

| | # BMPs Inspected July 1, 2025 – Nov 1, 2025 |
|---|---|
| Not on Private Residential Lots | 417 |
| On Private Residential Lots | 3,481 |

The data in this section is captured in the MS4 Geodatabase as follows:

- Number of various types of stormwater plan reviews, and construction inspections are in the *SWM Table*,
- New development and restoration BMPs are in the *BMP Table,* and
- BMP Maintenance inspections are in the *BMP Inspections Table.*

***Stormwater Maintenance Inspection Process Updates***

**EnerGov Software**

The EnerGov software began use for scheduling and tracking stormwater maintenance inspections in February 2020. In FY 2025 a Manual for creating SWMM permits in EnerGov and a Standard Operating Procedure were drafted. These are found in Appendix B.

Processes for adding BMP inspections into the EnerGov queue:

1) Active historic BMP and new BMP "Inspection Cases" are manually entered into EnerGov.
2) When new BMPs are constructed and the warranty inspection (aka final inspection) serves as the 1-year inspection, and then staff creates the "Inspection Case" and set the first 3-year inspection. If the inspection passes, the software automatically reschedules the next 3-year inspections. Otherwise, the inspector manually schedules a follow-up date.
3) Private Residential micro-BMPs are often built under multiple permits, such as house, garage, pool, deck, etc. A maintenance inspection is tracked for each original permit in EnerGov. Inspections are not under revision permits.

Processes for transferring data from EnerGov into the MS4 geodatabase:

1) EnerGov quarterly reports of fully constructed BMP permits passing final construction inspection (aka 'finaled') are used to add new BMPs to the geodatabase records.
2) EnerGov quarterly reports of BMP maintenance inspections are entered into the geodatabase.
3) New EnerGov Inspection Numbers are matched with existing inspection numbers to ensure no duplicate inspections are entered into the MS4 geodatabase.
4) The SWMM Permit numbers from EnerGov have been added to the County's MS4 geodatabase schema for easily matching records.
5) Up until mid-FY 2022, inspection records within the geodatabase were matched by BMP_ID and re-inspections and manually collapsed into the line item of the original "Fail" inspection. If a BMP had "Fail" on re-inspection, the third inspection was entered on a new line item, and the process is repeated. The collapsing process ceased due to MDE's new schema released in March 2022, that collects each inspection as a separate line item.

General EnerGov processes:

1) When a constructed BMP is modified under a subsequent project permit, often the BMP will be in the inspection queue under both project permits and thus have repeated inspections. When these are found one of the duplicate BMP records is 'completed' (aka closed) in EnerGov and removed from the MS4 geodatabase *BMP Inspections Table*.
2) EnerGov provides a data line for entering the entity maintaining each BMP. In FY 2024 a request to expand the options was entered and completed in FY 2025. Having this data in the EnerGov allows for reports to be run of upcoming inspection dates for entities and departments responsible for maintaining the BMPs. This can help with planning and budgeting.
3) BMP inspections that have been associated with multiple or incorrect property ID's in EnerGov have been corrected.
4) EnerGov software may create multiple SWMM permit numbers for the same BMP, likely due to an internal saving process occurring during data entry and can only be corrected by a software manager. Several have been identified and corrected.
5) EnerGov process for violations and enforcement should be clarified and reports developed for BMPs that have failed multiple times in a row.

***Inspection Notification for Private Residential Lot Owners***

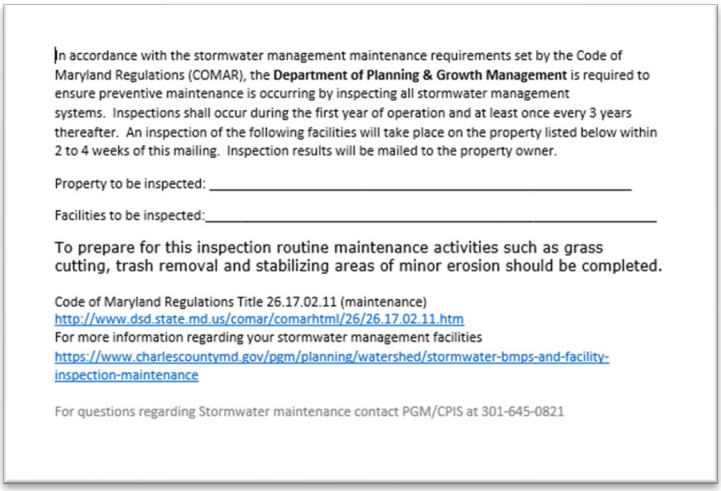
The Stormwater Maintenance Inspections postcard mailer started being used in May 2019 for pre-notification to homeowners that a County inspection would be held within 2-4 weeks and that access to their property is needed. A door hanger was also developed to let the homeowners know if a BMP issue was found during the inspection and to expect a follow-up letter from the County. The feedback on the pre-notification and the door hanger has been positive. Images of the postcard are provided.


Charles County Government
Planning & Growth Management
200 Baltimore street
La Plata, MD 20646

Watershed Protection & Restoration

PROPERTY OWNER
STREET ADDRESS
CITY, STATE & ZIP

For questions regarding Stormwater maintenance contact PGM/CPIS at 301-645-0821


In accordance with the stormwater management maintenance requirements set by the Code of Maryland Regulations (COMAR), the **Department of Planning & Growth Management** is required to ensure preventive maintenance is occurring by inspecting all stormwater management systems. Inspections shall occur during the first year of operation and at least once every 3 years thereafter. An inspection of the following facilities will take place on the property listed below within 2 to 4 weeks of this mailing. Inspection results will be mailed to the property owner.

Property to be inspected: _____

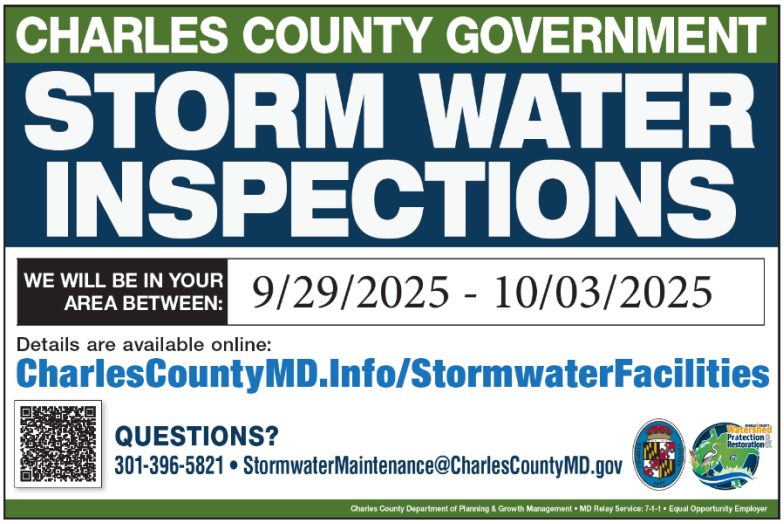
Facilities to be inspected: _____

To prepare for this inspection routine maintenance activities such as grass cutting, trash removal and stabilizing areas of minor erosion should be completed.

Code of Maryland Regulations Title 26.17.02.11 (maintenance)
http://www.dsd.state.md.us/comar/comarhtml/26/26.17.02.11.htm
For more information regarding your stormwater management facilities
https://www.charlescountymd.gov/pgm/planning/watershed/stormwater-bmps-and-facility-inspection-maintenance

For questions regarding Stormwater maintenance contact PGM/CPIS at 301-645-0821

Beginning FY 2025, in addition to mailing postcard notification, the County posts community signs to alert residents when stormwater management maintenance inspections will be occurring in their area. The Charles County Government website also displays updated lists of neighborhoods where upcoming stormwater management maintenance inspections are scheduled along with guidance for maintaining the various BMP types.




***Private On-Site SWM Facilities Declaration of Covenants Disclosure Form***

In FY 2021 the Charles County Department of Planning and Growth Management instituted a process of disclosing to future homeowners their maintenance responsibilities regarding on-site micro scale stormwater management practices. This is done by executing and recording an agreement in County Land Records which outlines responsibilities of homeowner maintenance and County inspections. This agreement runs with the land, thus binding future owners.

***As-Built Requirements for New Residential Dwelling Permits***

Effective June 28, 2024, an as-built plan must be submitted and approved prior to obtaining a Certificate of Use and Occupancy for a new home from the Department of Planning and Growth Management. The as-built plan must show information needed to ensure the grading, stormwater management measures, and drainage conveyance systems/drainage pattern(s) comply with the specifications contained in the approved permit drawings. A copy of Notice 24-04 announcing this change is included in Appendix B of the FY 2024 MS4 Annual Report.

2. Erosion and Sediment Control

*An acceptable erosion and sediment control program shall be maintained and implemented in accordance with Environmental Article, Title 4, Subtitle 1, Annotated Code of Maryland. County activities shall include, but not be limited to items a-c.*

*a. Implementing program improvements identified in any MDE evaluation of the County's erosion and sediment control enforcement authority.*

FY 2025 Status

Every two years, MDE performs field reviews of active construction sites to review the County's implementation of the erosion and sediment control program. The County's current delegated program authority was renewed on October 7, 2024, to extend through June 30, 2026.

*b. Ensuring that construction site operators have received training regarding erosion and sediment control compliance and hold a valid Responsible Personnel Certification as required by MDE.*

FY 2025 Status

County sediment and erosion control inspection staff continues to verify that site operators hold valid Responsible Certification as required by MDE.

*c. Reporting quarterly to MDE, information regarding earth disturbances exceeding one acre or more.*

FY 2025 Status

The required data has been provided to MDE on a quarterly basis in FY 2025. The following information summarizes the number of entries in the MS4 Geodatabase *Quarterly Grading Permits Feature Class*.

*Table 11: Construction Permits Issued for Earth Disturbances > 1 Acre, Fiscal Years 2021-2025*

| Permit Type | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Development Services Permits | 33 | 35 | 27 | 24 | 27 |
| Residential Permits | 2 | 7 | 6 | 4 | 8* |

**Includes multiple townhouse permits assigned the same earth disturbance of 1.9 acres.*

*Erosion and Sediment Control Program activity shall be recorded in the MS4 Geodatabase and submitted to MDE as required in Part V.A of the permit.*

FY 2025 Status

The following information is included in the MS4 Geodatabase *Erosion Sediment Control Table.*

*Table 12: Erosion and Sediment Control Table for Fiscal Years 2021 - 2025*

| Fiscal Year | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Number of Grading Permits Issued | 1,099 | 1,238 | 1,211 | 1,758 | 1,347 |
| Number Grading Permits Active (overall) | 1,417 | 1,307 | 1,339 | 1,159 | 1,525 |
| Disturbed Area for Active Grading Permits | 3,845 | 4,125 | 4,418 | 2,839 | 3,700 |
| Number of Other Permits Issued | 28 | 24 | 24 | 27 | 20 |
| Number of Other Active Permits (overall) | 31 | 50 | 51 | 60 | 76 |
| Disturbed Area for Other Active Permits | 1,767 | 1,732 | 1,762 | 3,774 | 3,763 |
| Number of Sediment Control Inspectors | 4 | 5.25 | 5.5 | 5.5 | 5.5 |
| Number of Supervisors | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Number of Sediment Control Inspections | 5,624 | 6,372 | 5,230 | 3,177 | 2,970 |
| Number of Stop Work Orders Issued | 15 | 16 | 15 | 21 | 25 |
| Number of Fines Collected | 15 | 16 | 15 | 21 | 22 |
| Amount of Fines Collected | $7,530 | $8,302 | $7,875 | $11,025 | $2,552 |
| Number of Violations | 24 | 16 | 15 | 21 | 25 |
| Number of Court Cases | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Number of Sediment Control Complaints Received | 40 | 32 | 30 | 33 | 27 |

3. Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination

*An inspection and enforcement program shall be implemented to ensure that all discharges to and from the MS4 that are not composed entirely of stormwater are either permitted by MDE or eliminated. Activities include:*

*a. Field screening at least 100 outfalls annually. Each outfall having a discharge shall be sampled using a chemical test kit. Within one year of permit issuance, an alternative program may be submitted for MDE approval that methodically identifies, investigates, and eliminates illegal connections to the County's storm drain system;*

*b. Conducting annual visual surveys of commercial and industrial areas for discovering, documenting, and eliminating pollutant sources. Areas surveyed shall be reported annually.*

*c. Maintaining a program to address and, if necessary, respond to illegal discharges, dumping, and spills;*

*d. Using appropriate enforcement procedures for investigating and eliminating illicit discharges, illegal dumping, and spills. Significant discharges shall be reported to MDE for enforcement and/or permitting; and*

*e. Reporting discharge detection and elimination activities as specified in Part V. of the permit.*

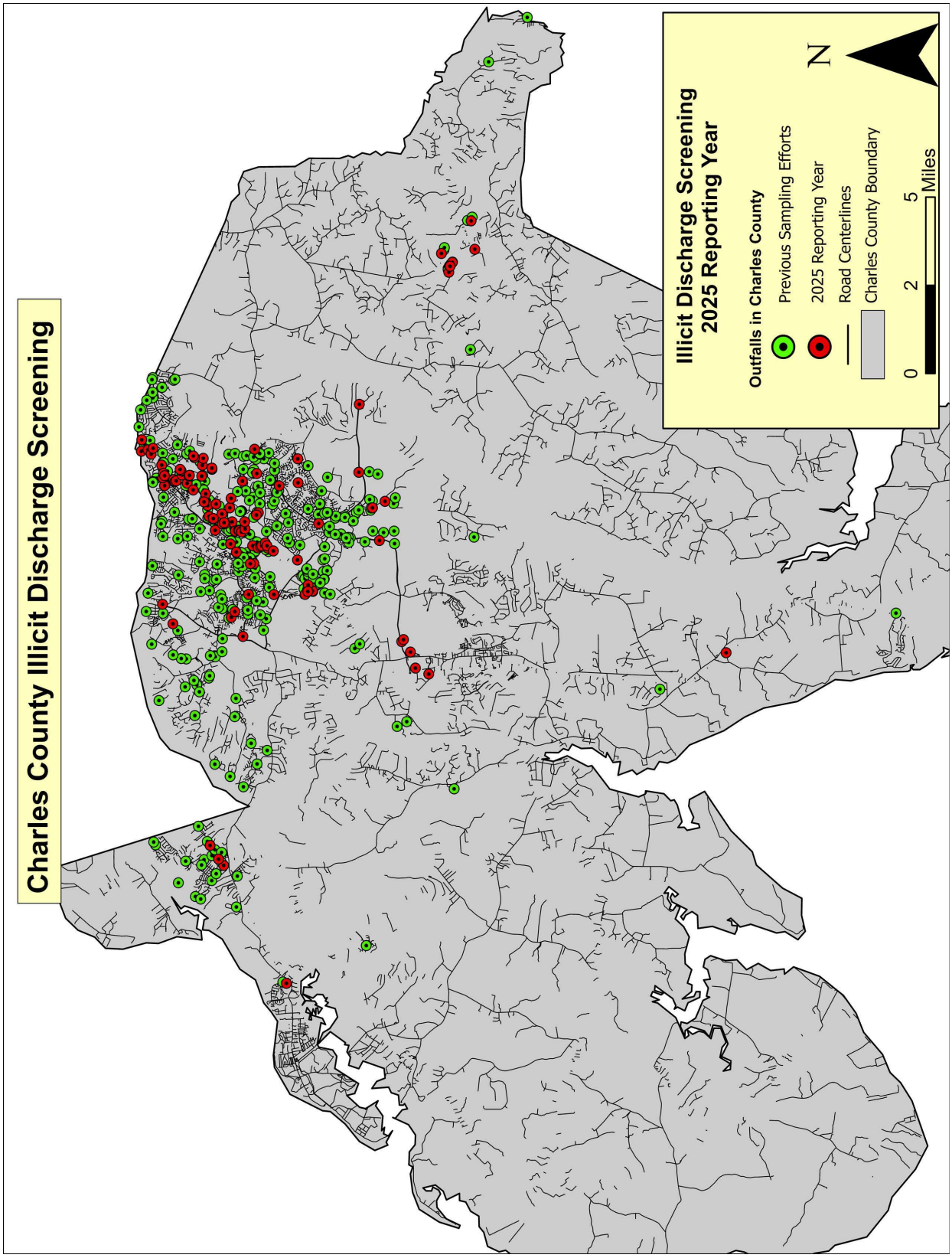
FY 2025 Status

***Illicit Connection Detection Field Screening***

During the FY 2025 screening, 104 sites were inspected. This includes 23 draining industrial areas and 81 draining commercial areas. For FY 2025, residential outfalls were not screened and commercial outfalls with pipe diameters of less than 36" were inventoried and screened.

For the 2025 reporting year, 92 previously mapped outfalls that were not sampled during the 2023 reporting year were selected for sampling and accounted for 92 outfalls. The other 12 outfalls were newly added to the major outfall inventory in the 2025 reporting year to meet changed criteria for selection. Of the 12 new outfalls screened, 11 of these drain commercial areas, and one drained industrial area. A map of the outfalls sampled is on the following page.

The screening was conducted in April and May of 2025. A two-person field crew visited each site following 72-hours of dry weather. The physical condition of each site was recorded on field sheets. If a dry-weather flow was present, a sample was taken and tested with a Hach chemical test kit. Tests were conducted for pH, detergents, chlorine, copper, phenols, temperature, and ammonia nitrogen. When a chemical test was conducted, and the results showed a high


Charles County Illicit Discharge Screening
Illicit Discharge Screening
2025 Reporting Year
Outfalls in Charles County
Previous Sampling Efforts
2025 Reporting Year
Road Centerlines
Charles County Boundary
N
0
2
5
Miles

concentration for any contaminant, the site was retested after 4 hours but within 24 hours to verify the results.

The results of the chemical test performed were compared with the accepted statewide averages described in *Dry Weather Flow and Illicit Discharges in Maryland Storm Drain Systems* (MDE, 1997). Using the statewide averages, the 1997 study provides a threshold for each constituent, based on watershed land use. The results from the chemical tests performed during the 2025 reporting year were compared with this threshold to determine which results are considered abnormal for each constituent, and to make recommendations as to which storm drain systems should be investigated further as having possible illicit connections. The thresholds listed were 0.4 ppm for chlorine, 0.17 for phenols, 0.21 for copper, and 0.5 ppm for detergents. No state-approved threshold limits exist for ammonia. Based on EPA and USGS documentation, a value of 2.0 ppm appears reasonable. This is consistent with the high outlying values found in previous screening efforts. Review of past data shows that typical pH values in Charles County fall outside the standard threshold range of 6.5 to 8.5. Therefore, for the 2025 reporting year, the following thresholds were used to determine if an upstream investigation was necessary:

- pH outside the range 5.5-8.5
- >0.5 ppm Detergents
- >0.4 ppm Chlorine
- >0.17 ppm Phenols
- >0.21 ppm Copper
- >2.0 ppm Ammonia

When a confirmed high concentration of a contaminant was found, field crews followed the storm drain system upstream attempting to locate the source of the contamination. Additional tests at upstream structures were conducted as needed in an effort to track the contamination upstream to the source, especially where two systems converged. For any outfall with flow, a brief inspection of the storm drain system is performed to indicate the source of the discharge.

All data collected during the illicit discharge screening is recorded in the enclosed MS4 geodatabase in the *IDDE Screening Table*.

The results show that, of the 104 sites, 14 had observed flow. All outfalls that had observed flow, a sample was able to be gathered. Of the 14 sites, 10 had detectable ammonia, Outfall #148 and #247 tested above threshold. Outfall #247 tested above the threshold for detergents and chlorine. Outfall #148 had detectable levels below the threshold for detergents or chlorine, and Outfall #20 and Outfall #332 had detectable levels below the threshold for chlorine. No concentrations of phenol or copper were detected at the sites where flow was collected. PH levels were within historical ranges for all outfalls sampled.

Trash accumulation was present at 9 outfalls, and 45 outfalls were found to either be backwatered or submerged. Other issues encountered at 12 outfalls included joint separation, endsection separation, metal corrosion, and pipes filled over halfway with sediment. Moderate erosion occurred at four outfalls, and none had severe erosion.

Algae was found at 16 outfalls, which may indicate excessive nutrients in the water. Outfall #247 had a rancid/sour and soap smell. Outfall #148 had yellow colored flow and Outfall #247 had green colored flow. Outfall #148's yellow color was accounted to iron flocculent bacteria, as well as Outfall #247's green color is accounted to the illicit discharge entering the system upstream. Sediment, bacteria sheen and iron flocculent deposits were found at 13 sites.

The screening results are listed in the following table.

*Table 13: Field Screening Results for Priority Outfalls*

| Outfall # | Problem | County Tracking # |
|---|---|---|
| #148 | Trash accumulation and standing water downstream. Sample tested high for ammonia and had yellow/orange color from iron flocculent. | VIOL-250047 |
| #247 | High ammonia, soapy/rancid odor, and green cloudy discharge associated with carwash. | VIOL-250046 |
| #332 | The second upstream inlet has a missing grate and debris that have fallen inside. First upstream structure has significant erosion, and brick is collapsing exposing the interior of the structure. Both are a potential public hazard. | VIOL-250048 |

***Commercial and Industrial Visual Surveys***

During the FY 2025 screening, several portions of the County including Waldorf, Cobb Island, Hughesville, and areas outside of La Plata were targeted for visual surveys. The visual surveys were conducted in April 2025 and 330 tax parcels were visually assessed in the field. The map on the following page shows the survey locations.

For the FY 2025 screenings, the approach to selecting, tracking, and inspecting commercial and industrial surveys was continued from FY 2024. The ISA_PARCEL shapefile was utilized to determine tax parcels within the County that had commercial or industrial land uses. Commercial and industrial tax parcels were selected from this shapefile and field maps with parcel account numbers were generated for the targeted areas as shown on the Figure 5.

*Figure 5: Charles County Visual Survey of Commercial/Industrial Land Use*

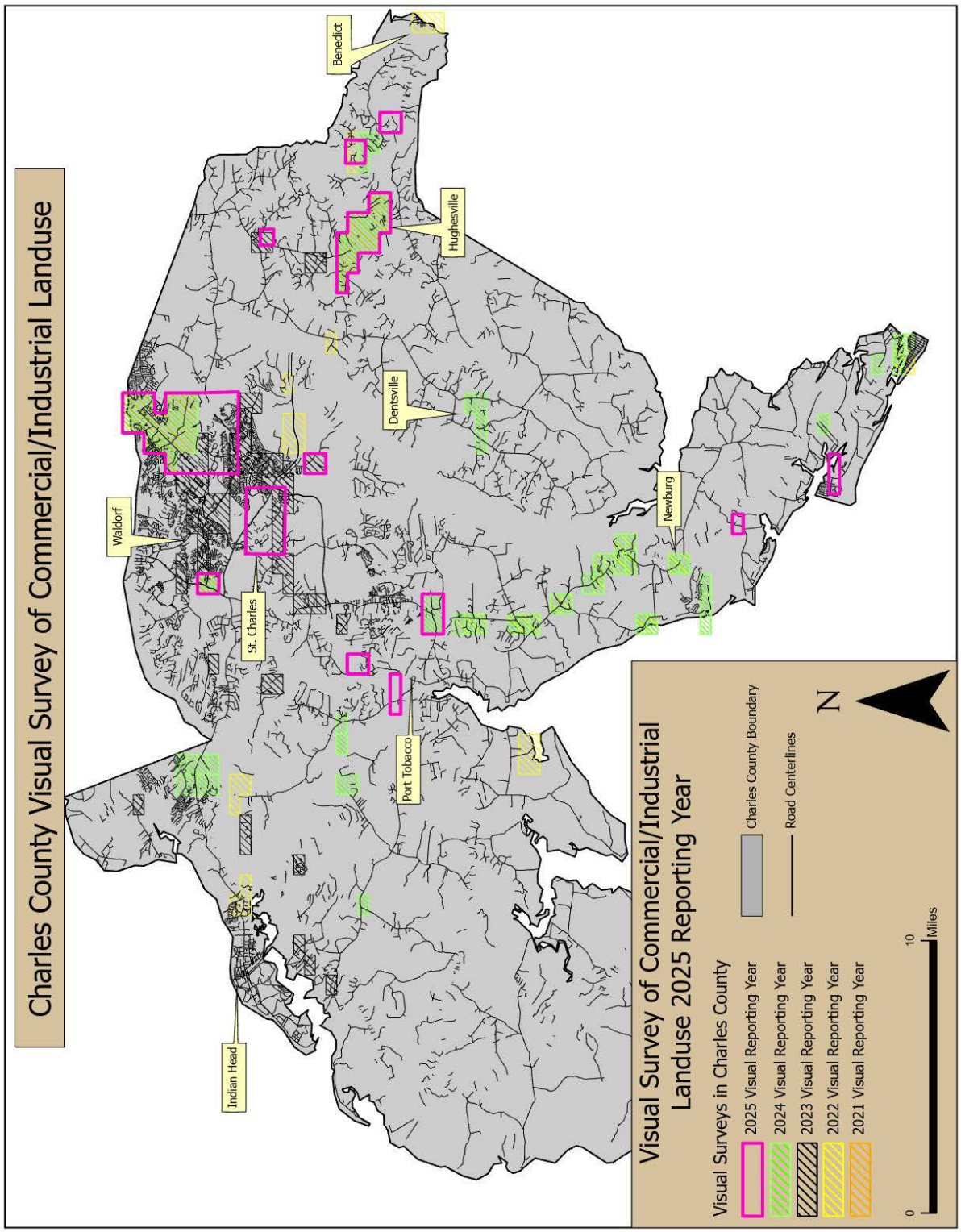
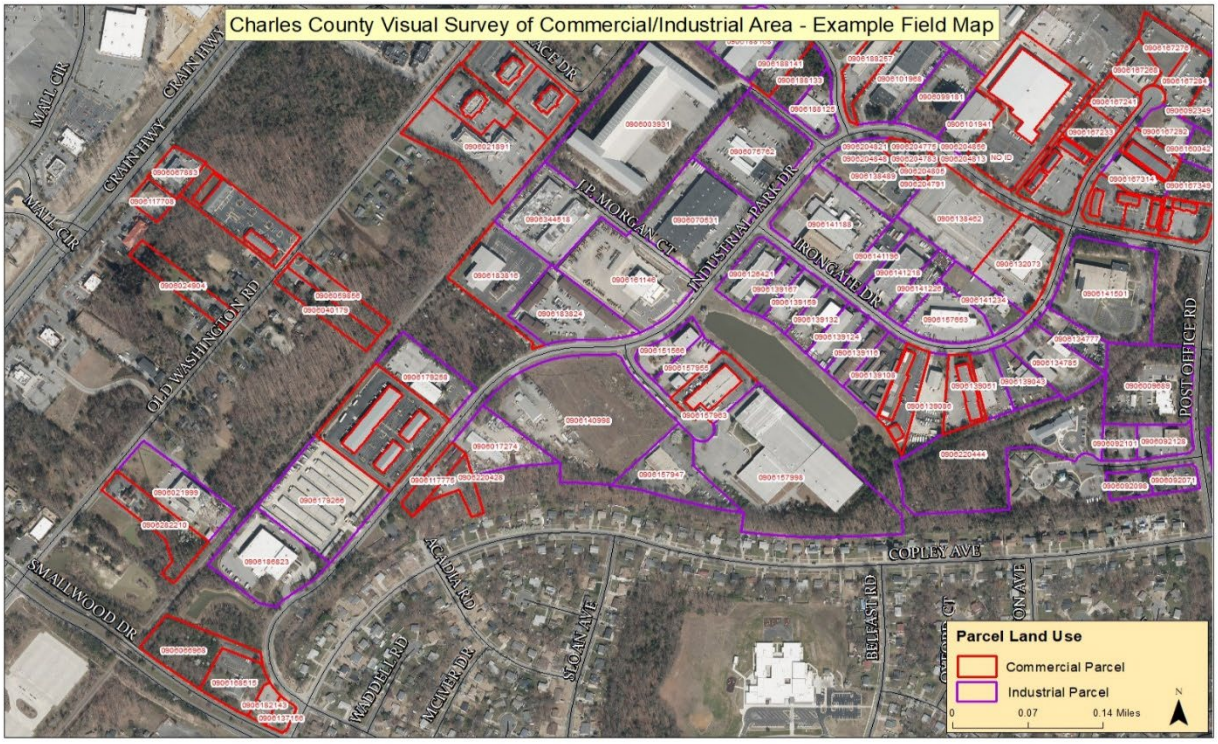


*Figure 6: Commercial/Industrial Areas – Example Field Map*




Tracking of inspected tax parcels will be completed using the ISA_PARCEL shapefile to ensure all commercial and industrial properties are inspected over the permit term.

Prior to performing the surveys, the existing Routine Watershed Inspection Field Sheet was replaced with a modified Center for Watershed Protection (CWP) Hotspot Site Investigation Sheet (HSI). The modified HSI form, found in Appendix C, contains the most common items that inspectors find in the field, including vehicle operations, storage of outdoor materials, waste operations, and facility management. Each tax parcel identified on the field maps was visually assessed from a vehicle or on foot depending on access and safety. If no visible practices or conditions that would produce pollution to nearby storm drain inlets or watersheds are observed, then a Charles County Hotspot Site Investigation Sheet was not filled out, but the field map was marked to show the tax parcel was surveyed. If visible practices or conditions that would produce pollution to nearby storm drain inlets or watersheds were observed, then field crews documented the conditions by recording tax parcel number, address/location, business name, property owner (if available), notes, and pictures on a Charles County Hotspot Site Investigation Sheet and mark the field map to show the tax parcel was surveyed.

Within the targeted areas, 15 businesses were documented as having practices or conditions that would produce pollution to nearby storm drain inlets or watersheds in 2025. These businesses and their practices or conditions are listed below in Table 14. Detailed reports for each can be found in Appendix C and enforcement activity is described in the following section.

*Table 14: Visual Survey of Commercial & Industrial Land Use – Potential Pollution Sites FY 2025*

| Date | Site Name | Problem | County Tracking # |
|---|---|---|---|
| 9-April-25 | Unclaimed Lot | Stockpiles of trash and asphalt. | VIOL-250037 |
| 9-April-25 | Solar Pros LLC | Active vehicle washing | VIOL-250038 |
| 9-April-25 | Soltesz | Overflowing dumpster. | VIOL-250035 |
| 9-April-25 | Spirit of America Car Wash | Active vehicle washing directly into storm drains. | VIOL-250036 |
| 17-April-25 | Compton Bus Services | Paint buckets and chemical storage outside. Excess miscellaneous loose trash behind business. | VIOL-250147 |
| 17-April-25 | Enterprise Rent-A-Car | Uncovered mulch stockpiles without any stormwater protection. Open top roll off dumpster stored outside. | VIOL-250148 |
| 17-April-25 | Hash Construction Company | Paint buckets and chemical storage outside. Excess miscellaneous loose trash behind business. | VIOL-250149 |
| 17-April-25 | Restore Collision Repair | Overflowing dumpster and excess trash surrounding dumpster. Paint buckets improperly stored outside. | VIOL-250150 |
| 17-April-25 | We Pave Commercial | Uncovered asphalt stockpiles without any stormwater protection. | VIOL-240118 |
| 17-April-25 | Unclaimed lot | Heavy machinery, oil, and paint cans improperly stored outside. Roll off dumpster and excess miscellaneous loose trash behind business. | VIOL-250151 |
| 12-May-25 | Wawa | Significant oil staining throughout parking lot. | VIOL-250061 |
| 12-May-25 | Xtreme Auto Mall | Active vehicle washing with no stormwater protection. | VIOL-250060 |
| 12-May-25 | Sky Dominican Hair Salon | Discarded soapy wash water in the parking lot. | VIOL-250062 |
| 12-May-25 | Ferguson | Overflowing dumpster and discarded piles of supplies. | VIOL-250063 |
| 12-May-25 | Andino's Auto Repair | Active vehicle maintenance outside of the designated vehicle bay. Several truck hoods were open with funnels and oil canisters next to the vehicles | VIOL-250064 |

***Enforcement Activities***

Between July 2024 and December 2025, eighty-nine (89) illicit discharge complaints were reported and/or investigated. Thirty-two (32) originated from the 2024 spring survey, fourteen (14) originated from the 2025 spring survey, and forty-three (43) came from other sources. See Appendix C for a table summarizing violation cases and their current statuses and resolutions.

***Standard Operating Procedure***

The County adopted a revised Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) on December 17, 2025. The revisions included necessary updates, outlining the outfall screening process and how outfalls are prioritized for screening. Other minor changes include an update to the letterhead on the Hotspot Site Investigation Sheet and minor revisions to the violation letter template. See Appendix D for the adopted 2025 SOP.

***Reporting Mechanisms***

The public has access to the following methods for reporting illicit discharge concerns:

1) Illicit Discharge Hotline – residents can call 301-645-0692 and select Option 5 to report an illicit discharge via phone.
2) See Click Report – residents can report an illicit discharge concern through this reporting tool. It is available through the County's website and through the See Click Report mobile app. To report an illicit discharge, residents can navigate to the Health & Public Safety Group and select the "Report an Illicit Discharge" option.

***Proposed Program Improvements***

Per the FY 2022 and 2023 recommendation, inventory and screening efforts in FY 2025 were performed only on commercial and industrial outfalls. In addition, pipes with internal diameters of less than 36" were inventoried and screened for the first time. Inspection work was conducted in FY 2025 following these new guidelines. For FY 2026, additional inventory and screening is recommended to identify any new potential illicit discharges from these outfalls. Historically, the County has included residential major outfalls for field screening efforts. Shifting away from residential areas is allowing for more focus on commercial and industrial areas each year where the likelihood of pollution is higher.

The County also intends to pursue illicit discharge inspection training for Inspections staff in FY 2026. This will provide inspectors with necessary information to conduct illicit discharge investigations and enforcement activities.

4. Property Management and Maintenance

*a. Coverage under Maryland's NPDES General Permit for Discharges of Stormwater Associated with Industrial Activity (SW Industrial GP) is typically required at facilities where the following activities are performed: maintenance or storage of vehicles or equipment; storage of vehicles or equipment; storage of fertilizers, pesticides, landscaping materials, hazardous materials, or other materials that could pollute stormwater runoff. The County shall:*

*i. Ensure that a Notice of Intent (NOI) has been submitted to MDE for each County-owned industrial facility requiring coverage under the SW Industrial GP; and*

*ii. Submit with the annual report a list of County properties currently covered under the industrial stormwater permit.*

FY 2025 Status

***County-Owned Facilities with Industrial Stormwater Permits***

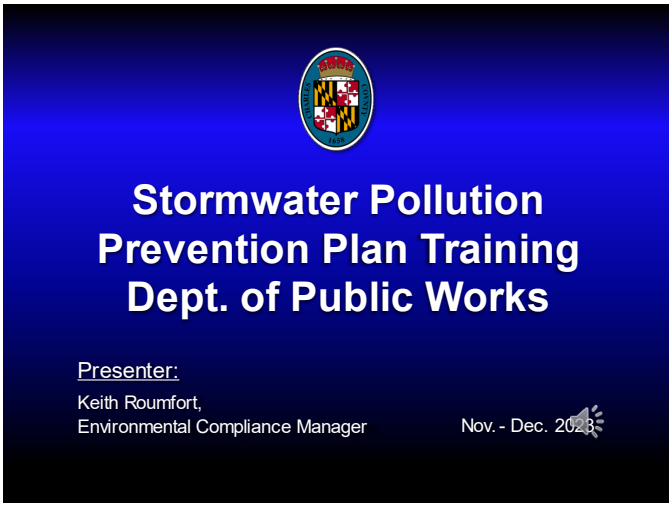
As of FY 2025, three County-owned municipal facilities require the NPDES industrial stormwater permit coverage. These facilities are the Charles County Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP), the Sanitary Landfill #2, and the Department of Public Works (DPW) campus. All three facilities have active SWPPPs (Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plans). The facilities have been operating under the new 20-SW permits and comply with the new requirements.

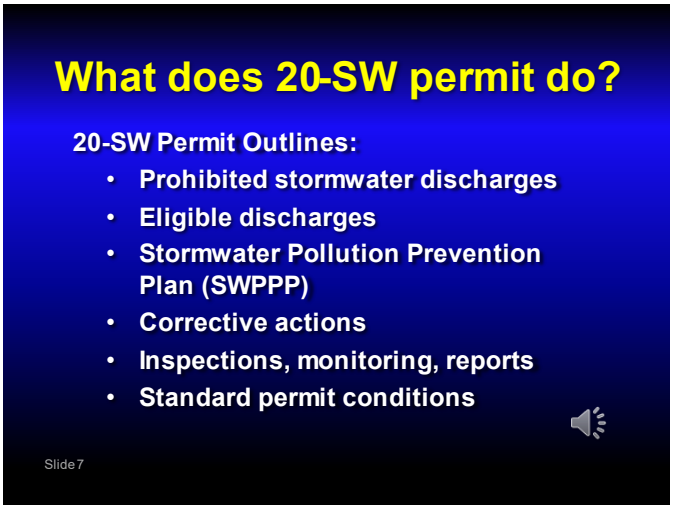
At all three facilities, routine inspections are conducted. At a minimum, on a quarterly basis, quarterly visual assessments and routine facility inspections are completed. Monthly, non-stormwater discharge assessments and routine monthly inspections (focused on spill prevention) are conducted. The facilities complete annual staff training and comprehensive site evaluations. More information is in the Staff Training section below.

The Municipal Facilities data is found in the *Municipal Facilities Table* of the enclosed MS4 Geodatabase.

***Staff Training in Pollution Prevention and Good Housekeeping Practices***

Per the Charles County Department of Public Work's (DPW) Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plans (SWPPP), all applicable staff are trained annually on, but not limited to spill prevention and control, proper fueling procedures, general good housekeeping practices, waste recycling, and used oil management. A PowerPoint presentation is developed and presented by the Environmental Compliance Manager to discuss the topics, as well as any specific examples of how to improve DPW's housekeeping practices. A recorded PowerPoint presentation is played at






the employee's convenience by the completion due date. A record of all employees who completed these training courses is kept with the SWPPP. Divisions of the Department of Public Works received their annual SWPPP training in November 2024. Example training slides are shown here.

The Mattawoman Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) conducted their annual SWPPP training in June 2025. The SWPPP team takes applicable staff on their routine facility inspection and discusses good housekeeping practices. The SWPPP team also discusses spill response, which covers the gates to lock in an emergency and the locations of all spill kits. Staff has also taken extra steps in cleaning around site to maintain spill prevention and placing spill kits in key areas. Equipment maintenance staff have been included to ensure day to day operations and activities maintain compliance with spill prevention.

Mattawoman is undergoing major upgrades and with the construction activities at the facility and the greater possibilities of fuel/oil contamination from equipment leaks. Observation of any

incidents of this nature is stressed so remediation can take place if necessary. Erosion control that has been put in place for these construction activities is inspected regularly by the County Inspectors. In addition to this service, the SWPPP team members at the facility also inspect these sediment controls as part of their inspections.

b. *The County shall develop, implement, and maintain a good housekeeping plan (GHP) for County-owned properties not required to be covered under Maryland's SW Industrial GP where the activities listed in PART IV.D.4.a. are performed. The GHP shall be submitted to MDE by the County in its third year annual report and implemented thereafter. A standard GHP may be developed for properties with similar use (e.g., recreation and parks properties, school properties). The GHP shall include, but not be limited to:*

- i. *A description of property management activities;*
- ii. *A map of the locations of properties covered by the GHP;*
- iii. *A list of potential pollutants and their sources that result from facility activities;*
- iv. *Written procedures designed to reduce the potential for stormwater pollution form property activities, including illicit discharges, dumping, and spills;*
- v. *Written procedures for annually assessing County properties in order to prevent the discharge of pollutants, spills, and leaks into its municipal separate storm sewer system; and*
- vi. *Written procedures for performing stormwater conveyance system inspections for removing debris that may cause clogging, backups, and flooding; and*
- vii. *Annual training for all appropriate County staff and contractors regarding best practices for preventing, reducing, and eliminating the discharge of pollutants during property activities.*

FY 2025 Status

***Good Housekeeping Plan***

Charles County collaborated with other Maryland Phase I permittees to develop a Good Housekeeping Plan (GHP) template for applicable County-owned properties. On April 18, 2024, the Maryland Department of Environment approved the GHP template. On January 27, 2025, a brief introduction to Maryland's GHP program was provided to the County's Executive Leadership Team so that all County Departments are aware and prepared for site evaluations and plan implementation. The slides are included in Appendix E. Following the introduction property managers completed preliminary applicability surveys for the County's 151 facilities by March 31, 2025. Based on these initial findings, it was determined 54 required site visits for verifying GHP

applicability using the Applicability Certification form. The site visits were completed in June 2025 and found 35 GHP applicable facilities. A chart of the 35 facilities and the GHPs for these facilities are included in Appendix E.

The first GHP training was held November 12, 2025, and site inspection training is planned for February 2026. The training slides are in Appendix E.

c. *The County shall continue to implement a program to reduce pollutants associated with the maintenance of County-owned properties including, but not limited to, local roads and parks. The maintenance program shall include the following activities where applicable:*

i. *Street sweeping in the amount identified in Appendix B and annually updated thereafter in accordance with PART IV.E.8.a;*
ii. *Inlet inspection and cleaning in the amount identified in Appendix B and annually updated thereafter in accordance with PART IV.E.8; and*
iii. *Reducing the use of pesticides, herbicides, fertilizers, and other pollutants associated with vegetation management. This can include, but is not limited to:*
- *Developing and implementing an Integrated Pest Management Plan according to EPA guidelines;*
- *Custom fertilizer property management plans based on soil testing;*
- *Targeted application or "spot application" of pesticides;*
- *Alternative and organic fertilizers;*
- *Manual weed removal, mowing, and trimming;*
- *Annual training and applicator certification and licensing as required by Maryland Department of Agriculture to ensure accurate application of chemicals according to manufacturer's recommendations;*
- *Subcontracting to a certified pest control applicator licensed business for some or all of the properties;*
- *Piloting biological pest control programs; and*
- *Establishing "no mow" areas.*

FY 2025 Status

***Street Sweeping***

In FY 2025, the Roads Division (Roads) swept 1,649 miles of Charles County roadways, mostly within high traffic and residential areas. The hired contractor typically uses one to three trucks when they mobilize and typically uses a 2006 or 2016 Freightliner Broom Bear sweeper. Tonnage

collected from sweeping was 82.31 tons and the FY 2025 budget for street sweeping remains at $125,000.00. Roads requests a 10% increase for all line items every budget year regarding the Watershed Protection and Restoration Fund.

*Table 15: Street Sweeping*

| | FY 2021 | FY 2022 | FY 2023 | FY 2024 | FY 2025 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Miles Swept | 522.47 | 1,156 | 1,358 | 1,557 | 1,649 |
| Debris Removed (tons) | 46.5 | 157 | 89 | 113.62 | 82.31 |
| Contractual Expenses | $99,000 | $98,500 | $92,700 | $125,300 | $113,000 |

***Inlet Inspection, Repair, Cleaning, and Marking***

In FY 2025 85.57 tons of material removed from storm drain inlet cleanings. The FY 2025 budget for inlet cleaning was $200,000 with an additional $600,000 for inlet and catch basin inspections. Inlet repairs totaled $549,518. Expenditures for each program are indicated in the following tables.

*Table 16: Stormwater Pipe and Inlet Cleaning*

| | FY 2021 | FY 2022 | FY 2023 | FY 2024 | FY 2025 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Pipes/Inlets Vacuumed | 77/46 | 59/31 | 28 | 74/48 | 76/63 |
| Debris Removed (tons) | 319.2 | 55.19 | 115.13 | 66.74 | 84.57 |
| Contractual Expenses | $119,491 | $119,754 | $119,964 | $147,890 | $199,554 |

*Table 17: Stormwater Inlet and Outfall Inspections and Repairs*

| | FY 2021 | FY 2022 | FY 2023 | FY 2024 | FY 2025 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Inlets Repaired | 9 | 36 | 35 | 46 | 59 |
| Contractual Inlet Inspection Expenses | $274,349 | $316,777 | $370,000 | $499,562 | $549,518 |
| Outfall Repairs (in sq. ft.) | 2,345 | 1,375 | 1,131 | 810 | 775 |
| Contractual Inlet Repair Expenses | $557,410 | $396,373 | $324,249 | $398,048 | $397,240 |

See Part IV.D.5 Public Education for information on the Storm Inlet Marking program.

The *Alternate BMP Polygons* feature class containing inlet cleaning information, is in the MS4 Geodatabase.

***County Owned Stormwater Management Facility Inspection and Maintenance***

The County owns and maintains approximately 500 stormwater management facilities for the purposes of managing stormwater runoff from County roads, parking areas and buildings. These facilities must be inspected and maintained on a regular basis to ensure proper functioning. The intent of providing annual maintenance for these facilities is for consistent performance and

to reduce costly repairs. Facility repairs are typically per Planning and Growth Management's stormwater maintenance triennial inspection findings.

*Table 18: County Owned Stormwater Management Facility Inspection and Maintenance*

| | FY 2020 | FY 2021 | FY 2022 | FY 2023 | FY 2024 | FY 2025 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| # Facilities | 360 | 341 | 393 | 455 | 365 | 357 |
| Expenses (Contractual) | $342,321 | $347,209 | $342,845 | $398,682 | $396,757 | $358,870 |

Mosquito Control expenses associated with County owned property are funded by the Watershed Protection and Restoration Fund since FY 2018 as they are part of maintaining the stormwater management systems.

*Table 19: Mosquito Control Expenses*

| | FY 2020 | FY 2021 | FY 2022 | FY 2023 | FY 2024 | FY 2025 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Expenses | $6,000 | $16,000 | $16,000 | $25,000 | $32,000 | $35,000 |

***County Owned Stream Restoration and Shoreline Stabilization Projects***

In FY 2020 the Department of Public Works (DPW) began conducting year-two and beyond inspections for all completed shoreline stabilization and stream restoration projects that are constructed by the Capital Services Division. As part of each project's completion, Capital Services conducts necessary inspections and monitoring for the year following the project's completion. The Environmental Resources Division conducts any maintenance and inspections thereafter.

In FY 2025, the cost for the Environmental Resources Division to monitor, inspect, and maintain shoreline stabilization projects and stream restoration projects totaled $198,651. This cost may incrementally increase in future fiscal years as more projects are added or as maintenance is needed on mature projects. The cost of each project varies depending upon the level of stabilization or restoration work needed. FY 2026's budget for this task is currently $250,000.

*Table 20: County Owned Shoreline Stabilization and Stream Restoration Monitoring by Environmental Resources*

| | FY 2021 | FY 2022 | FY 2023 | FY 2024 | FY 2025 | FY 2026 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| # Shoreline Stabilizations | 2 | 5 | 5 | 4 | 2 | 2 |
| # Stream Restorations | 2 | 2 | 5 | 6 | 8 | 6 |
| Contractual Expense | $31,676 | $54,648 | $101,910 | $164,736 | $198.651 | $250,000 (Budgeted) |

***Vegetation Management***

In FY 2025, Roads and its contractors did not use any herbicides on County maintained roads. No chemical treatments including Round-Up or any other herbicide or pollutant were applied for roadway vegetative management.

The Parks and Grounds Division (Parks) is responsible for maintaining all parks, sport facilities, and lawn care surrounding government buildings within the County. In FY 2015, Parks converted from a quick release to slow-release fertilizer for all applications. Coated/slow-release carrier minimized risk of fertilizer moving into ground and surface water through and less likelihood of runoff. Also, the use of slow-release fertilizer has reduced the frequency of grass mowing. Parks has also stopped the usage of fertilizer that contains phosphorus entirely. The latest saturated soil analysis was conducted on May 7, 2019. In FY 2025, Parks used 54.32 gallons of Credit41 Extra, an herbicide, on County property.

The White Plains Golf Course is managed independently of the other County parks. In FY 2025, 3 tons of fertilizer as well as 12.5 gallons of herbicide and 7.3 gallons of pesticide were applied to over the 30 acres of turfgrass.

*d. The County shall reduce the use of winter weather deicing and anti-icing materials, without compromising public safety, by developing a County Salt Management Plan (SMP) to be submitted to the Department in its third year annual report and implemented thereafter. The SMP shall be based on the guidance provided on best road salt management practices described in the Maryland Department of Transportation, State Highway Administration's Maryland Statewide Salt Management Plan, developed and updated annually as required by the Maryland Code, Transportation §8-602.1. The County's SMP shall include, but not be limited to:*

*i. A plan for evaluation of new equipment and methods, and other strategies for continual program improvement;*

*ii. Training and outreach:*

- *Creating a local "Salt Academy" that annually provides County winter weather operator personnel and contractors with the latest training in deicer and anti-icer management, or the participation of County personnel and contractors in a "Salt Academy" administered by another MS4 permittee or State agency.*
- *Developing and distributing best salt management practices outreach for educating residents within the County.*

*iii. Tracking and reporting:*

- *Starting with the fourth year annual report, during storm events*

*where deicing or anti-icing materials are applied to County roads, track and record the amount of materials used and snowfall in inches per event, if applicable, and;*

- *Report the deicing or anti-icing application by event or date, and the monthly and annual pounds used per lane mile per inch of snow.*

FY 2025 Status

***Winter Weather Deicing***

Rather than spreading salt throughout the storm event, Roads Division waits until the storm has nearly passed to plow and spread salt to increase its effectiveness and decrease runoff. In FY 2025, Roads staff were mobilized for seven storm events and applied 6,700 tons of salt to roadways. No pretreatment compounds are used on County roads, such as magnesium or potassium chloride. Roads strictly uses sodium chloride salt when necessary.

Salt spreaders are calibrated before and after their use to ensure they work effectively. Staff is also trained on proper salt-spreading techniques and usage before the beginning of each winter season. If needed, the staff and/or individual contractors are trained throughout the season, depending on the severity of winter weather and their adherence to County policies. Snow supervisors and their contractors know they must remove any excess salt from County roadways after a winter weather event. If any policy is violated, the contractor will not be allowed to continue their snow contract with the County.

Roads is exploring a salt-tracking barcode scanner cell phone application where any person using salt from one of the County's barns will have to scan the amount of salt taken and returned. This way, if salt is improperly applied, the specific contractor can be re-trained or removed from the program.

The draft Charles County Salt Management Plan is included with this annual report in Appendix F for review by the Maryland Department of Environment.

Parks uses a de-icing compound called "Quad-Release", which is a blend of magnesium chloride, calcium chloride, sodium chloride, and potassium chloride on pedestrian walkways and parking lots. While Parks cannot eliminate the use of this product due to public safety concerns, staff has been trained to reduce the amount used whenever possible. This included the following direction: shovel first prior to applying material, apply the recommended amount or less during large winter events, and close lesser-used walkways. Parks will also sweep sidewalks after the storm is over. Parks applied 8,400 pounds of Quad-Release snow melt on sidewalks and parking lots throughout the winter season in FY 2025.

Two Park staff attended the Winter 2024-2025 Smart Salting certification course piloted by the University of Maryland Extension and the Maryland Department of Environment.

*e. The County shall evaluate current litter control problems associated with discharges into, through, or from portions of its MS4. Additionally, the County shall continue to remove from or prevent from entering its MS4 273.5 tons of litter and debris as identified in the first year of permit issuance or as updated annually thereafter in accordance with PART IV.E.8.*

FY 2025 Status

***Litter Control Programs***

The Charles County Department of Public Works (DPW), Environmental Resources Division, has multiple litter control programs that have proven to be effective in combating litter.

The litter control crews routinely patrol the litter hot spots in the County, as well as respond to citizen complaints. In addition to the County-staffed litter crews, a contractor conducts daily cleanings for priority roads. The FY 2024 budget for the litter contractor crew was $200,000. In FY 2025, both contracted and County-staffed crews removed 134.52 tons of litter from the roads. Due to the closure of the Southern Maryland Pre-Release Unit in April of 2021, Litter Control crews were comprised of part-time Charles County employees in FY22. In FY 2024, full-time Litter Control Technician positions were added. Three Litter Control Teams were created to address litter on roadways and county right-a-ways as well as reported complaints of littering and illegal dumping in Charles County.

The Adopt-A-Road program allows residents to volunteer to clean up their County roads. A sign is placed on the adopted road in recognition of the group/individual that adopted it. The program had 82 roads adopted and 178 cleanings had been reported in FY 2025. Some inactive groups were removed from the program in order to attract more participatory groups.

The Adopt-A-Spot program was developed to encourage residents and businesses to help combat littering by “adopting” a County area or spot. Volunteers receive sign recognition in exchange for cleaning their spot at least three (3) times in a calendar year (cleanings must be

reported for credit). Gloves and bags are provided free of charge as well as trash disposal.

In FY24, only three Adopt-A-Spot locations were active. In FY25, the program expanded to 14 spots, resulting in 36 cleanups compared to just 10 the previous year.

The Potomac River Watershed Cleanup is scheduled in April every year. This popular event saw 7 volunteer groups conducting cleanups throughout the County. More than 19 tons of litter and debris were removed from waterways. The County and local watershed organizations continue to supply bags, vests, gloves, and litter grabbers, and provided trash removal for the cleanup groups.

In May of 2025, Charles County hosted its fifth annual Charles County Community Cleanup. Residents and businesses were encouraged to select a community or public space to clean and beautify. Twenty-five volunteer groups participated in the event, removing over 5 tons of debris and litter from area public space.

***Litter Control Public Education***

DPW has increased their efforts to educate the public on the importance of reducing, reusing, and recycling in numerous ways. DPW has adapted their outreach approach. A brochure was mailed to 60,000 residents in their tax bill regarding household hazardous waste (HHW) recycling and the benefits of grass cycling. Rather than newspaper advertisements or press releases, DPW boosted more social media advertisements. There were nearly 120 social media posts and videos in FY 2025. Recycling and Litter Control staff were interviewed for six segments of the Charles County YouTube Channel show titled “Your Charles County”.


DPW continued offering monthly onsite, secure paper shredding. Residents are required to register for the events in advance. These events shredded and recycled 54.8 tons of personal documents. The FY25 expenses for all public outreach and education was $60,057 including printing, marketing, community promotions, Geo-bin (composting bin) costs, and rain barrel subsidy. Rain barrels are provided to registered

residents at workshops at a reduced cost to capture rainwater for recommended usage.


In FY 2025, the County budgeted approximately $125,000 for household hazardous waste collection days. This contracted service provides residents a drop-off location on the first Saturday of each month.

***Effectiveness of Litter Control Efforts***

The latest finalized waste diversion rate is for Calendar Year 2024, which was 43.33%. The County has surpassed the State mandated 35% recycling rate for numerous years.

*f.* *The County shall report annually on the changes in its Property Management and Maintenance programs and the overall pollutant reductions resulting from implementation of the components of the programs listed in this section.*

FY 2025 Status

Changes in Property Management and Maintenance programs are noted above under each applicable permit condition and in the following tables within the MS4 Geodatabase:

The *Alternate BMP Polygon* table reports pollutant reduction resulting from implementation of the storm drain vacuuming program.

The *Chemical Application* table contains information about the types and quantities of chemicals the County uses in maintaining public right-or-way and property.

5. Public Education

*The County shall continue to implement a public education and outreach program to reduce stormwater pollution and flooding. Education and outreach efforts may be integrated with other aspects of the County's activities. These efforts are to be documented and summarized in each annual report, with details on resources (e.g., personnel and financial) expended and method of delivery for education and outreach. The County shall implement a public outreach and education campaign that includes, but is not limited to:*

*a. Maintaining a website with locally relevant stormwater management information and promoting its existence and use;*

*b. Maintaining a compliance hotline or similar mechanism for public reporting of water quality complaints, including suspected illicit discharges, illegal dumping, spills, and flooding problems;*

*c. Provide information to inform the general public about the benefits of:*

*i. Increasing water conservation;*
*ii. Residential and community stormwater management implementation and facility maintenance;*
*iii. Proper erosion and sediment control practices;*
*iv. Increasing proper disposal of household hazardous waste;*
*v. Improving lawn care and landscape management (e.g., the proper use of herbicides, pesticides, and fertilizers, ice control and snow removal)*
*vi. Proper residential car care and washing;*
*vii. Litter reduction;*
*viii. Reducing, reusing, and recycling solid waste; and*
*ix. Proper pet waste management.*

*The County shall conduct a minimum of 15 outreach efforts per year. These efforts may include distributing printed materials such as brochures or newsletters; electronic materials such as website pages; mass media such as newspaper articles or public service announcements (radio or television); and conducting targeted workshops on stormwater management for the public.*

FY 2025 Status

The Public Education program continued to develop and grow in FY 2025. Outreach efforts included:

1. Phone, email, online reporting, and citizen reporting tool (See Click Report) for reporting suspected illicit discharges and drainage concerns
2. County-wide website, social media, reporting tools, email, newspaper, tax bill inserts, smart apps, County government television (live stream and video on demand)

3. Cable TV, streaming, and digital media Public Service Announcements (PSAs)
4. Radio PSAs
5. Storm Drain Stenciling/Marking Program
6. Homeowners outreach and education on stormwater management
7. Public meetings, public hearings, County Fair, Nature Festival
8. Citizens' Academy
9. Rain barrel and composting workshops
10. Septic system maintenance webinars
11. Household hazardous waste collection days, shredding events, community cleanup events
12. Chesapeake Bay Trust Outreach and Restoration Grant Program awards
13. Resilience Authority of Charles County Maryland, Inc.
14. Student and youth outreach
15. Septic Pump-Out and Riser Reimbursement Program
16. Pollution prevention guidance for businesses

| Outreach Events for FY 2025 | |
|---|---|
| **Homeowner Workshops** | **No.** |
| Rain Barrels | 8 |
| Composting | 4 |
| Rain Garden Maintenance | 2 |
| **Landscaping Training** | 1 |
| **Shred & HHW Events** | 21 |
| **River Clean Ups** | 2 |
| **Community/Roadway Clean Ups** | 214 |
| **Youth Education & Outreach** | 4 |
| TOTAL | **256** |

Charles County Phase 1 MS4

**Public Education Coverage**

The following matrix illustrates Charles County's MS4 permit public education coverage.

| PUBLIC EDUCATION TOOL / PERMIT CONDITION | Telephone & Hotline | Online Form | Mobile App | Website | MDE Website | Mailed Letters | Inspection | Brochure | Workshop & Training | HOA Meetings | Schools | County Fair | NatureFest | Radio PSA | Video PSA | Rebate | CBT Grant | Adopt-A-Road | Storm Drain Marking | River Cleanup | Household Haz Waste Day | Shred-It Event | Comm Cleanup |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Public Reporting Of Water Quality Complaints | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ | | ✓ | | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| Water Conservation | | | | ✓ | ✓ | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | | | | | | | | |
| Stormwater Management | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | ✓ |
| Erosion and Sediment Control | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | | | ✓ | | | | | |
| Household Hazardous Waste | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | ✓ |
| Septic Systems | ✓ | ✓ | | ✓ | | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | ✓ | | | | | | | |
| Lawn Care & Landscape Management | | | | ✓ | | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | | | | |
| Rain Barrels & Rain Gardens | | ✓ | | ✓ | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | ✓ | ✓ | | | | | ✓ | |
| Herbicides & Pesticides & Fertilizer | | | | ✓ | | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | ✓ | | ✓ | | ✓ | | |
| Ice Control & Salt Use | | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | | | ✓ | | | | | |
| Yard Waste & Composting | | | ✓ | ✓ | | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | ✓ |
| Litter Reduction | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| Reduce, Reuse & Recycle | | | ✓ | ✓ | | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| Vehicle Care & Washing | ✓ | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | ✓ | | | | ✓ | | ✓ | | ✓ |
| Pet Waste | ✓ | ✓ | | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | | ✓ | | | | ✓ |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | BUSINESS PERMITS | | | |
| NPDES Requirements | | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | | |
| Pollution Prevention Plans | | | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | | | | ✓ | | | | | | | | |
| Proper Housekeeping | | | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | ✓ | | | | | | | | |
| Spill Prevention & Response | ✓ | ✓ | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | | | | ✓ | | | | | | | | |

## Charles County Watershed Protection and Restoration Program - Logo

Charles County's Watershed Protection and Restoration Program (WPRP) logo continues to serve as a branding mechanism for the program. The logo was developed in FY 2015 to project a united program whose staff is spread amongst two departments (Departments of Planning and Growth Management and Public Works) and several divisions. The logo can be seen on the program's web pages, outreach guidance documents, engineered drawings for restoration projects, brochures, and outreach presentations. The logo served as the program's brand on PSAs during FY 2025 shown on cable television, digital streaming, movie theaters and on County social media. The logo is also featured on promotional merchandise handed out at community and outreach events used to promote the program and increase interest in stormwater management and watershed stewardship.

## Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination Program (IDDE)

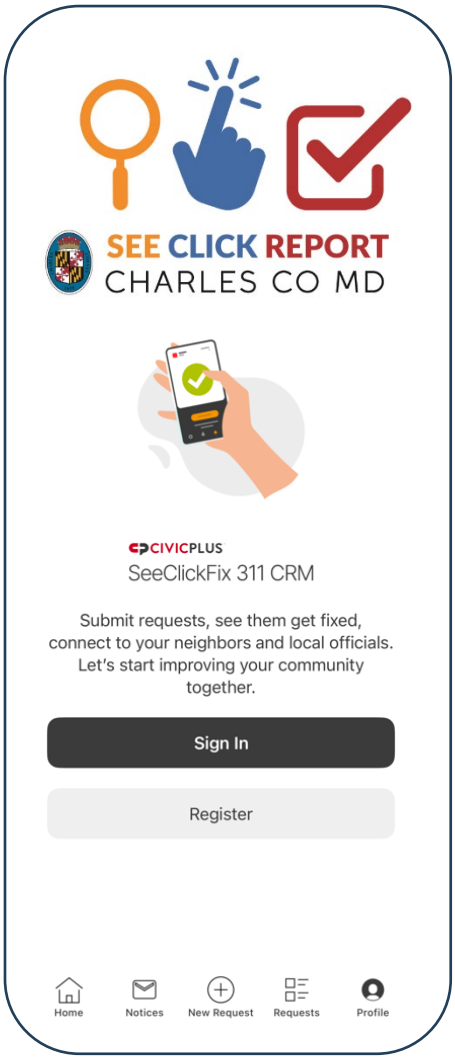
**Public Reporting**

During 2025, citizens reported water quality complaints, suspected illicit discharges, illegal dumping, and spills, through the County's dedicated telephone hotline (301-645-0692, press # 5), and a newly implemented See Click Report tool.

In June 2025, the County introduced See Click Report, a modernized reporting application designed to improve accessibility and documentation. It is available on the County's website and through the See Click Report mobile app.

To report an illicit discharge, residents can navigate to the Health & Public Safety Group, and select the "Report an Illicit Discharge." The new platform also allows users to upload photographs and videos, enter locations manually, or utilize a mobile device's GPS to automatically record the discharge location. This enhanced functionality improves accuracy, verification, and inspection response by County staff.

When an illicit discharge—or the potential for one—is identified during an inspection, the County inspector speaks directly with the property owner or an on-site representative.



If no representative is available, the inspector leaves a door hanger at the primary entrance with a detailed message and contact information.

**IDDE Education**

Educational materials on good housekeeping and pollution prevention are available on the County's website and are routinely provided to residents and business owners. These resources include the County's multi-fold brochure, *Illicit Discharges Affect Everyone…Even You! A Business and Homeowner's Guide to Charles County's IDDE Program*; topic-specific rack cards (described below); and, when applicable, State or EPA guidance on Maryland NPDES individual permits.

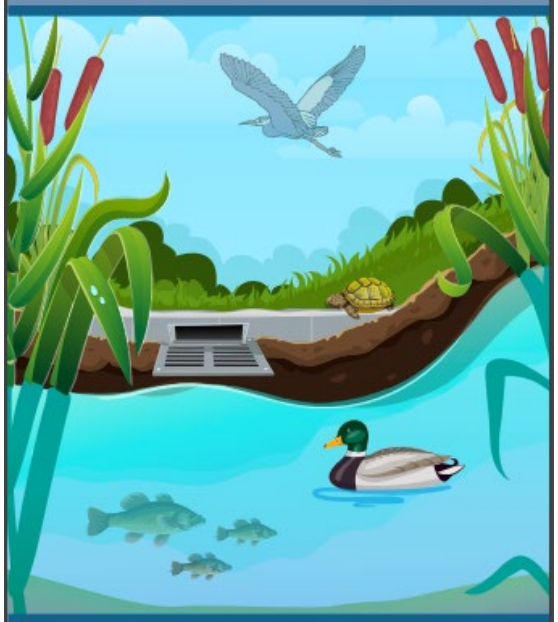
To expand outreach to commercial sectors, Charles County developed and distributed double-sided 4 × 9-inch rack cards in FY2025 focused on illicit discharge prevention related to (1) automotive operations, (2) dumpster management, (3) restaurant maintenance, and (4) outdoor material storage. Each card highlights recommended good housekeeping and pollution prevention practices tailored to the specific business type and includes photographs illustrating both proper and improper practices.

In addition to printed materials, the County continues to incorporate multimedia education. Throughout FY2025, the educational video *IDDE: A Grate Concern* (Excal Visual, Inc.) aired daily on Charles County Government Television (CCGTV) and remained available on the County's YouTube channel. The video can be viewed at: https://youtu.be/gX5j6wlHZb8.

For additional details on the County's IDDE Program, see Part IV.D.3.

# ILLICIT DISCHARGES AFFECT EVERYONE... EVEN YOU!

A BUSINESS AND HOMEOWNERS GUIDE TO CHARLES COUNTY'S IDDE PROGRAM



Charles County Government
Dept. of Planning & Growth Management
www.CharlesCountyMD.gov/Watershed

## ILLICIT DISCHARGES AFFECT EVERYONE... EVEN YOU!

A BUSINESS AND HOMEOWNERS GUIDE TO CHARLES COUNTY'S IDDE PROGRAM

## What is the Charles County Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination (IDDE) Program

Under its National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) municipal stormwater permit, Charles County Government is required to implement an inspection and enforcement program to ensure all discharges to and from the municipal separate storm sewer system (MS4) that are not composed entirely of stormwater are either permitted by the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) or eliminated.

Charles County Government conducts an annual random screening of storm drain outfalls as well as a routine survey of commercial and industrial watersheds. The overall goal of the IDDE program is to identify illegal dumping activities, unauthorized storage of materials and illicit discharges. By identifying such activities and having specific reports of a violation, the county proceeds with efforts to remove such unpermitted discharges.

CHARLES COUNTY Watershed Protection & Restoration

Learn more:

www.CharlesCountyMD.gov/Watershed (Click on Pollution)

## What is an Illicit Discharge?

Illicit discharges are generally any discharge into a storm drain system that is not entirely composed of rain water. Unlike wastewater which flows to a wastewater treatment plant, stormwater generally flows to waterways without any additional treatment. Illicit discharges often include pathogens, oil, grease, litter, surfactants, and various toxic chemicals that pollute our waterways that are used for recreation and drinking water.

### Penalties for Illicit Discharges

Illicit discharges are a serious offense that can result in criminal prosecution. Every case of illicit discharge is investigated. Persons responsible for illicit discharges are subject to civil fines and possible criminal prosecution.


## What is Illegal Dumping?

Illegal dumping is anyone depositing solid waste at a location other than a legally accepted facility. Illegal dumping is a serious problem that requires the county to relinquish funds for investigation, clean-up and enforcement.

### Penalties for Illegal Dumping

Illegal dumping is a serious offense that can result in criminal prosecution. Every case of illicit discharge is investigated. Illegal dumpers are subject to civil fines and possible criminal prosecution.

## Examples of Illicit Discharges

- Any induction of non-stormwater to the ground or into the storm drain.
- Sanitary waste water.
- Septic tank effluent.
- Car wash waste waters.
- Motor oil disposal.
- Radiator flushing disposal.
- Laundry waste waters.
- Auto or household toxic chemical disposal.
- Restaurant grease or cooking oil.
- Leaves or yard waste.

## Examples of Illegal Dumping

- Disposing of your trash in dumpsters or containers you do not own.
- Disposing of trash along public roadways, vacant lots, fields, woods, stream valleys, parks or any other unacceptable location.
- Dumping chemicals, pesticide's, used automotive fluids or other chemical liquids into storm drains, water ways, or on the ground.
- Burning solid waste.
- Improperly disposing of yard waste over your property line or nearby woods.
- Burying solid waste.
- Dropping off solid waste at any location other than a regulated, legally accepted facility, dump, transfer station, or convenience center.

## Reporting of Illegal Dumping or Illicit Discharges

- If you suspect an illicit discharge is being released into the storm sewer system, contact the Charles County Government at 301-645-0692 (Monday through Friday 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.).
- If you suspect an illicit discharge is going into the storm sewer system during non-business hours, please call the Maryland Department of the Environment's toll-free 24-Hour emergency number for pollution problems in Maryland at 866-633-4686 (or 866-MDE-GOTO).
- Submit complaint online: **www.CharlesCountyMD.gov/Watershed** (click on Pollution, and then Report a Suspected Illicit Discharge)
- When reporting, try to include the following:
- Date and time of incident.
- Location of dumping or discharge.
- Digital photos and/or description of incident observed.
- Vehicle and license plate information if involved.

## How **Businesses** Can Help Keep Illicit Discharges Out of Our Waterways:

Keep water from contacting work areas – work areas can be contaminated by raw materials, liquids, grease, waste oil, heavy metals, or other fluids. Stormwater runoff flows across work areas and picks up these contaminants.

### To keep from discharging contaminated stormwater:

- Keep stormwater runoff from contacting any industrial areas, either indoors or out.
- Install roofs or move industrial operations indoors.
- Avoid hosing down outdoor work areas or washing commercial vehicles where the wastewater will enter the storm sewer system.

### Keep contaminants off surfaces that will come into contact with stormwater:

- Control leaks and spills – Clean them up, even if only minor.
- Review operating routines to ensure adequate requirements are met to eliminate potential for contamination on surfaces.
- Regularly check equipment for exposed or leaking parts.
- Minimize the use of chemicals. When needed, make sure you are using the right product in the right amount by following all label instructions. Dispose of any waste and empty containers properly.

### Educate employees about how to prevent stormwater pollution:

- Develop required standard operating procedures such as proper equipment washing.
- Provide training to employees on the importance of following the procedures so they understand why they are being asked to change their methods.
- Post signs as reminders to close covers and protect storage containers, including dumpsters.
- Let your customers know the efforts you are making to minimize waste and eliminate potential pollution sources.

## How **Homeowners** Can Help Keep Illicit Discharges Out of Our Waterways:

- Used oil, antifreeze, or batteries should be recycled. Be sure to check your vehicle on a regular basis for leaks, and clean up any spills with an absorbent that can be swept up and disposed of properly.
- Either wash your car on the grass, so the waste water filters through the soil, or take your car to a commercial wash that sends their water to a wastewater treatment plant.
- Grass clippings and yard waste should be swept away from storm drains after mowing and cutting to either be composted or taken to a proper disposal location.
- Bag or scoop your pet's waste and dispose of it properly.
- Many household products are considered hazardous waste and should be disposed of properly. Charles County Government offers regularly scheduled Household Hazardous Waste Collection days. Details: **www.CharlesCountyMD.gov/HHW** or call 301-932-3599.


**Charles County Government**

**Department of Planning & Growth Management**

200 Baltimore Street • La Plata, Maryland 20646
301-645-0692 • MD Relay: 711 (TDD: 1-800-735-2258)
Equal Opportunity County


Learn more at...

**www.CharlesCountyMD.gov/Watershed**

### About Charles County Government

The mission of Charles County Government is to provide our citizens the highest quality service possible in a timely, efficient and courteous manner. To achieve this goal, our government must be operated in an open and accessible atmosphere, be based on comprehensive long- and short-term planning and have an appropriate managerial organization tempered by fiscal responsibility. We support and encourage efforts to grow a diverse workplace. Charles County is a place where all people thrive and businesses grow and prosper; where the preservation of our heritage and environment is paramount; where government services to its citizens are provided at the highest level of excellence; and where the quality of life is the best in the nation.

It is the policy of Charles County to provide equal employment opportunity to all persons regardless of race, color, sex, age, national origin, religious or political affiliation or opinion, disability, marital status, sexual orientation, genetic information, gender identity or expression, or any other status protected by law.

## Charles County Pollution Prevention Practices

# AUTOMOTIVE BUSINESSES

In order to manage stormwater runoff pollution, Charles County implemented the **Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination Program** in 2001. Stormwater runoff is a result of a rain or snow event flowing over impervious surfaces like streets, sidewalks, and parking lots. This **stormwater runoff** conveys pollutants associated with vehicle maintenance, pet waste, lawn care, and litter into the storm drain system leading directly to our local waterways. When materials like used oil, trash juice from dumpsters, chemicals, or other hazardous materials are discharged, intentionally or unintentionally, into the storm water sewer system, this is considered an **illicit discharge**. Charles County is charged with the responsibility to discover, document, and eliminate these sources of stormwater pollution.

### Help Charles County Prevent Stormwater Pollution

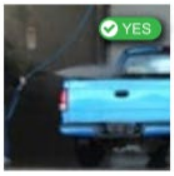

Keep garbage can and dumpster lids **closed**, and the area free of debris. Ensure that the dumpster is in proper working condition (i.e., no leaks, or seal damage).



**Immediately** clean up any oil, chemical, or non-stormwater spill using **dry methods** like kitty litter. Properly dispose of the cleanup material after absorbance.



**Label** liquid storage containers and place on spill pallets to catch any leaks or spills. Store containers **inside** or under cover to prevent exposure to stormwater.


Ensure vehicles are cleaned in a **wash bay** that either recycles used water or drains to a sanitary sewage system. Do not allow wash water to enter a storm drain or the environment.


**To report a concern about pollutants or possible illegal dumping into the storm drain system, contact the Department of Planning & Growth Management: 301-646-0692**

## Charles County Pollution Prevention Practices

# OUTDOOR STORAGE

**Properly label** and cover potentially hazardous materials, such as used oil, paints, detergents, or antifreeze in appropriate containers with secondary containment.



**Ensure** all outdoor containers have lids and are kept closed when not in use.



**Cover** outdoor work areas and piles of loose materials (i.e., sand, salt) to prevent contaminated runoff from reaching storm drains.



**Move** any activities which have the potential for pollution indoors.

### Help Charles County Prevent Stormwater Pollution

Pollution Prevention Practices is a publication of the Charles County Watershed Protection & Restoration Program. For additional information, visit online or contact us by phone or email.

**301-645-0692 • PGM@CharlesCountyMD.gov**

**www.CharlesCountyMD.gov/Watershed**

Charles County Government
**Department of Planning & Growth Management**
200 Baltimore Street • La Plata, Maryland 20646
MD Relay: 711 (TDD: 1-800-735-2258) • Equal Opportunity County

## Charles County Pollution Prevention Practices

# DUMPSTERS

In order to manage stormwater runoff pollution, Charles County implemented the **Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination Program** in 2001. Stormwater runoff is a result of a rain or snow event flowing over impervious surfaces like streets, sidewalks, and parking lots. This **stormwater runoff** conveys pollutants associated with vehicle maintenance, pet waste, lawn care, and litter into the storm drain system leading directly to our local waterways. When materials like used oil, trash juice from dumpsters, chemicals, or other hazardous materials are discharged, intentionally or unintentionally, into the storm water sewer system, this is considered an **illicit discharge**. Charles County is charged with the responsibility to discover, document, and eliminate these sources of stormwater pollution.

## Help Charles County Prevent Stormwater Pollution

### Why is dumpster maintenance important?

Unmaintained dumpsters can…

- **Contaminate** stormwater runoff
- **Pollute** our waterways
- **Hurt** our wildlife
- **Harm** our environment


### What do I need to do?

- **Train** employees to close all dumpster lids after every use. Post dumpster maintenance tips.
- **Fix** damaged or broken lids, and replace dumpsters that leak.
- **Sweep** litter into a trash receptacle.
- **Inspect** the area around dumpsters regularly to ensure it is clean.
- **Dispose** of grease and hazardous waste (i.e., oil, batteries, electronics) by using separate containers.



### What should I NOT do?

- **Do not** overfill dumpsters.
- **Do not** dispose of liquids or allow leakage.
- **Do not** pressure wash, hose, or sweep debris or spills into the storm drain.
- **Do not** leave lids open so rainwater can get into the dumpster.
- **Do not** wash the dumpster area with detergents.


**To report a concern about pollutants or possible illegal dumping into the storm drain system, contact the Department of Planning & Growth Management: 301-646-0692**

## Charles County Pollution Prevention Practices

# RESTAURANTS

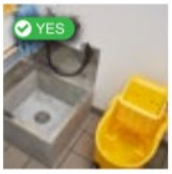
In order to manage stormwater runoff pollution, Charles County implemented the **Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination Program** in 2001. Stormwater runoff is a result of a rain or snow event flowing over impervious surfaces like streets, sidewalks, and parking lots. This **stormwater runoff** conveys pollutants associated with vehicle maintenance, pet waste, lawn care, and litter into the storm drain system leading directly to our local waterways. When materials like used oil, trash juice from dumpsters, chemicals, or other hazardous materials are discharged, intentionally or unintentionally, into the storm water sewer system, this is considered an **illicit discharge**. Charles County is charged with the responsibility to discover, document, and eliminate these sources of stormwater pollution.

## Help Charles County Prevent Stormwater Pollution


Keep garbage can and dumpster **lids closed**, and the area free of debris. Ensure that the dumpster is in proper working condition (i.e., no leaks, or seal damage).



**Immediately clean up** any oil, chemical, or other liquid spill using **dry methods** like kitty litter. Properly dispose of the cleanup material after absorbance.


Use **indoor sinks** or floor drains to clean floor mats and empty dirty mop water. **Do not** dispose of any wash water outdoors or into the storm drains.



Keep grease dumpster and used oil container **lids closed** at all times when not in use. Using a closed container to prevent spills, **transport** used cooking oil to grease dumpster after it has cooled.


**To report a concern about pollutants or possible illegal dumping into the storm drain system, contact the Department of Planning & Growth Management: 301-646-0692**

## CCGTV, Website, Social Media, Email, Newspaper & Mail

**CCGTV:** Charles County Government Television (CCGTV) is the government local access channel for Charles County, Maryland. CCGTV is available on Comcast and Verizon FIOS as well as streaming via AppleTV, Roku and the internet. The channel broadcasted live meetings of the Board of County Commissioners, as well as Public Hearings. CCGTV also produces original programming to highlight county programs and events. A schedule and video on demand library remain available through https://www.charlescountymd.gov/services/media-services/charles-county-government-television.


**Charles County Government Website:**
www.CharlesCountyMD.gov/watershed

In FY 2025, Charles County's WPRP continued to:

1. Update webpages.
2. Encourage interest in the WPRP.
3. Increase public awareness of the County's efforts on watershed protection, stormwater management and MS4 permit compliance.
4. Educate citizens and business owners on the basics of watershed, stormwater, and stormwater management concepts.
5. Convey the role of citizens in achieving improved water quality.
6. Increase transparency of the program.

The WPRP webpages remained featured under the Department of Planning and Growth Management (PGM) and the Department of Public Works (DPW) websites. Information is organized and presented under four major categories on the PGM homesite: 1) Education & Programs; 2) News and Videos; 3) Planning & Monitoring; and 4) Pollution.
In addition, interactive online tools and downloaded mobile apps continue to be available through the website. Examples are shown on the following pages.

# Help Stop Water Pollution!

Font Size: Share & Bookmark Feedback Print

Water pollution is defined as the contamination of water bodies, including lakes, rivers, oceans, aquifers and groundwater. Humans and wildlife depend on clean water to survive, it is essential to sustain life. Access to clean water is one of the largest global health risks. When water becomes unfit for drinking and recreation, human and wildlife populations suffer. Water pollution does not only affect people around the world, it affects our local communities. Sources of water pollution in Charles County include:

- Automotive Fluids, Oils, Grease, Industrial Waste, and Paint
- Yard Waste and Litter
- Pesticides, Fertilizers, and Road Salt
- Pet Waste
- Leaking or Overflowing Sewage Pipes

Protecting water quality can be accomplished by everyone. Click on the areas below to find out how you can help.

- **Lawn Care and Landscape Management** ›
- **Proper Car Care and Washing** ›
- **Proper Disposal of Household Hazardous Waste** ›
- **Proper Pet Waste Management** ›
- **Use Less Winter Salt** NEW ›
- **Rain Barrels and Workshops** ›
- **Rain Garden** ›
- **Restaurants Pollution Prevention** ›
- **Dumpster Maintenance** ›
- **Storm Drain Stenciling/Marking Program** ›

## Use Less Winter Salt

The overuse of salt in Maryland is affecting our drinking water and accumulating in groundwater. It can be harmful to pets, damage our streams, and aquatic life, and corrode infrastructure such as pipes, roads, sidewalks, and bridges.

As homeowners, we can help reduce salt use in our neighborhoods and protect our water supplies — while still preventing slips and falls.

### Shovel Early, Shovel Well, Shovel Again

Salt does not melt existing snow or ice; it only produces a brine solution to keep snow and ice from bonding to the pavement. Apply salt before a storm as a pretreatment, or after you've cleared snow and ice.

### A Little Goes a Long Way

• A 12-oz mug of salt is enough for 10 sidewalk squares.

• Avoid clumping — spread salt evenly so granules are about 1–2 inches apart.

• If the storm misses you, sweep up unused salt and reuse it later.

Remember: Winter salt's primary job is to make shoveling and plowing easier, not to melt large amounts of snow or ice.

### Other Tips

• **Covering critical areas:** For small but important areas (e.g., steps), cover them with a tarp before the storm. Secure it with weights if high winds are expected. Remove the tarp after the storm to reveal ice-free steps.

• **HOA engagement:** Talk to your Homeowner's Association about adopting salt-smart practices.

• **Traction:** Sand does not melt ice, but it can provide traction. Sweep-up remaining sand after the storm to prevent sand from flowing to streets and waterways. Kitty-litter provides poor traction since it dissolves quickly and becomes slippery.

### Professional Help

Hiring trained professionals can keep sidewalks and roads safe with less salt. The Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) offers a training and certification program for winter maintenance professionals:
https://mde.maryland.gov/programs/water/319NonPointSource/Pages/saltapplicators.aspx

### Learn More

Visit MDE's "Winter Salts" webpage to learn more about salt and its impacts:
https://mde.maryland.gov/programs/water/319NonPointSource/Pages/411-on-Salt.aspx

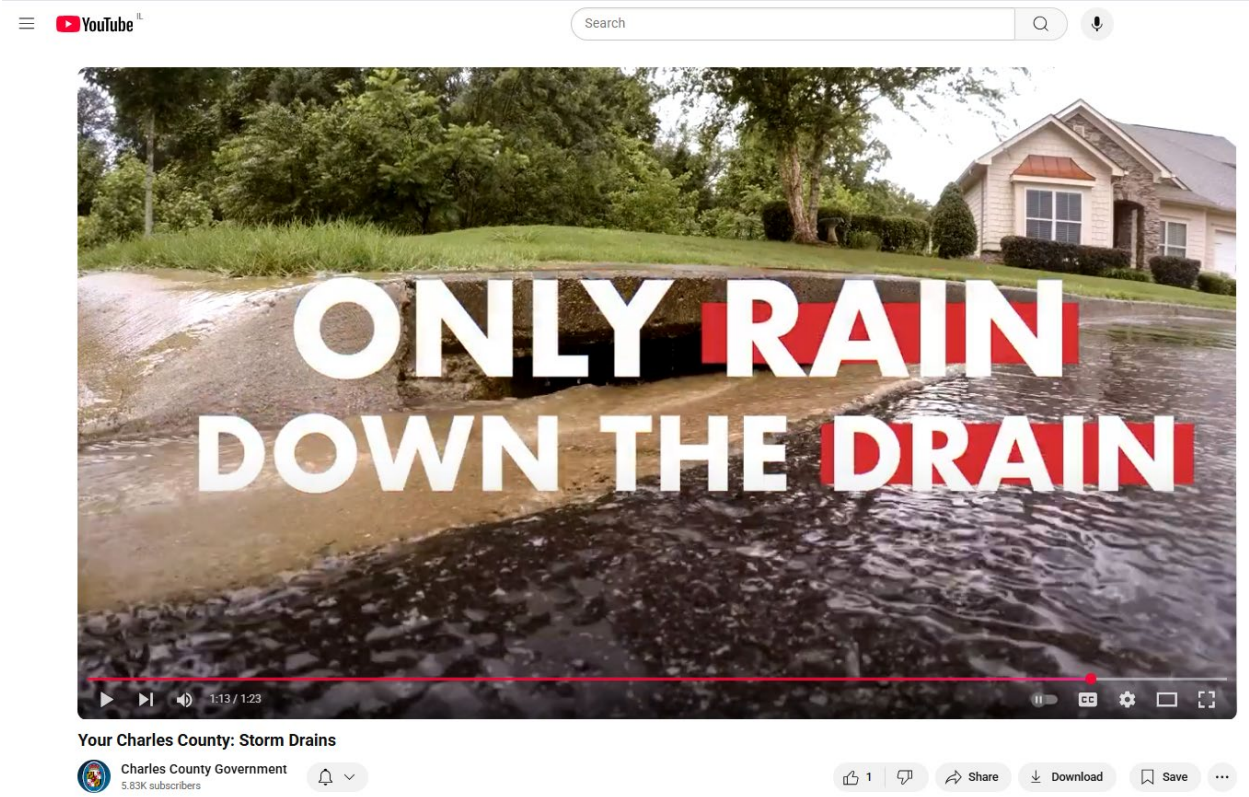
Adapted from:
Lazur, A., & Sandi, G. (2024). Being Salt Smart (EBR-2023-0666). University of Maryland Extension.


*Source: Maryland Department of Environment: Saltbox_Eng.png (1728×2304)*

**Social Media:** The WPRP uses social media to reach out to citizens and promote the WPRP. Workshops, community events, proposed regulations, and public hearings were posted and shared on Facebook, Instagram, NextDoor, YouTube, and LinkedIn to build public awareness,


increase participation, and make registration easy. The Charles County Government Facebook page has 21,000-plus followers (an increase of approximately 1,000 from FY 2025).

Charles County Government also improves community communication through their YouTube channel. Charles County Government YouTube channel has 5,830 subscribers (390 more than the previous year). This visual, social medium has become a successful outreach tool that informs and entertains. The YouTube channel introduces County leaders and provides information on local programs, events, proposals, services, and local places of interest. Health, safety, education, history, tourism, parks and recreation, economic opportunities, utilities, waste management, infrastructure, and the environmental protection were some of the topics covered. Latest videos were consistently uploaded from various County government departments and local community groups. Two-hundred and seventy-four new videos were produced in 2025 for a total of 974 videos organized in 39 playlists. All seven WPRP public service announcements (PSAs) were featured on the channel as well as eight (8) new watershed protection videos:




1. *Your Charles County:* Storm Drains
2. *Cracking the Code:* Stormwater
3. *Charles County Now:* Climate Report Card
4. *Your Charles County:* More than a Job - 50 Years of Dedication
5. *Your Charles County:* Community Cleanup 2025
6. *Your Charles County:* Handle Yard Waste The Right Way
7. *Glad you Asked:* Weekley Recycling
8. *Glad You Asked:* Roadway Litter

**E-News:** In FY 2025, Charles County citizens stayed connected and engaged with County news, updates, and events through the weekly Charles County Government e-newsletter sent directly to their email. All citizens, especially new residents, were encouraged to register for the e-newsletter by WPRP staff and on CCGTV by visiting the County's Stay Connected webpage at https://www.charlescountymd.gov/services/media-services/stay-connected or by calling the County's Public Information Office at (301) 645-0580.

**News Releases/Newspapers:** News releases from the Charles County Media Services Division alerted citizens about upcoming WPRP events, trainings, grants, and hearings. All News Releases were published in local southern Maryland newspapers, posted on Charles County Government social media outlets, and emailed to individuals who registered to the County's e-news distribution. News Releases advertise rain barrel workshops, yard waste collection for

composting, hazardous waste collection days, shred events, grant programs, grant awards, public meetings, hearings, and other WPRP announcements.

**Direct Mailings:**
In 2025, mailing campaigns were conducted to target neighborhoods with specific watershed protection concerns. Each mailing provided residents with tailored information on pollution prevention and watershed stewardship. Three separate campaigns addressed safe pet waste disposal, storm drain protection, and porous pavement maintenance in three different communities. A total of 2,197 letters were mailed.

**Resilience Authority Awarded Grant for Stethem Restoration Plan**

**Post Date:** 03/19/2025 3:00 PM

Charles County Government
NewsRelease

**News Release # 2025-027**

**Wednesday, March 19, 2025**

The Charles County Resilience Authority was awarded a $121,400 Watershed Assistance Program Grant from the Chesapeake Bay Trust for a habitat resilience project at the Stethem Memorial Sports Complex.

The project addresses stormwater runoff, natural shade and buffer needs at the Stethem Memorial Park Complex in Waldorf.

The design includes nature-based restoration solutions, such as rain gardens, bioretention areas in the parking lot, pollinator meadows, and more.

Further green infrastructure work such as planting native plants and trees, will absorb stormwater runoff, help with air filtration, and create new wildlife habitats while mitigating the heat island effects caused by treeless parking lots and unused mowed turfgrass.

"This project provides the opportunity to turn the under-shaded compacted mowed turfgrass, gravel, and asphalt landscape into a welcoming and shaded space where families and individuals can engage in outdoor active recreation without being in a heat island and cut off from nature," Stacy Schaefer, Executive Director of the Charles County Resilience Authority, said.

The Departments of Recreation, Parks and Tourism, and Planning and Growth Management were consulted in identifying the project. The project advances stormwater treatment goals outlined in the Zekiah Swamp Watershed Assessment and the commissioner's goals to balance passive and active recreation opportunities with a focus on natural resources.

"This resilience project at the Stethem Memorial Sports Complex is a meaningful step toward improving stormwater treatment while thoughtfully balancing recreation with environmental stewardship," Deborah Hall, Acting County Administrator, said. "By integrating sustainable practices into our public spaces, we are advancing the Commissioners' commitment to protecting natural resources and enhancing the quality of life for our community."

This project is part of the Charles County Resilience Authority's "Concrete to Green" initiative, which is in collaboration with the Department of Recreation, Parks, and Tourism. The initiative seeks to create healthy, shaded access to nature in underserved areas that are under shaded and characterized by too much impervious landcover and too little native, biodiverse green space.

In 2024, the Resilience Authority was awarded a Watershed Assistance Program Grant to facilitate the design of a stormwater pocket park at the Waldorf Elite Gymnastics Center.

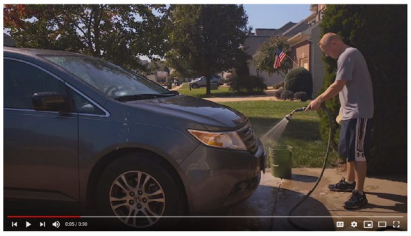
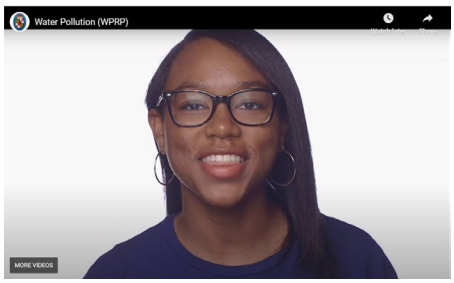
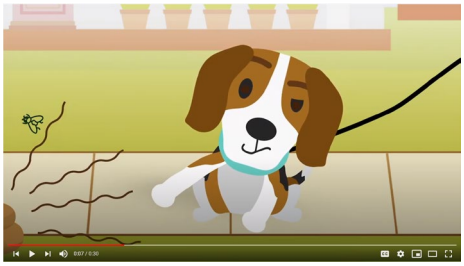
###

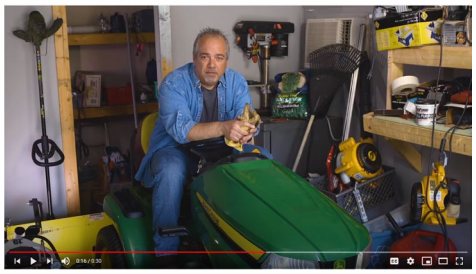
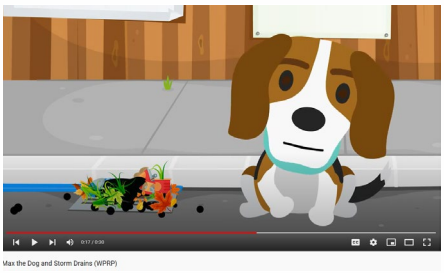
**Tax Bill Inserts.** In the summer of 2025, the County's tax bill mail-out included a mailer with instructions to County residents on how to use the *Charles County Recycles* App. On the back of the mailer, information was provided about free, monthly Household Hazardous Waste collection events for County residents.


## Public Service Announcements

The WPRP airs Public Service Announcement (PSA) commercials that serve as an effective visual medium to educate citizens of all ages on the origins of nonpoint source water pollution and how to protect water quality. These messages emphasize the catchphrase, "Be the Solution to Water Pollution," inspiring community action and awareness. All seven PSAs remain a vital component of the County's public outreach efforts, reaching audiences through cable television, Charles County Government Television (CCGTV), the Charles County YouTube channel, and various digital streaming platforms. They were also featured on the Stormwater Management - News and Videos webpage.

*Public Service Announcements Statistics in FY 2025*

| # | PSA | Video | Link |
|---|---|---|---|
| **1** | Where our water pollution comes from |  | https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9IE2TKv0PFg&list=PLYKfJ608FjL9iMMhiTn5kjvWv8sDNmoz2&index=6 |
| **2** | Take Responsibility for Water Pollution |  | https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RkP7vDv5xgU&list=PLYKfJ608FjL9iMMhiTn5kjvWv8sDNmoz2 |
| **3** | Max the Dog and Pet Waste |  | https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=y-IjVAw_SaI&list=PLYKfJ608FjL9iMMhiTn5kjvWv8sDNmoz2&index=2 |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **4** | Lawn Care & Using Fertilizers |  | https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=islMrwMpnPU&list=PLYKfJ608FjL9iMMhiTn5kjvWv8sDNmoz2&index=3 |
| **5** | How the Storm Drain Works |  | https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4XfrHMxJZcM&list=PLYKfJ608FjL9iMMhiTn5kjvWv8sDNmoz2&index=4 |
| **6** | Max the Dog & Lawn Waste |  | https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5DDw0Bjoo4Y&list=PLYKfJ608FjL9iMMhiTn5kjvWv8sDNmoz2&index=5 |
| **7** | Illicit Discharge Detection & Elimination |  | https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gX5j6wlHZb8&list=PLYKfJ608FjL9iMMhiTn5kjvWv8sDNmoz2&index=7<br><br>CCGTV: https://www.charlescountymd.gov/services/media-services/charles-county-government-television/ccgtv-live-stream |

**Movie Theater PSA**

In FY 2025, the WPRP partnered with National Cinemedia, LLC, which coordinates advertising for AMC movie theaters, to broadcast the *Max the Dog and Pet Waste* PSA at the St. Charles Town Center and the Xscape Brandywine movie theaters. The campaign was 15 weeks long between August and November and delivered 8,281 plays on the big screen and 48,085 plays in the lobby. Total projected impressions for both locations was of 239,678.

Charles County WPRP Cinema Campaign

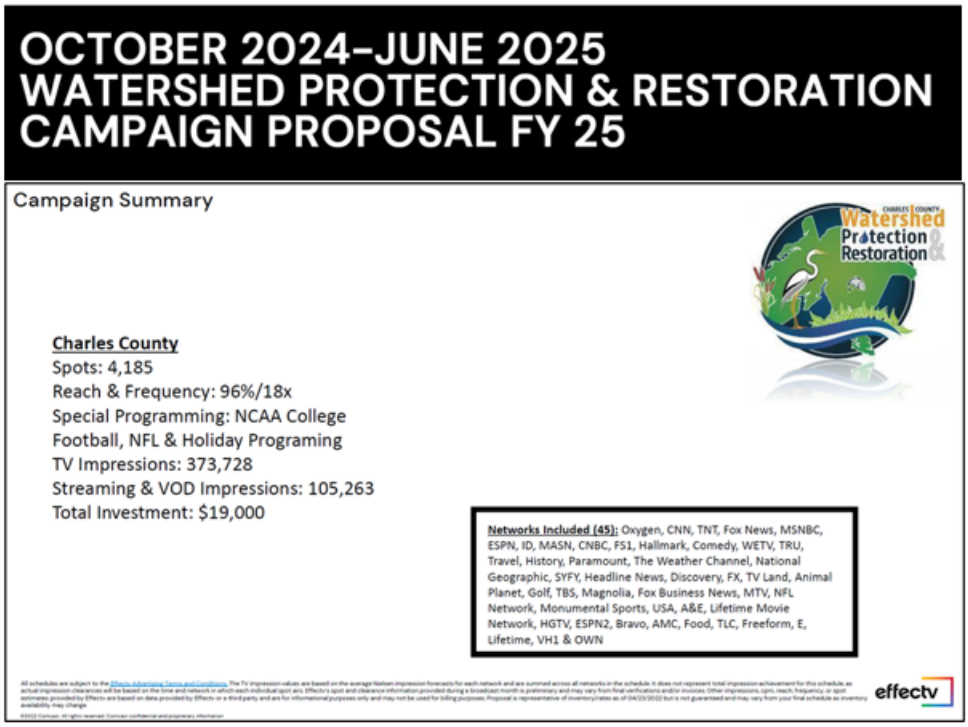
NCM we get audiences

8/15/2025 - 11/27/2025

| Theater # | Theater Name | Location | # of Plays |
|---|---|---|---|
| ALM3060 | Xscape 14 Brandywine | Lobby | 24,657 |
| ALM3060 | Xscape 14 Brandywine | Auditorium | 5,181 |
| AMC2794 | St Charles Town Ctr 9 | Lobby | 23,428 |
| AMC2794 | St Charles Town Ctr 9 | Auditorium | 3,100 |
| **Total** | | | **56,366** |

**Comcast**

The WPRP TV and Digital Media campaign continued in FY 2025 with Comcast. PSAs were aired on Comcast cable, Spotlight Streaming Video, and Verizon Fios throughout FY 2025. The spots were aired on major networks and cable channels. In total 4,185 cable spots with 373,728 impressions (42 % increase) and 105,000 streaming impressions were delivered to Charles County customers in FY 2025.



## Outreach Events

**Rain Barrel & Composting Workshops**

Charles County WPRP in collaboration with the University of Maryland (UMD) Extension and Nanjemoy Creek Environmental Education Center, held rain barrel and composting workshops on May 18, 2024, and April 26, 2025. Two rain barrel sessions and two composting sessions were held on these dates for a total of four rain barrel sessions and four composting sessions. Attendance numbers for the rain barrel workshops were listed in the table below.


Rain barrels were only available for purchase to attendees of the workshop ($40.00-$49.00) for Charles County residents, $65.00 for non-Charles County residents). Composting bins were handed out to all who registered and attended the composting workshops, free of charge.

Applications to the County's Stormwater Remediation Fee rebate program were made available at the end of each rain barrel session. Several questions were answered about the rules of the rebate program and the purpose of the Charles County stormwater remediation fee. UMD Extension instructor presented information on watersheds and the Chesapeake Bay, stormwater and impervious surface impacts, groundwater recharge, proper placement and installation of rain barrels, water conservation, proper use of harvested water, mosquito control, monetary savings, and annual maintenance and storage recommendations for rain barrels.

*Rain Barrel and Composting Workshop Attendance in FY 2025*

| Workshop Date | Rain Barrels | | Composting | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Barrels Purchased | Attendance | Bins | Attendance |
| 5/18/2024 | 100 | 38 | 56 | 58 |
| 4/26/2025 | 75 | 52 | 50 | 52 |
| **Total** | **175** | **90** | **106** | **110** |

**Shred/Household Hazardous Waste Collection/Cleanup Events**

Nine Charles County shred events were held by DPW throughout FY 2025. These free events provide citizens the opportunity to recycle paper documents securely. During the year, approximately 1,030 vehicles delivered a total of 54.8 tons of paper.

Also in FY 2025, a total of 1,528 households took part in Charles County household hazardous waste collection events. These monthly collection events provide citizens a safe and responsible method to dispose of hazardous waste including pesticides, herbicides, fertilizer, gasoline, oil-based paint, cleaning supplies, pool chemicals, fluorescent lights, mercury thermometers, and other poisons found in the home. Residents were instructed to correctly label any container that did not have a readable-original label.

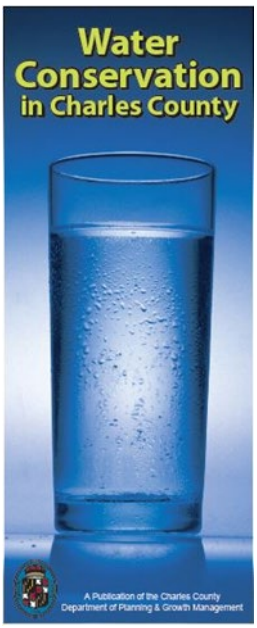
| *FY 2025 Hazardous Waste Collection: No. Households* | |
|---|---|
| Jul | 219 |
| Aug | 108 |
| Sep | 187 |
| Oct | 124 |
| Nov | 168 |
| Dec | 117 |
| Jan | 48 |
| Feb | 41 |
| Mar | 85 |
| Apr | 157 |
| May | 137 |
| Jun | 137 |
| **TOTAL:** | **1,528** |

Charles County volunteers were the driving force behind community cleanup events. Volunteers witness firsthand the harmful effects of litter on waterways, wildlife, and the surrounding environment within their watershed and are dedicated to becoming part of the solution.

In FY 2025, Charles County held their fifth annual countywide community cleanups, on the Charles County Community Cleanup one-day event. Residents and businesses were encouraged to select a community or public space to clean and beautify. Twenty-five volunteer groups took part in the one-day event, removing over five tons of debris and litter from neighborhoods, communities, and parks. During April, county citizens also participated in the Potomac River Watershed Cleanup collecting nearly twenty tons of trash and marine debris from ten locations along County waterways. Through the County's Adopt-A-Road and Adopt-A-Spot program, Charles County volunteers completed 214 cleanup events along adopted roadways.

## *Educational Materials* – Brochures





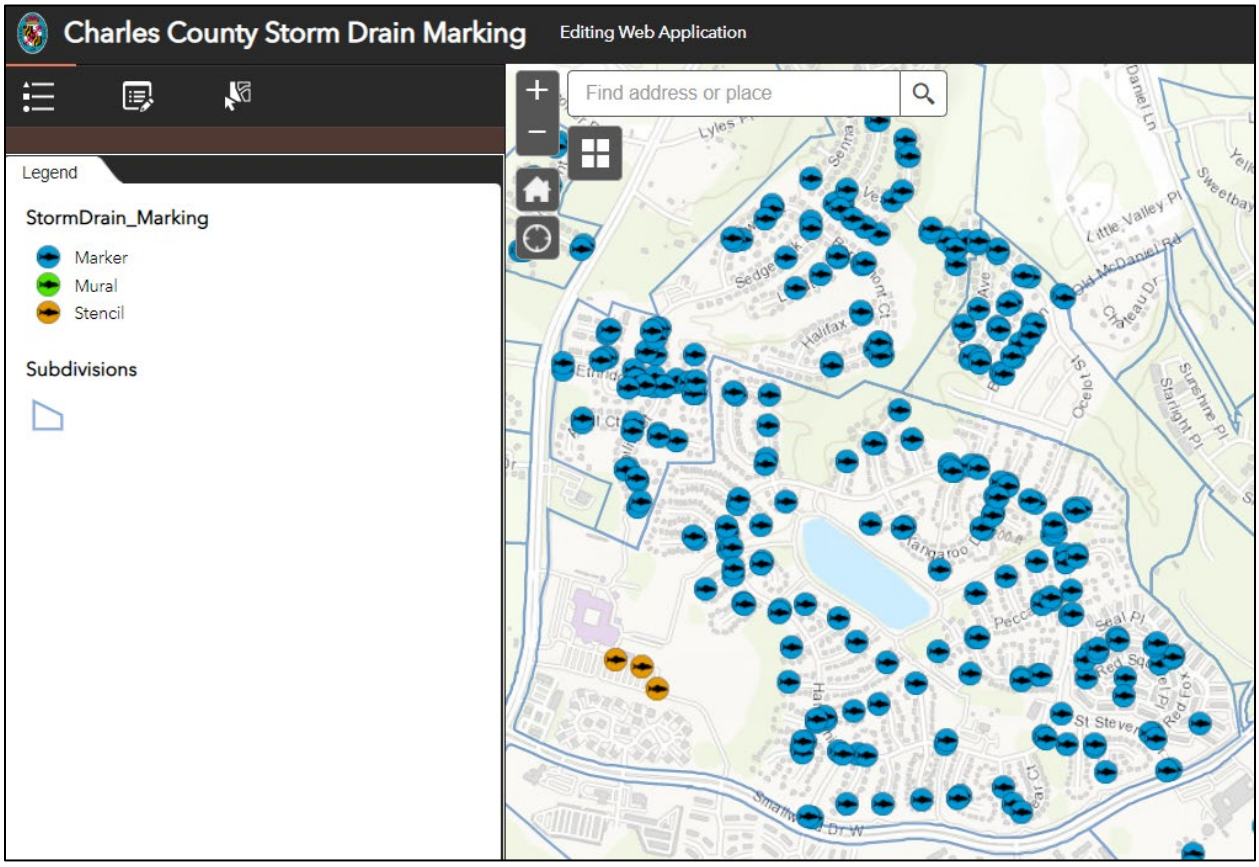




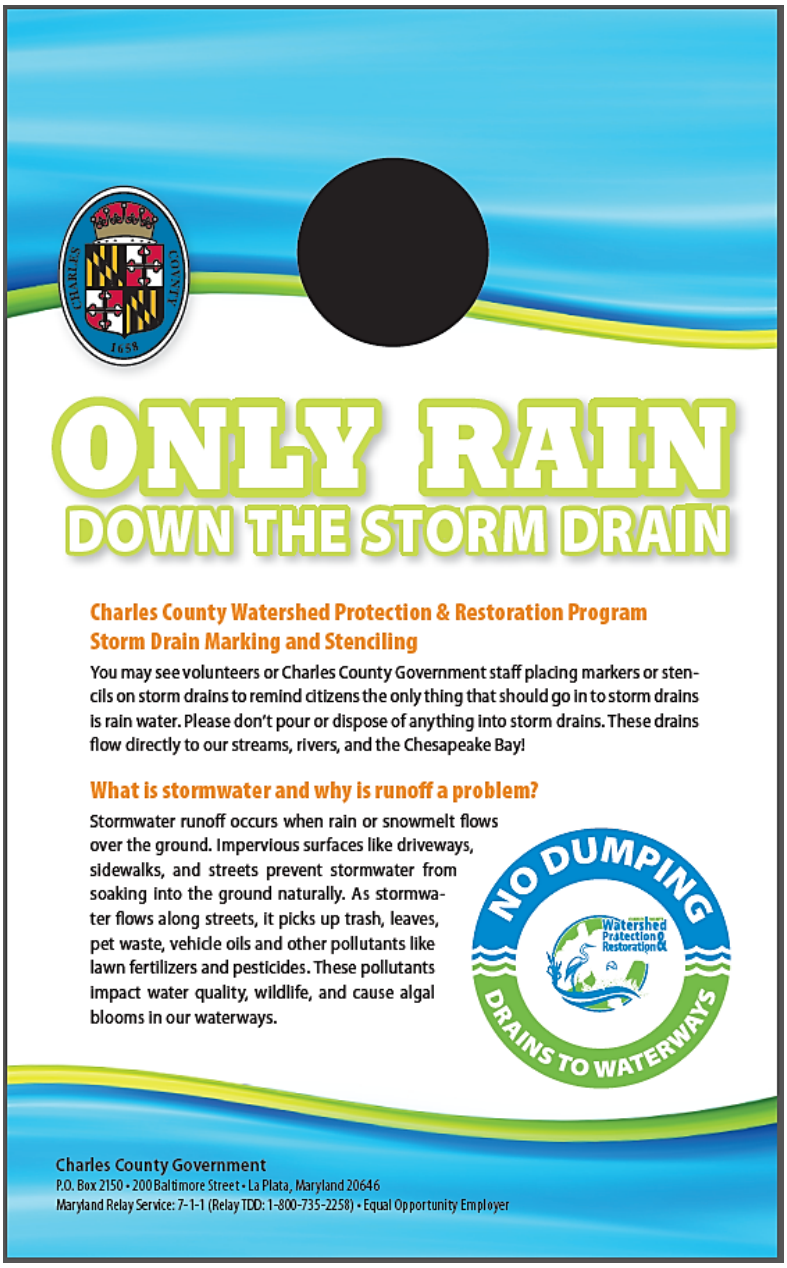


## Storm Drain Stenciling/Marking Program

Storm drain marking continued in FY 2025. County Roads Division staff replaced approximately 800 damaged plastic markers with the durable aluminum storm drain markers throughout the County. The newly marked storm drain locations were uploaded to a GIS map layer. An example is shown below.



**Door Hangers**
(Front)

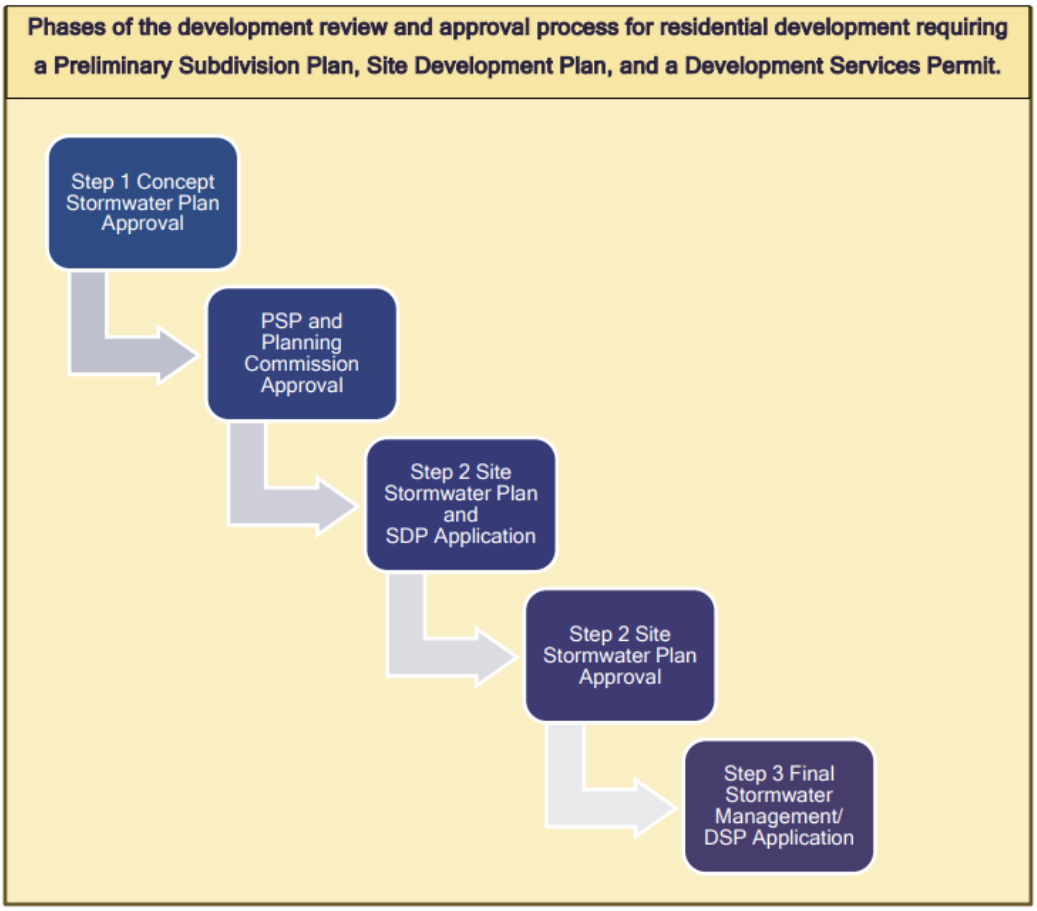
**Door Hangers**
(Back)


## Residential and Community Stormwater Management Implementation and Facility Maintenance Outreach

Throughout the reporting year, County staff increased engagement with property owners, community leaders, and businesses to improve public understanding of stormwater best management practices (BMPs) and the need for long-term maintenance using the tools described below:

**HOA and Resident Guidance.** In 2025, Charles County published a new resource titled *Overview of the Development Process: Common Ownership Communities (COCs), Homeowners' Association (HOA) and Resident Guidance* to help homeowners navigate the subdivision development process. The guide explains the roles, responsibilities, and interactions of the County, developers, COCs/HOAs, and residents throughout the development and

Much of the document focusses on the stormwater management implementation process and responsibilities —from initial site assessment, design, and plan review, to inspections, bonding, walk-throughs, easements, property transfer, and the need for reserve studies. An entire



chapter is also dedicated to long-term stormwater facility maintenance, illicit discharge education and reporting options.

**Training:** Beginning in 2023, Charles County launched rain garden maintenance workshops for homeowners and HOAs responsible for one or more rain gardens on their residential lots. Starting in 2025, these workshops are planned to be held twice per year. The trainings provide a comprehensive overview of the maintenance tasks required to ensure that rain gardens function properly, and meet County inspection standards. Instruction is provided by experts from the University of Maryland Extension and the Chesapeake Conservation Landscaping Council. To date, fifty-eight rain garden owners have completed the training. Feedback has been consistently positive, and several previously failing rain gardens have passed inspection following participation.


Charles County also supports the broader community by providing training for service providers through the Chesapeake Bay Landscape Professional (CBLP) "Crews" certification program. By increasing the number of qualified professionals skilled in sustainable BMP maintenance, homeowners and HOAs have greater access to landscapers capable of maintaining their vegetated stormwater practices. This free training program began in 2024 and was attended by twenty-eight providers representing seven businesses. An additional ten providers representing five businesses participated in 2025. The Charles County MS4 program is committed to offering this training annually, and to increase participation among small businesses, this full-day training will be scheduled on Saturdays, rather than a weekday, beginning in 2026.

**HOA Meetings:** In 2025, County staff continued to attend meetings with the Charles County HOA and Civic Association Alliance (HOCAA). Over the last five years, these meetings have

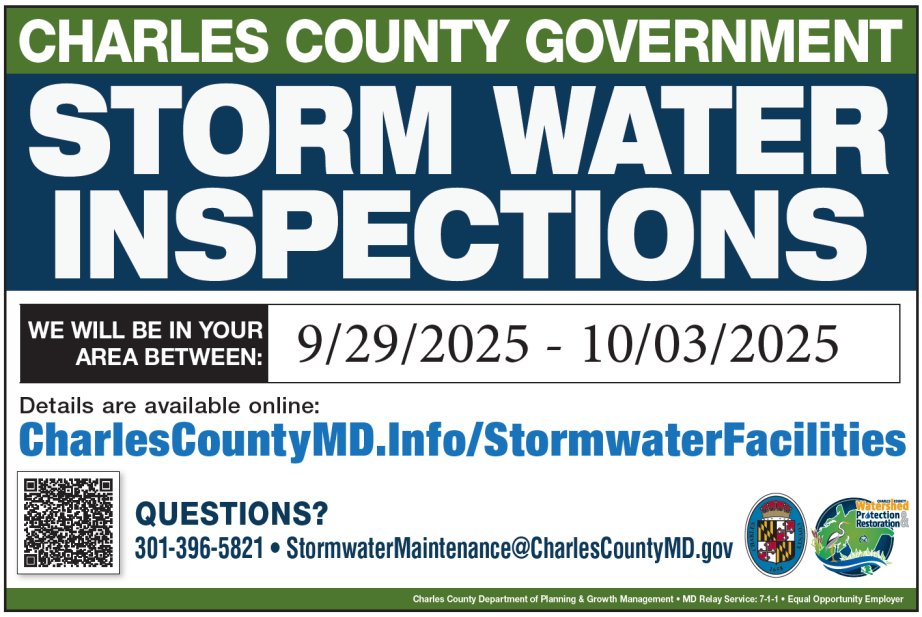
provided opportunities for County staff to build relationships with community leaders, foster trust, and ensure that communication between residents and County managers continues.

These meetings additionally help staff and community members identify opportunities for broader training programs and to discuss solutions to the rapidly increasing costs related to long-term maintenance.


**Inspections:** As part of the stormwater management facility inspection program, property owners are mailed a 5 × 8-inch postcard notifying them of the upcoming inspection of the stormwater facilities on their property. The postcard explains that the inspection will occur within two to four weeks of the postcard's arrival and lists the specific facilities scheduled for inspection.

If no one is available at the time of the inspection, the County inspector leaves a door hanger containing their contact information and requests that the resident contact the office to reschedule for a mutually convenient date and time.

In 2025, County inspectors began posting 36 × 24-inch yard signs at the entrances of communities to notify residents that stormwater facility inspections would be conducted in their neighborhood during designated dates. Each sign includes a phone number and email for questions, and a website with a QR code for residents seeking additional details.

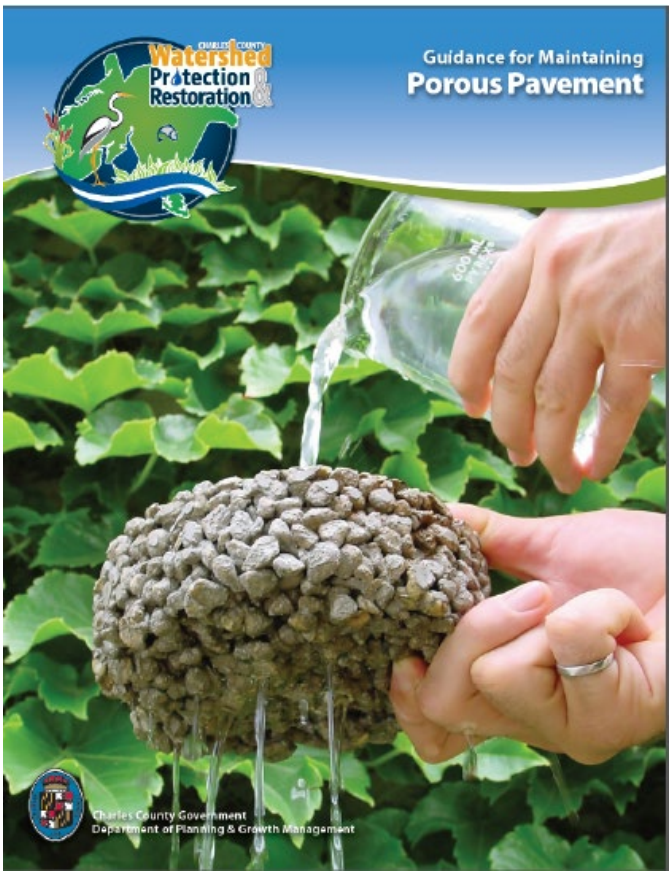


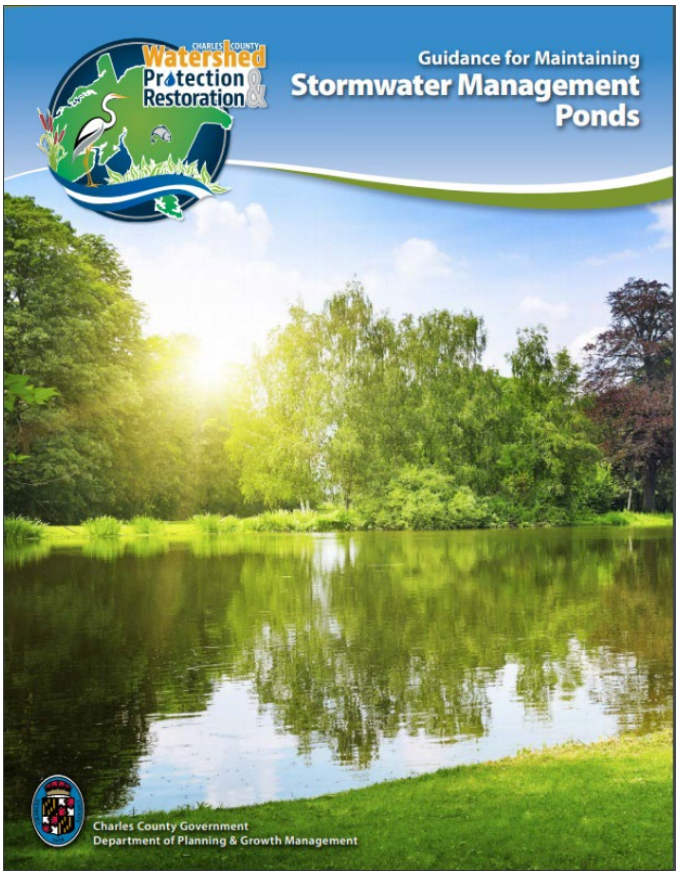
In 2025, County stormwater inspectors also continued to meet in the field with citizens, homeowners, and builders upon request to answer questions and provide guidance.

**Brochures:** In 2025, the Charles County guidance brochures for maintaining the following stormwater management facilities were updated:

- *Stormwater Management Ponds* (English & Spanish)
- *Rain Gardens, Bioswales, and Micro-Bioretention*
- *Porous Pavement,* and
- *Dry Wells*

The booklets describe in detail the purpose of the stormwater facilities and how to properly maintain them. They are displayed at the County's Permit Office and were distributed to individual homeowners, at HOA meetings, community walkthroughs, trainings, workshops, and public events. They also remain available online on the PGM Stormwater Management Facilities webpage.



# Mantenimiento 101

## Lista de verificación de mantenimiento constante

Cortar el césped y el manejo de la vegetación son tareas de mantenimento frecuentemente descuidadas para los estaques. Cortar el césped y controlar la vegetación puede reducir o eliminar los problemas de mantenimiento estructurales.

### 1. Cortar el césped

Corte el césped en las siguientes áreas **al menos dos veces al año**:

- Pendientes superiores y aguas abajo de la presa
- Pendientes aguas arriba de la presa (estanques secos)
- 25 pies alrededor de la estructura de control (estanques secos)
- Canales de entrada, alrededor de cabeceras y tuberías dentro del área del estanque
- Canal de salida

Los estanques húmedos diseñados con componentes recreativos o estéticos requieren un corte más frecuente, **cada 1 a 3 semanas** durante los meses más cálidos.

### 2. Manejo de la vegetación

Los árboles y la vegetación leñosa deben eliminarse de las siguientes áreas **al menos dos veces por año**:

- Pendientes superiores, aguas arriba, y aguas abajo de la presa
- Canales de entrada y salida
- 25 pies alrededor de la estructura de control
- Canales, cabeceras, y tuberías en el área del estanque

### 3. Eliminar basura y escombros

Realice la remoción de basura y escombros **mensualmente** en las siguientes áreas:

- Dentro y alrededor del estanque
- Dentro y alrededor del estante de basura en la estructura de control

### 4. Eliminar fuentes de contaminación

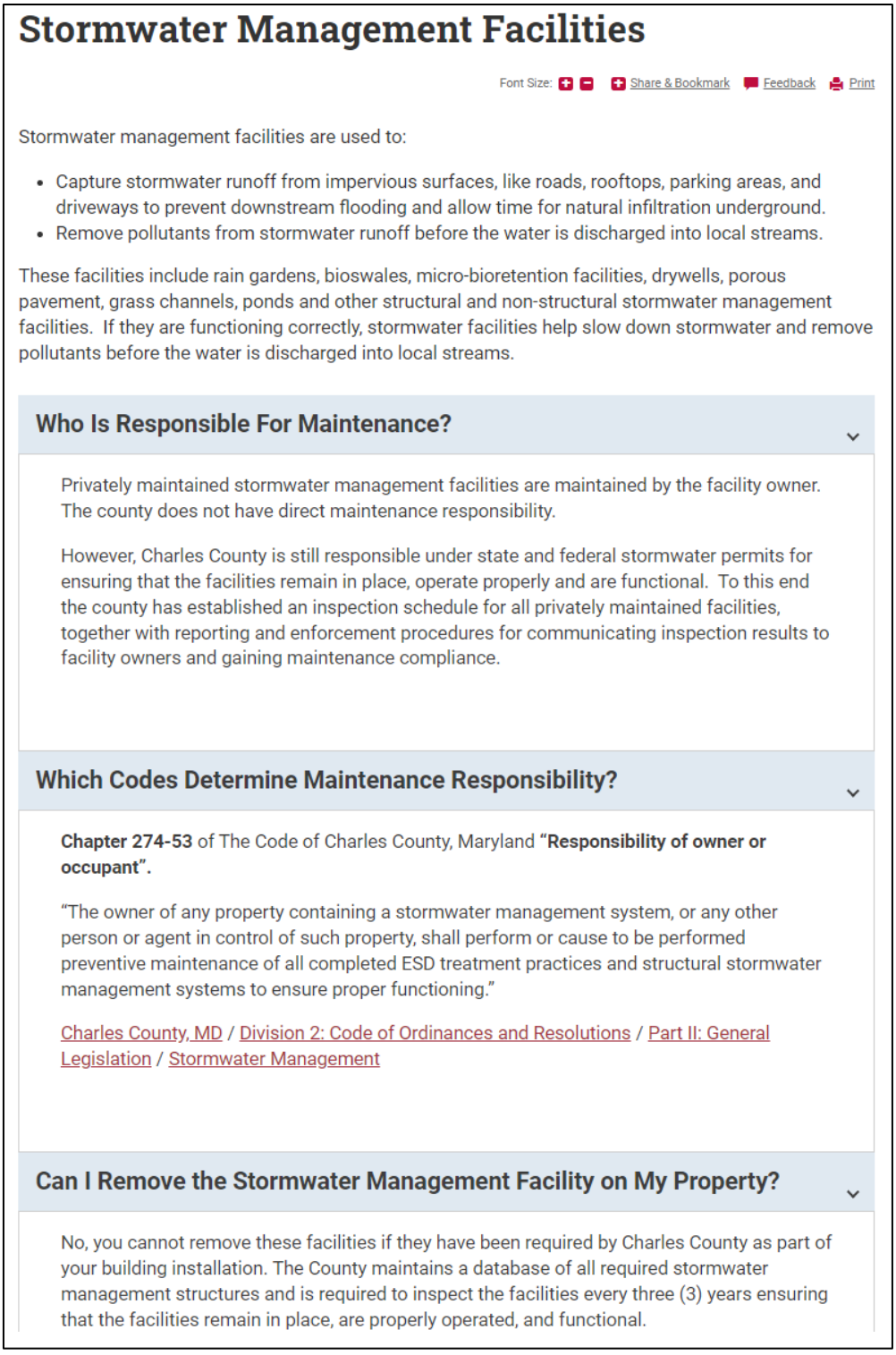
Conozca las fuentes de contaminación en su propiedad y trate de reducirlas o eliminarlas.





Página 4

**Charles County Government Website:** The Charles County Government website provides up to date information to the community on stormwater management implementation, maintenance and responsibilities.



# Stormwater Management Facilities

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Stormwater management facilities are used to:

- Capture stormwater runoff from impervious surfaces, like roads, rooftops, parking areas, and driveways to prevent downstream flooding and allow time for natural infiltration underground.
- Remove pollutants from stormwater runoff before the water is discharged into local streams.

These facilities include rain gardens, bioswales, micro-bioretention facilities, drywells, porous pavement, grass channels, ponds and other structural and non-structural stormwater management facilities. If they are functioning correctly, stormwater facilities help slow down stormwater and remove pollutants before the water is discharged into local streams.

## Who Is Responsible For Maintenance?

Privately maintained stormwater management facilities are maintained by the facility owner. The county does not have direct maintenance responsibility.

However, Charles County is still responsible under state and federal stormwater permits for ensuring that the facilities remain in place, operate properly and are functional. To this end the county has established an inspection schedule for all privately maintained facilities, together with reporting and enforcement procedures for communicating inspection results to facility owners and gaining maintenance compliance.

## Which Codes Determine Maintenance Responsibility?

**Chapter 274-53** of The Code of Charles County, Maryland **"Responsibility of owner or occupant".**

"The owner of any property containing a stormwater management system, or any other person or agent in control of such property, shall perform or cause to be performed preventive maintenance of all completed ESD treatment practices and structural stormwater management systems to ensure proper functioning."

Charles County, MD / Division 2: Code of Ordinances and Resolutions / Part II: General Legislation / Stormwater Management

## Can I Remove the Stormwater Management Facility on My Property?

No, you cannot remove these facilities if they have been required by Charles County as part of your building installation. The County maintains a database of all required stormwater management structures and is required to inspect the facilities every three (3) years ensuring that the facilities remain in place, are properly operated, and functional.

## Chesapeake Bay Trust Grant Partnership Program

Charles County continued their partnership with the Chesapeake Bay Trust (CBT) in FY 2025 to administer grants funded by the Stormwater Remediation Fee. The Outreach and Restoration Grant program provides funds for outreach projects that raise public awareness and engage citizens about challenges and solutions to restoring natural resources, such as green spaces, parks, streams, rivers, and bays. The grant program also provides funds for on-the-ground community-based restoration projects that benefit Charles County's rivers, streams, native plants, trees, and the Chesapeake Bay, as well as a combination of outreach and restoration for the maximum award of up to $70,000.

### Grants Awarded in FY 2025

***Increasing Capacity to Maintain Residential Stormwater BMPs in Charles County:*** $48,154 University of Maryland College Park - Environmental Finance Center:

The University of Maryland (UMD) – Environmental Finance Center (EFC) was awarded an outreach and restoration grant in 2025 to support Charles County with a fourth year of outreach and training for homeowners and a second year of training for service providers on the proper care and maintenance of rain gardens and other vegetated BMPs.

In partnership with the Chesapeake Conservation Landscaping Council (CCLC) and the University of Maryland Extension, the Charles County WPRP hosted two hands-on, outdoor rain garden maintenance workshops for nineteen homeowners. The trainings were held on Saturday, July 12, and Tuesday evening, July 22, at Christ Church in La Plata. The church maintains a large, well-functioning rain garden featuring a diverse array of native plant species and educational signage, making it an ideal demonstration site for participants.


On August 28, a full-day training was held for private landscaping providers at the Charles County Agricultural and Environmental Service Center. Ten highly engaged landscapers representing five businesses attended. The training was conducted by certified Chesapeake Bay Landscape Professionals from the CCLC, and all ten participants earned their CBLP "Crews" certification.

***Bensville County Park Restoration, Demonstration, and Training for Resilience***: $108,582
Resilience Authority of Charles County


The Resilience Authority of Charles County was awarded an outreach and restoration grant to restore habitat and improve air and water quality in the Mattawoman Creek Watershed. The project focuses on urban soil restoration that creates a "sense of place," inspires and educates the community, and enhances equitable access to nature at a county park serving under-resourced and overburdened communities. The planned restoration will replace impervious surfaces (gravel and turf) with a restorative landscape designed to support approximately 50 native trees, 120 native shrubs, and 300 native herbaceous plants. Educational signage will be installed next to each of the various types of restored areas.

This project builds on the Resilience Authority's Concrete to Green partnership initiative with the Charles County government to create healthy, shaded access to nature in underserved areas that are under-shaded and characterized by too much concrete (or

in the case of Bensville Park, too much compacted mowed turfgrass), too little native, biodiverse green space, and overburdened populations.

*Bensville Park, White Plains, MD*

This three-phased project will create a "Nature-Based Restoration for Resilience Demonstration and Training Site" at Bensville County Park, incorporating park staff, community workshops, and educational signage. Phase One (and future phases) aimed to: (1) increase inclusive engagement and knowledge for those who maintain and manage public spaces; (2) provide transferable skills that can be applied to residential lawns and other county parks; and (3) support ongoing community engagement through annual workshops. Training park staff and adding on-site signage will help broaden knowledge transfer to contractors, visitors, and local residents.

Funds from a recently awarded Greenspace Equity Program Grant from the Maryland Department of Natural Resources has allowed for a larger pollinator meadow and an ADA-compliant educational trail connecting. In September, BayLand Consultants and Designers, Inc. finished the project design.

The Resilience Authority Youth Corps (RAYC) and park staff began caring for and maintaining a completed area of the park and held a "sneak peek" event in April. The project was also presented on June 13th at the Charles County government's *Community Day* at the Regency Furniture Stadium in Waldorf during a Blue Crabs Minor League Baseball game. Representatives with the Resilience Authority, CBT, and the Chesapeake Conservation & Climate Corps presented how the project's nature-based solutions will work to build community climate resilience.

Phases II and III will begin spring of 2025. A FY2027 grant through this program will soon be awarded in 2026 to fund planting of additional native canopy trees, meadow, and hold additional workshops for parks and maintenance staff and RAYC.

## Student Outreach

**Career Day:** In April, WPRP staff attended the *Career Awareness Fair* at Eva Turner Elementary School in April to present to approximately 90 students about several careers in the Watershed Protection and Restoration Program (WPRP). Using the EnviroScape watershed model, second, third, fourth, and fifth grade students were shown watershed concepts, sources of stormwater pollution, how to report pollution, and what they can do to prevent waste from entering streams and rivers.

**NatureFest:** WPRP served as both a sponsor and exhibitor at the 2025 NatureFest, a free, one-day annual event organized by the Neighborhood Creative Arts Center of La Plata. The festival's purpose is to inspire children of all ages to engage with and learn about nature through hands-on activities. Participants explored topics such as conservation, composting, litter prevention, water pollution, growing produce, identifying and protecting native plants and wildlife, the importance of pollinators, and reducing waste through recycling and upcycling.

At the WPRP tent, staff presented the interactive EnviroScape watershed model to approximately 30 elementary school–aged children, followed by a question-and-answer session covering water, rain, flooding, storms, stormwater runoff, pollution, and simple everyday actions to prevent water pollution (e.g., not littering).

NatureFest 2025 took place on Saturday, May 31, at the College of Southern Maryland (CSM) in La Plata. More than 400 children participated in a wide range of interactive educational activities. Since 2023, the event has tripled in size, drawing more than 800 attendees and featuring over 60 exhibitors, presenters, and vendors.

Partnering organizations included the Charles County Watershed Protection and Restoration Program, Charles County Master Gardeners, The Conservancy for Charles County, Charles County Public Schools (Nanjemoy Creek Environmental Education Center), Port Tobacco River Conservancy, The Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation, Tidewater Oyster Gardeners Association, Charles County 4-H, Charles County Master Naturalists, Calvert Nature Society, the USGS Bee Lab, and multiple departments within the College of Southern Maryland, among others.

**Charles County Fair:** WPRP staff continued outreach and education efforts at the 2025 Charles County Fair, engaging more than 100 school-aged children over two days of presentations. Each group presentation began with an interactive EnviroScape watershed model demonstration, followed by an engaging question-and-answer segment focused on watershed concepts,

stormwater pollution, and simple actions individuals can take to protect water quality. Prizes, including WPRP promo items were awarded for correct answers to reinforce learning objectives and encourage active participation.

In 2025, Charles County launched the **Super Recyclers!** education program to engage children ages five and older in learning about recycling and waste reduction. The interactive event transformed participants into "Super Recyclers," superheroes on a mission to rescue recyclables from the landfill. Through a series of fun, self-paced activity stations, children learned proper recycling practices by decorating superhero masks and capes, sorting cans and bottles into recycling bins, exploring how recyclables are repurposed into new products, and enjoying creative activities such as recycling-themed coloring and stickers. The program promoted hands-on environmental stewardship and encouraged youth to take an active role in protecting local resources.

## Septic System Maintenance Incentives, Outreach & Education

### Septic Pump-Out/Riser Reimbursement Program

The Septic Pump-Out Reimbursement Program was started in 2015 as an incentive program to encourage homeowners to change their behavior by either getting their septic tank pumped for the first time and/or to pump their tank more frequently (once every three to five years). For over ten years the program has been partially reimbursing septic system owners towards the cost of the pump-out. On average, the County has approved 850 pump-out reimbursements per year with a primary goal to have most septic tanks pumped regularly, at least once every five years. This frequency is the smallest standard for greatest performance to prevent leachate from seeping into surface water, breakage, or drain field failures.

| Reimbursements | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Fiscal Year** | # of Pump-Outs | # of Risers |
| **2015** | 832 | - |
| **2016** | 783 | - |
| **2017** | 606 | - |
| **2018** | 760 | - |
| **2019** | 779 | 36 |
| **2020** | 948 | 142 |
| **2021** | 1238 | 215 |
| **2022** | 857 | 207 |
| **2023** | 830 | 135 |
| **2024** | 889 | 114 |
| **2025** | 815 | 117 |

Charles County is home to an estimated 30,000 residences that rely on private septic systems. To meet the county's five-year pumping goal, approximately 6,000 septic tanks need to be pumped annually. However, data from the Mattawoman Treatment Plant for FY 2025 indicates that only about 1,397 septic tanks were pumped. This figure falls short of the program's target of 5,100 pump-outs per year, highlighting the need to increase the number of homeowners educated on the importance of regular septic system maintenance.

WPRP staff, with help from the Charles County Extension Office, the Health Department, and the County's Media Services continue to draw attention to the issue of septic system maintenance by recommending that homeowners have their septic system inspected and cleaned regularly.

**Bay Restoration Fund (BRF) Grant Program:**

The BRF is a State-supported fund that replaces conventional septic tanks with nitrogen-reducing units or connects existing dwellings to sewer treatment utility. For low-income households, BRF funding can be used to replace a failing septic system. The program's purpose has been to reduce the amount of harmful nutrients entering the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries from failing septic systems. In FY25, twenty-four nitrogen-reducing systems were installed, and three sewer connections were made to residences with failing systems.

Public information on how to apply for a Bay Restoration Fund Grant continues to be available on the Charles County Health Department website at https://CharlesCountyhealth.org/percolation-sewage-bay-restoration/ and the Charles County Government website at https://www.CharlesCountyMD.gov/government/planning-and-growth-management/septic-system-reimbursement-programs.

## MDE's Water and Wastewater Permitting Requirements and Guidance for the Regulated Community

The County supplies the following information regarding NPDES permitting requirements, pollution prevention plan development, proper housekeeping and spill prevention and response, upon request and to violators or potential violators of the County's IDDE regulations:

**Maryland Wastewater Permits Program**
https://mde.state.md.us/programs/Water/wwp/Pages/index.aspx

https://mde.maryland.gov/programs/LAND/Documents/EPA%20Sector%20P%20Transportation%20Facilities%20Fact%20Sheet%2012.2006%2011%20pgs.pdf

**Maryland Water Permit Applications**
https://mde.maryland.gov/programs/Permits/WaterManagementPermits/Pages/waterpermits.aspx

**Maryland NPDES Industrial & General Surface Water Discharge Permits**
https://mde.maryland.gov/programs/permits/watermanagementpermits/pages/stormwater.aspx

**Maryland Guidance for Developing Your Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan**
http://mde.maryland.gov/programs/Permits/WaterManagementPermits/Documents/Marina%20GP/16MA/16MA%20MDE%20SWPPP%20Guidance%20for%20Marinas.pdf

**Maryland Stormwater Pollution Prevention Guidance**
https://mde.maryland.gov/programs/Permits/WaterManagementPermits/Documents/GDP%20Stormwater/MD%20Stormwater%20Hotspots.pdf

**Maryland General Permit for the Discharge of Exterior Vehicle Washwater to Groundwater from Commercial Vehicle Washing Operations**
https://mde.maryland.gov/programs/water/wwp/pages/16-vw.aspx

**Maryland Spill Response - Toll Free Number (866) 633-4686**
https://mde.maryland.gov/pages/emernumbers.aspx

## IV.E. Stormwater Restoration

*Overview of Permit Conditions*

*In compliance with §402(p)(3)(B)(iii) of the CWA, MS4 permits must require stormwater controls to reduce the discharge of pollutants to the MEP and such other provisions as the department determines appropriate for the control of such pollutants. Additionally, by regulation at 40 CFR §122.44, BMPs and programs implemented pursuant to this permit must be consistent with applicable stormwater WLAs developed under EPA established or approved TMDLs (see list of EPA established or approved TMDLs attached and incorporated as Appendix A). The impervious acre restoration requirements and associated pollutant reductions described below for Charles County are consistent with Maryland's Phase III Watershed Implementation Plan (WIP) for the Chesapeake Bay TMDL and 2025 nutrient load targets, and for local TMDL implementation targets described by the County in its TMDL Watershed Implementation Plans.*

1. *Annual alternative control practices used by Charles County to meet its prior MS4 permit's impervious acre restoration requirement shall be:*

    a. *Continued annually at the same level of implementation (e.g., street lane miles swept, septic systems pumped) under this permit;*

    b. *Replaced with 138 impervious acres using stormwater management BMPs, programmatic initiatives, or alternative control practices in accordance with the 2021 Accounting Guidance; or*

    c. *A combination of a and b above.*

FY 2025 Status

Under the County's prior MS4 permit (issued in FY 2015), 138 impervious acres of annual alternative control practices were implemented. These practices must be continued or replaced in accordance with the 2021 Accounting Guidance to prevent backsliding or loss of restoration progress.

Practices continued from the previous FY 2015 permit use the accounting methods in place at the time of implementation. The three practices implemented by the County include street sweeping, storm drain vacuuming and septic pump-outs. These will be maintained using the 2014 Accounting Guidance, except for street sweeping for which accounting methods changed prior to the 2021 Accounting Guidance to require a minimum number of four repeat sweeps per year. The County focuses on high priority areas for street sweeping and does not repeat sweeping unless necessary.

The following tables track the status of the County's prior annual alternative control practices.

*Table 24: FY 2015 MS4 Permit Annual Alternative Control Practices*

| BMP Type | Equivalent Impervious Area (EIA) | Status | Notes |
|---|---|---|---|
| Street Sweeping | 75.69 | Replaced | See table below for replacement. |
| Storm Drain Vacuuming | 40.23 | Ongoing | This ongoing BMP is credited at 0.03 EIA each per the 2014 Accounting Guidance. Additional credits are 0.02 EIA each per the 2021 Accounting Guidance. |
| Septic System Pumping | 22.4 | Ongoing | This ongoing BMP is credited at 0.03 EIA each per the 2014 Accounting Guidance. Additional credits are 0.02 EIA each per the 2021 Accounting Guidance. |
| TOTAL | 138.32 | | |

*Table 25: FY 2015 Permit Replacement Restoration Projects*

| FY 2015 Permit Restoration Projects | Year Removed | EIA Removed | Replacement Restoration Projects | Year Replaced | EIA Replacement |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Street Sweeping | 2020 | 75.69 | St. Charles Stream Restoration | 2020 | 7.1 |
| | | | Potomac Heights Shoreline Stabilization | 2020 | 70.20 |
| **Total** | | **75.69** | | | **77.3** |

Overview of Permit Conditions

2. *The impervious acre restoration requirements described below are in addition to the requirements listed in Part IV.E.1 of this permit.*

3. *By December 29, 2027, Charles County shall commence and complete the restoration of 1,083 impervious acres that have not been treated to the MEP by implementing stormwater BMPs, programmatic initiatives, or alternative control practices in accordance with the 2021 Accounting Guidance.*

FY 2025 Status

Charles County began restoration of 1,083 impervious acres immediately after the FY 2015 permit completed in December 2019. Following are updates on Capital Projects that will count towards the 1,083 impervious acres.

***Capital Projects Complete or Under Construction***

***Apple Creek Stream Restoration***
(County Permit # VCI 160055)

Design completed May 2019.
Construction began July 2019.

*Impervious Treatment: 18.02 acres*

*Approx. cost per acre treated: $38,222*

*Status: Construction Complete March 2020*

***LaPlata High School Stormwater Retrofit***
(County Permit # N/A)

Design completed May 2018.
Construction began May 2019.

*Impervious Treatment: 29 acres*

*Approx. cost per acre treated: $23,858*

*Status: Construction Complete May 2020*

***St. Charles Parkway Stream Restoration***
(County Permit # VCI 170053)

Design completed August 2019.
Construction began December 2019.

*Impervious Treatment: 7.1 acres*

*Approx. cost per acre treated: $110,220*

*Status: Construction Complete June 2020*

***Thomas Higdon ES Stream Restoration***
(County Permit # VCI 170071)

Design completed August 2019.
Construction began December 2019.

*Impervious Treatment: 50 acres*

*Approx. cost per acre treated: $21,316*

*Status: Construction Complete June 2020*

***Potomac Heights Shoreline Restoration***
(County Permit # VCI 180003)

Design completed September 2019.
Construction began November 2019.

*Impervious Treatment: 70.2 acres*

*Approx. cost per acre treated: $19,836*

*Status: Construction Complete June 2020*

***Cliffton Shoreline Stabilization Phase 1&2***
(County Permit # VCI 160056 Phase1)
(County Permit # VCI 170096 Phase2)

Design completed August 2017 Phase 1.
Design completed May 2019 Phase 2.
Construction began July 2019.

*Impervious Treatment: 82.16 acres Phase 1*
*Impervious Treatment : 92.72 acres Phase 2*

*Approx. cost per acre treated: $16,167*

*Status: Construction Complete July 2020*

***General Smallwood Middle School***
(County Permit # VCI 170032)

Design completed February 2019.
Construction began May 2019.

*Impervious Treatment: 3.43 acres*

*Approx. cost per acre treated: $148,396*

*Status: Construction Complete September 2020*

***Bensville Park Stormwater Retrofits and Tree Planting***
(County Permit # VCI 170079)

Design completed September 2018
Construction began May 2019.

*Impervious Treatment: 6.78 acres*

*Approx. cost per acre treated: $126,224*

*Status: Construction Complete November 2020*

***Best Buy Stormwater Pond Retrofit***
(County Permit # DSP 190036)

Design completed April 2019.
Construction began June 2020

*Impervious Treatment: 4.62 acres*

*Approx. cost per acre treated: $61,141*

*Status: Construction Complete May 2021*

***Cedar Tree Stormwater Pond Retrofit***
(County Permit # DSP 190047)

Design completed April 2019.
Construction began June 2020

*Impervious Treatment: 3.61 acres*

*Approx. cost per acre treated: $49,870*

*Status: Construction Complete June 2021*

***Ruth B. Swann Main Channel Stream Restoration***
(County Permit # DSP 190020)

Design completed September 2019
Construction began November 2020

*Impervious Treatment: 106.07 acres*

*Approx. cost per acre treated: $15,257*

*Status: Construction Complete September 2022*

***Hunt Club/Bridle Path Stream Restoration***

(County Permit # DSP 190022)

Design completed July 2019
Construction began November 2021

*Impervious Treatment: 37.79 acres*

*Approx. cost per acre treated: $36,180*

*Status: Construction Complete May 2022*

***Marbella Subdivision Stream Restoration and Outfall Stabilizations***
(County Permit # DSP 190107)

Design completed July 2021
Construction start date TBD

*Impervious Treatment: 63.5 acres (originally)*

*Approx. cost per acre treated: $33,100 (originally)*

*Status: Re-design to include two cross culvert replacements due to flooding issues is underway.*

***CSM Tributary Stream Restoration***
(County Permit # DSP 190030)

Design completed May 2020
Construction began January 2022

*Impervious Treatment: 53.5 acres*

*Approx. cost per acre treated: $25,829*

*Status: Construction Complete September 2022*

***Acton Village/Westdale Drive Stream Restoration***
(County Permit # DSP # 200027)

Design completed October 2022
Construction began October 2022

*Impervious Treatment: 26.07 acres*

*Approx. cost per acre treated: $45,546 (CDBG Grant funded)*

*Status: Construction Complete March 2024*

***Ruth B. Swann Tributary Restoration***
(County Permit # DSP 190051)

Design Completed July 2021
Construction began June 2022

*Impervious Treatment: 19.38 acres*

*Approx. cost per acre treated: $57,904*

*Status: Construction Complete June 2023*

***Ruth B. Swann North Stream Restoration***
(County Permit # DSP 190080)

Design Completed August 2022
Construction began April 2024

*Impervious Treatment: 22.96 acres*

*Approx. cost per acre treated: $98,929*

*Status: Construction Complete May 2025*

***Worthington Subd/Wilton Court Pond Retrofit***
(County Permit # DSP 190034)

Design Completed July 2022
Construction began October 2024

*Impervious Treatment: 10.24 acres*

*Approx. cost per acre treated: $47,440*

*Status: Construction Complete Feb 2025*

***White Oak Village Wet Pond Retrofit***
(County Permit # DSP 200058)

Design Completed April 2021
Construction began September 2025

*Impervious Treatment: 21.05 acres*

*Approx. cost per acre treated: $52,100*

*Status: Construction underway*

***White Plains Golf Course Wet Pond Retrofit***
(County Permit # DSP 190097)

Design Completed February 2025
Construction began October 2025

*Impervious Treatment: 16.66 acres*

*Approx. cost per acre treated: $79,060*

*Status: Construction underway*

***Walter Mitchell Bioretention and Stream Restoration***
(County Permit # DSP 200029 & LaPlata Town Permit)

Design Completed April 2025

*Impervious Treatment: 32.2 acres*

*Approx. cost per acre treated: $61,561*

*Status: Construction to start January 2025*

***White Plains Failing Septic to Sewer (Gateway Blvd. and Park Ave.)***
(County Permit # DSP 210019)

Design Completed July 2022
Construction began October 2025

*Impervious Treatment: TBD*

*Approx. cost per acre treated: TBD*

*Status: Construction Underway*

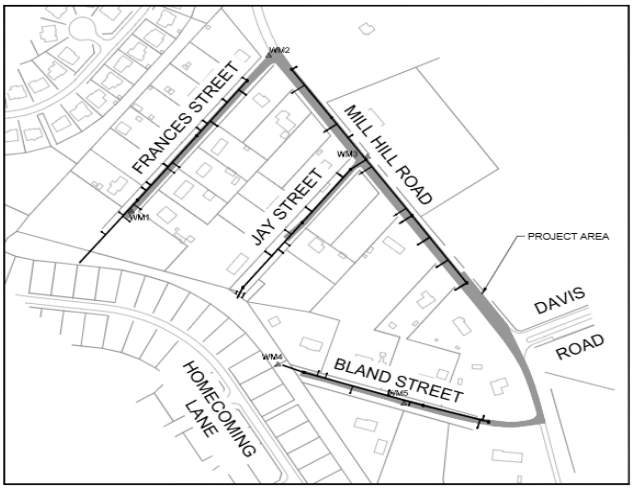
***Southerland Failing Septic to Sewer***
(County Permit # DSP 220010)

Design Completed February 2023
Construction to begin in 2025

*Impervious Treatment: TBD*

*Approx. cost per acre treated: TBD*

*Status: Under Procurement*




***Elite Gymnastics Green Infrastructure***
(County Permit # DSP 250032)

Design Completed September 2025
Construction began October 2025

*Impervious Treatment: 0.71 acres*

*Approx. cost per acre treated: TBD*

*Status: Construction Underway*

***Capital Projects under Design & Estimated Impervious Acres to be Treated***

The following impervious acres are taken from the most recent engineered drawings or concepts and are subject to change based on final approved engineered drawings.

Board of Education Projects (Subtotal: 39.4 Acres)
Milton Somers Middle School Steam Restoration and Stormwater Pond Retrofit (Town of LaPlata Permit) – 39.4 Impervious Acres

Stream Restoration Projects (Subtotal: 171.18 Acres)
Port Tobacco Stream Upper/Lower (County Permit # DSP 200035) – Estimated 56 Impervious Acres (Reduced from 84.6 Impervious Acres due to subtraction of Compton property)
Locust Grove Farm Stream (County Permit # CSD Concept) – 0.00 Impervious Acres (On hold due to passing one property owner's spouse and rejection of the living spouse to grant temporary access.)
Oak Ridge Park Western Stream (County Permit # DSP 200025) – 97.18 Impervious Acres (Re-design due to exclusion of two property owners. Stream limits/extents will be changed.)
Oak Ridge Park Eastern Stream – 18 Impervious Acres (Re-design due to exclusion of two property owners and inclusion of Outfall Stabilization. Stream's limits/extents will be changed.)

Stormwater Management Facilities/ Step Pool Conveyance Projects (Subtotal: 54.06 Acres)
South Hampton Pond Retrofits & Step Pool Conveyance (County Permits # DSP 190073-76) – 37.4 Impervious Acres
White Plains Golf Course Pond Retrofit (County Permit # DSP 190097) – 16.66 Impervious Acres

Miscellaneous Projects (Subtotal: 129.5 Acres)
Waldorf Urban Redevelopment Corridor Infrastructure Improvements Study – Impervious Acres TBD
Pope's Creek Shoreline Stabilization (12 Impervious Acres)
Full Delivery – Garner Shoreline Stabilization (100 Impervious Acres)
Huntington Stream Restoration and Upland at Thomas Stone High School (17.5 Impervious Acres)
RDIP East Waldorf Huntington Stream Restoration ( TBD Impervious Acres)

4. *By December 29, 2023, Charles County shall complete the stormwater BMPs, programmatic initiatives, or alternative control practices listed in the Year 1 BMP Portfolio provided in Appendix B. Charles County may replace individual practices listed in Appendix B with others that meet the requirements of the 2021 Accounting Guidance as long as the total restoration at the end of year one meets the implementation benchmark schedule in Table 1.*

   *"Benchmark" as used in this permit is a quantifiable goal or target to be used to assess progress toward the impervious acre restoration requirement or WLAs, such as a numeric goal for stormwater control measure implementation. If a benchmark is not met, the County should take appropriate corrective action to improve progress toward meeting permit objectives. Benchmarks are intended as an adaptive management aid and generally are not considered to be enforceable.*

*Appendix B: Year 1 BMP Portfolio – New and Replacement BMPs*

| GEODATABASE ID | PROJECT NAME | BMP TYPE | NUMBER OF BMPS | IMPERVIOUS ACRES TREATED | LENGTH RESTORED |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Capital Projects – New Restoration** | | | | | |
| CH17ALN000005 | St. Charles Parkway | STRE | 1 | 7.1 | 552 Linear Feet (LF) |
| CH20ALN000028 | Potomac Heights | SHST | 1 | 70.20 | 1,755 LF |
| CH17ALN000011 | Apple Creek | STRE | 1 | 18.02 | 748 LF |
| CH16RST000097 | La Plata High School | PWED | 1 | 29 | NA |
| CH17ALN000014 | Higdon Elementary School | STRE | 1 | 50 | 1,480 LF |
| CH18ALN000004 | Cliffton | SHST | 1 | 82.16 | 2,054 LF |
| CH20ALN000027 | Cliffton | SHST | 1 | 92.72 | 2,318 LF |
| CH19RST000006 | Cedar Tree | PPKT | 1 | 3.61 | NA |
| CH19RST000005 | Best Buy | PWET | 1 | 4.62 | NA |
| CH16RST000014 | Smallwood Middle School | BIO | 1 | 1.53 | NA |
| CH17RST000067 | Smallwood Middle School | BIO | 1 | 1.9 | NA |
| CH17RST000062 | Bensville Park | ODSW | 1 | 1.15 | NA |
| CH17RST000002 | Bensville Park | ODSW | 1 | 1.69 | NA |
| CH17RST000063 | Bensville Park | FSND | 1 | 3.33 | NA |
| CH17APY000456 | Bensville Park | FPU | 1 | 1.76 | NA |
| **Other** | | | | | |
| | Septic Denitrification | SEPD | 10 | 1.5 | NA |
| **TOTAL** | | | | 370.29 | |

**The impervious acres treated for Best Buy has been corrected from 12.66 shown in Appendix B to 4.62 acres. Additionally, the impervious acres treated for Smallwood Middle School has been corrected from 2.07 and 2.57 shown in Appendix B to 1.53 and 1.9, respectively.*

FY 2025 Status

The FY 2015 permit term ended in December 2019 and all projects completed after that date count towards the current permit term. From January 2020 through FY 2022, the Year 1 benchmark projects listed above were completed, including an additional 86 septic denitrification upgrades and 12 connections of on-site septic disposal systems to the public sanitary sewer system, shown on Table 30.

5. *Charles County may acquire Nutrient Credits for Total Nitrogen (TN), Total Phosphorus (TP), and Total Suspended Solids (TSS) in accordance with COMAR 26.08.11 to meet its impervious acre restoration requirement in Part IV.E.3 of this permit. For acquiring Nutrient Credits in place of impervious acre restoration, an equivalent impervious acre shall be based on reducing 18.08 pounds of TN, 2.23 pounds of TP, and 8,046 pounds of TSS. The maximum allowable credits obtained from trades with wastewater treatment plants shall not exceed 108 equivalent impervious acres restored.*

6. *Any Nutrient Credits acquired by Charles County for meeting the restoration requirements of this permit shall be maintained and verified in accordance with COMAR 26.08.11 and reported to the*

*Department in annual reports unless they are replaced at a one to one acre ratio by local stormwater management BMPs, programmatic initiatives, or alternative control practices in accordance with the 2021 Accounting Guidance.*

7. *Charles County shall use the annual restoration benchmark schedule provided in Table 1 below to achieve its impervious acre implementation requirement by the end of the permit term.*

*Annual Restoration Benchmark Schedule, Table 1*

| *Metric* | *Year 1* | *Year 2* | *Year 3* | *Year 4* | *Year 5* |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| *Cumulative Percent Impervious Acre Restoration Completed* | *15%* | *30%* | *48%* | *72%* | *100%* |

8. *In each year's annual report, Charles County shall:*

   a. *Submit to the Department a list of BMPs, programmatic initiatives, and alternative control practices to be completed in the following year to work toward meeting its impervious acre restoration benchmark:*

      i. *The list of BMPs, programmatic initiatives, or alternative control practices shall be submitted in the Year 1 BMP Portfolio format provided in Appendix B; and*

      ii. *Charles County may replace individual practices listed in its annual BMP Portfolio as long as the total implementation rate at the end of each year meets the annual restoration benchmark schedule in Table 1.*

   b. *Evaluate progress toward meeting its annual restoration benchmark according to the schedule in Table 1 and adjust the benchmark appropriately based upon:*

      i. *Actual BMP implementation rates; and*

      ii. *Anticipated implementation rates and annual restoration benchmark schedule needed in the remaining years of this permit for meeting the final impervious acre restoration requirement by December 29, 2027.*

***Progress Towards Restoration Benchmarks***

In FY 2023 the following permanent projects were completed, which brings the Year 1 total to 788 acres or 73% of the total planned restoration. However, it should be noted that 77.3 acres of the total will be

applied to maintain level of effort for the FY 2015 permit, so will not count towards the FY 2023 permit.

*Table 26: Restoration Projects Completed in FY 2023*

| GEODATABASE ID | PROJECT NAME | BMP TYPE | NUMBER OF BMPS | IMPERVIOUS ACRES TREATED | LENGTH RESTORED (Linear Feet) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Capital Projects – New Restoration** | | | | | |
| CH17ALN000013 | Ruth B Swann Main | STRE | 1 | 106.07 | 1,509 LF |
| CH21ALN000003 | Ruth B Swann Trib | STRE | 1 | 17.08 | 1,644 LF |
| CH22ALN000001 | Ruth B Swann Trib Outfalls | OUT | 6 | 2.3 | 687 LF |
| CH17ALN000012 | Hunt Club – Bridle Path | STRE | 1 | 37.79 | 1,795 LF |
| CH17ALN000008 | CSM Tributaries | STRE | 3 | 53.5 | 1,330 LF |
| **Other** | | | | | |
| | Septic Denitrification | SEPD | 23 | 3.68 | NA |
| | Septic Connection | SEPC | 4 | 0.92 | NA |
| **TOTAL** | | | | 221.34 | |

The following tables show projects completed in FY 2024 and FY 2025. The FY 2025 table shows two General Smallwood bioretentions completed due to as-built approval occurring this year. These were previously accounted for as complete, so will not be included in this year's progress total.

*Table 27: Restoration Projects Completed in FY 2024*

| GEODATABASE ID | PROJECT NAME | BMP TYPE | NUMBER OF BMPS | IMPERVIOUS ACRES TREATED | LENGTH RESTORED |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Capital Projects – New Restoration** | | | | | |
| CH21ALN000001 | Acton Village – Westdale | STRE | 1 | 26.07 | 728 LF |
| **Other** | | | | | |
| | Septic Denitrification | SEPD | 6 | 0.96 | NA |
| | Septic Connection | SEPC | 2 | 0.46 | NA |
| TOTAL | | | | 27.5 | |

*Table 28: Restoration Projects Completed in FY 2025*

| GEODATABASE ID | PROJECT NAME | BMP TYPE | NUMBER OF BMPS | IMPERVIOUS ACRES TREATED | LENGTH RESTORED |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Capital Projects – New Restoration** | | | | | |
| CH16RST000014 | General Smallwood | BIO | 1 | 1.53* | NA |
| CH17RST000067 | General Smallwood | BIO | 1 | 1.9* | NA |
| CH16RST000056 | Wilton Court Pond Retrofit | PPKT | 1 | 10.24 | NA |
| CH21ALN000001 | Ruth B Swann North | STRE | 1 | 22.73 | 2,081 LF |
| CH21ALN000001 | Ruth B Swann North | OUT | 1 | 0.23 | NA |
| **Other** | | | | | |
| | Septic Denitrification | SEPD | 24 | 3.84 | NA |
| | Septic Connection | SEPC | 3 | 0.69 | NA |
| TOTAL | | | | 37.73 | |

**Previously accounted, so not included in Total.*

The following table shows projects planned for completion in FY 2026.

*Table 29: Planned Restoration Projects for FY 2026*

| GEODATABASE ID | PROJECT NAME | BMP TYPE | NUMBER OF BMPS | IMPERVIOUS ACRES TREATED | LENGTH RESTORED |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Capital Projects – New Restoration** | | | | | |
| CH16RST000034 | White Oak Pond Retrofit | PWET | 1 | 21.01 | NA |
| CH19RST000007 | White Plains Golf Course | PWET | 1 | 16.66 | NA |
| **Other** | | | | | |
| | Septic Denitrification | SEPD | 10 | 1.6 | NA |
| | Septic Connection | SEPC | 2 | 0.92 | NA |
| TOTAL | | | | 40.19 | |

***Summary of Progress Towards the FY 2023 MS4 Permit***

Annual Alternative Control Practices

The credit for the annual alternative the control practices must be averaged over the five-year permit period and are used to maintain the level of effort of the FY 2015 MS4 permit. No additional credits for these practices are proposed for the current permit term.

*Table 30: Tracking of Annual Alternative Control Practices*

| | FY 2020 # of Units | FY 2020 Acres | FY 2021 # of Units | FY 2021 Acres | FY 2022 # of Units | FY 2022 Acres |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Inlet Cleaning | 155.4 tons | 27.54 | 319.2 tons | 56.56 | 60.65 tons | 10.75 |
| Septic Pump-outs | 960 | 26.66 | 1,714 | 41.74 | 1,505 | 37.56 |

| | FY 2023 # of Units | FY 2023 Acres | FY 2024 # of Units | FY 2024 Acres | FY 2025 # Units | FY 2025 Acres |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Inlet Cleaning | 115.13 tons | 20.4 | 66.74 tons | 11.83 | 84.57 tons | 12.14 |
| Septic Pump-outs | 1,458 | 36.62 | 1,559 | 38.64 | 1,498 | 37.42 |

(1) Inlet Cleaning: 40.23 acres accounts for maintenance of 2015 MS4 permit level of effort using pre-2021 Guidance. To exceed maintenance level requires a Standard Operating Procedure per 2021 Guidance.
(2) Septic Pump-outs: 22.4 acres (746 units) accounts for maintenance of 2019 level of effort using pre-2021 Guidance (0.03 acre/unit). Units exceeding 746 use 2021 Guidance (0.02 acre/unit).
(3) Alternative Control Practices for the entire FY 2020 year are counted for the 2023 MS4 permit.

*Table 31: Tracking of Permanent Alternative Control Practices*

| | FY 2020 # (Jan 1 – Jun 30) | FY 2020 Acres | FY 2021 # | FY 2021 Acres | FY 2022 # | FY 2022 Acres |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Septic Denitrification | 25 | 4 | 26 | 4.16 | 35 | 5.6 |
| Septic Connection to Sanitary Sewer | 2 | .46 | 4 | 0.92 | 6 | 1.38 |
| TOTAL | 27 | 4.46 | 17 | 5.08 | 41 | 6.98 |

*Table 31 Continued*

| | FY 2023 # | FY 2023 Acres | FY 2024 # | FY 2024 Acres | FY 2025 # | FY 2025 Acres |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Septic Denitrification | 23 | 3.68 | 6 | 0.96 | 24 | 3.84 |
| Septic Connection to Sanitary Sewer | 4 | 0.92 | 2 | 0.46 | 3 | 0.69 |
| TOTAL | 27 | 4.6 | 8 | 1.42 | 27 | 4.23 |

(1) Septic Denitrification Upgrades: Pre-2021 Guidance allowed for 0.26 acre/unit; 2021 Guidance allows for 0.16 acre/unit.
(2) Septic Connection: Pre-2021 Guidance allowed for 0.39 acre/unit; 2021 Guidance allows for 0.23 acre/unit.
(3) The first half of FY 2020 counts towards the 2015 MS4 permit, so only the second half of FY 2020 is shown on this table.

The following table summarizes the County's progress towards impervious restoration requirement of 1,083 acres. See the enclosed MS4 Geodatabase, in the *Impervious Surface Table*.

*Table 32: Impervious Surface Restoration Summary Towards Goal of 1,083 Acres*

| | Half of FY 2020 (Jan 1 - Jun 30) | FY 2021 | FY 2022 |
|---|---|---|---|
| Impervious Surface Area Total (Countywide) | 10,637 | 10,637 | 10,637 |
| Baseline Acres (uncontrolled baseline impervious w/o SWM) | 7,887 | 7,887 | 7,887 |
| Planned Acres for Restoration during the current permit term | 1,083 | 1,083 | 1,083 |
| Capital Projects Completed in Reporting Year | 174.32 | 189.28 | 0 |
| Other Permanent Projects Completed in Reporting Year | 4.46 | 5.08 | 6.98 |
| **Total Completed in Reporting Year** | **178.78** | **194.36** | **6.98** |
| **Restored Acres Total during the current permit term** | **178.78** | **373.14** | **380.12** |

| | FY 2023 | FY 2024 | FY 2025 |
|---|---|---|---|
| Impervious Surface Area Total (Countywide) | 10,637 | 10,637 | 10,637 |
| Baseline Acres (uncontrolled baseline impervious w/o SWM) | 7,887 | 7,887 | 7,887 |
| Planned Acres for Restoration during the current permit term | 1,083 | 1,083 | 1,083 |
| Capital Projects Completed in Reporting Year | 216.74 | 26.07 | 33.2 |
| Other Permanent Projects Completed in Reporting Year | 4.6 | 1.42 | 4.23 |
| **Total Completed in Reporting Year** | **221.34** | **27.5** | **37.43** |
| **Restored Acres Total during the current permit term** | **601.46** | **628.95** | **666.38** |

(1) The Impervious Surface Area Total is based on impervious surface from 2011 aerial photos.
(2) The Impervious Acres Total does not include impervious surface on federal, state, town, or industrial stormwater permit properties. It does include County Government and Board of Education owned properties in towns.
(3) Annual operational restoration projects are based on averages over the permit period.
(4) 77.3 acres of impervious surface restoration shown for FY 2020 will not count towards the 1,083 acres goal because it is used to maintain level of effort as shown on Table 32.

The total restoration achieved from the prior FY 2015 MS4 permit must be maintained to prevent backsliding. Street sweeping is no longer proposed to be tracked towards impervious restoration and is to be replaced by the projects shown on the following table. Any other projects that are not verifiable and maintained will be replaced and tracked on the following table.

*Table 33: Maintenance of 20% Impervious Restoration Completed for the FY 2015 MS4 Permit*

| 2019 Restoration Project | Year Removed | EIA Removed | Replacement Restoration | Year Replaced | EIA Replacement |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Street Sweeping 5-year Avg. | 2020 | 75.69 | St. Charles Stream Restoration | 2020 | 7.1 |
| | | | Potomac Heights Shoreline Stabilization | 2020 | 70.20 |
| Various Shoreline and Outfall Stabilizations not maintained | 2021 | 20 | TBD | TBD | TBD |
| Various Septic Denitrifications not maintained | 2025 | TBD | TBD | TBD | TBD |
| **Total** | | **75.69** | | | **77.3** |

## IV.F. Countywide TMDL Stormwater Implementation Plan

Overview of Permit Conditions

1. *Where Charles County has submitted an implementation plan for a TMDL identified in Appendix A, the County shall, within one year of the effective date of this permit, address all outstanding comments needed for the Department's approval of the plan.*

2. *Within one year of EPA's approval or establishment of a new TMDL having a stormwater WLA, Charles County shall submit an implementation plan to MDE for approval. The TMDL implementation plan shall be based on MDE's TMDL analysis, or equivalent and comparable Charles County water quality analysis, that includes:*

    a. *A list of stormwater BMPs, programmatic initiatives, or alternative control practices that will be implemented to reduce pollutants for the TMDL;*

    b. *A description of the County's analysis and methods, and how they are comparable with MDE's TMDL analysis; and*

    c. *Final implementation dates and benchmarks for meeting the TMDL's applicable stormwater WLA. Once approved by MDE, any new TMDL implementation plan shall be incorporated in the Countywide TMDL Stormwater Implementation Plan and subject to the annual progress report requirements under Part IV.F.3 of this permit.*

3. *For all TMDLs and WLAs listed in Appendix A, the County shall annually document, in one Countywide Stormwater TMDL Implementation Plan, updated progress toward meeting these TMDL WLAs.*

FY 2025 Status

The County's implementation plans for TDMLs identified in Appendix A of the FY 2023 permit have been approved by MDE, apart from the sediment TMDL for Patuxent River Lower nontidal segments, which was monitored for delisting per the *Maryland Department of Environment's Delisting Methodology for Biological Assessments in Maryland's Integrated Report*. In November 2025 the County submitted the Request for Delisting, which was conditionally approved by MDE in December 2025, awaiting submittal of the maintenance monitoring plan.

In FY 2023 the County updated the Countywide Stormwater TMDL Stormwater Restoration Plan to include: using the Maryland Department of Environment's recent modeling spreadsheets, documenting the County's progress to date, and adapting the implementation strategies to incorporate recently approved alternative best management practices (BMPs). The updated Plan

addresses the Chesapeake Bay segments listed in Appendix A of the County's FY 2023 permit together, as a single TMDL for the whole County, which is allowed by MDE.

The County's Bacteria TMDL Implementation Plan for Indian Creek was updated separately. It was submitted to MDE on April 30, 2024, and approved on July 31, 2024. The first phase of monitoring began in April 2025. This first phase is the Source Identification Phase, with a goal to identify areas of the subwatershed that are contributing high levels of bacteria for further study, and at the same time establish trend monitoring for the TMDL. The Bacteria Monitoring Report for Year 1 and the Quality Assurance Project Plan are included in Appendix I.

A Countywide Stormwater TMDL Implementation Plan progress report for FY 2025 is provided in Appendix H. The associated Implementation Progress and Planning Tool (TIPP) spreadsheets are also included in Appendix H.

4. *Charles County shall provide continual outreach to the public and other stakeholders, including other jurisdictions or agencies holding stormwater WLAs in the same watersheds, regarding its TMDL stormwater implement plans. Charles County shall solicit input from the public, collaborate with stakeholders, and incorporate any relevant comments that can aid in achieving local stormwater WLAs. To allow for public participation, Charles County shall:*

    a. *Maintain a list of interested parties for notification of TMDL development actions;*

    b. *Provide notice on the County's webpage outlining how the public may obtain information on the development of TMDL stormwater implementation plans and opportunities for comment;*

    c. *Provide copies of TMDL stormwater implementation plans to interested parties upon request;*

    d. *Allow a minimum of 30-day comment period before finalizing TMDL stormwater implementation plans; and*

    e. *Document in final TMDL stormwater implementation plans how the County provided public outreach and adequately addressed all relevant comments.*

FY 2025 Status

If a new or revised TMDL stormwater implementation plan is developed, the public is provided televised presentations and discussion of the plans with the Charles County Planning Commission and a 30-day public comment periods prior to finalization. For easy public access the plans are posted to the Watershed Restoration Program webpage: www.CharlesCountyMD.gov/Watershed.

**IV.G. Assessment of Controls**

Overview of Permit Conditions

*Charles County shall conduct BMP effectiveness and watershed assessment monitoring, and polychlorinated biphenyls (PCB) source tracking for assessing progress toward improving local water quality and restoring the Chesapeake Bay. The 2021 MS4 Monitoring Guidelines: BMP Effectiveness and Watershed Assessments (hereafter 2021 Monitoring Guidelines), shall be referenced for addressing the technical guidelines and requirements outlined below.*

1. *BMP Effectiveness Monitoring*

   *By April 30, 2023, or by July 1 of each year, the County shall notify MDE which option it chooses for BMP effectiveness monitoring. The two options are:*

   a. *The County shall collaborate with MDE in a Pooled Monitoring Advisory Committee administered by the Chesapeake Bay Trust (CBT) for determining monitoring needs and selecting appropriate monitoring studies. To implement the required monitoring, the County shall pay $75,000, or an amount to be proposed by the permittee based on demonstrated past permit monitoring expenditures, annually into a pooled monitoring CBT fund. Enrollment in the program shall be demonstrated through a memorandum of understanding (MOU) between the County and CBT by September 1 of each year. The terms of the BMP effectiveness MOU are described in the 2021 Monitoring Guidelines. The County shall remain in the program for the duration of this permit term; or*

   b. *The County shall continue monitoring in the Mattawoman Creek watershed, or select and submit for MDE's approval a new BMP effectiveness study for monitoring by April 30, 2023. Monitoring activities shall occur where the cumulative effects of watershed restoration activities, performed in compliance with this permit, can be assessed. The minimum criteria for chemical, biological, and physical monitoring are as follows:*

      i. *Chemical Monitoring:*

         - *Eight (8) storm events shall be monitored per year at each monitoring location with at least two occurring per quarter. Quarters shall be based on calendar year. If exceptional weather patterns (e.g. extended dry weather periods) or other circumstances (e.g. equipment failures) occur during the reporting year, the County shall provide documentation of such circumstance(s);*

- *Discrete samples of stormwater flow shall be collected at the monitoring stations using automated or manual sampling methods.*

- *At least three (3) samples determined to be representative of each storm event shall be submitted to a laboratory for analysis according to methods listed under 40 CFR Part 136 and event mean concentrations (EMC) shall be calculated;*

- *Baseflow sampling shall occur quarterly as near as the mid-point of each season (e.g., February for the first quarter, May for the second quarter, August for the third quarter, and November for the fourth quarter) as is practicable to allow for 72 hours of preceding dry time following baseflow sampling best practices;*

- *Storm flow and baseflow measurements shall be recorded at the outfall and in-stream stations for the following parameters:*

| ***Stormwater and Baseflow Representative Samples (Parameters)*** |
|---|
| *Total Suspended Solids (TSS)* |
| *Bacteria (E. coli or enterococcus spp.)* |
| *Chloride* |
| *Discharge (flow)* |
| *Biochemical Oxygen Demand ($BOD_5$) or Total Organic Carbon (TOC)* |
| *Orthophosphate* |
| *Total Nitrogen (TN)* |
| *Nitrate + Nitrite* |
| *Total Ammonia (sewer signal)* |
| *Total Phosphorus (TP)* |

- *Continuous flow measurements shall be recorded for the parameters listed at the in-stream monitoring station or other practical location based on the approved study design:*

| ***Continuous Measurements (Parameters)*** |
|---|
| *Temperature* |
| *pH* |
| *Discharge (flow)* |
| *Turbidity (Optional per 2021 MS4 Monitoring Guidelines)* |
| *Conductivity* |

- *Data collected from stormwater, baseflow, and continuous monitoring shall be used to estimate annual and seasonal pollutant loads and reductions, and for the calibration of watershed assessment models.*

- *If the County elects to continue monitoring Mattawoman Creek, or selects a new BMP effectiveness study for monitoring, the County shall submit a revised sampling plan for approval to address the new monitoring parameters provided above with the first annual report. An approved sampling plan under a prior MS4 permit for the County shall continue until MDE approves a new sampling plan proposed under this permit.*

ii. *Biological Monitoring:*

- *Benthic macroinvertebrate samples shall be gathered each Spring between the outfall and in-stream stations or other practical locations based on an MDE approved study design; and*

- *The County shall use the Maryland Biological Stream Survey (MBSS) sampling protocols for biological and stream habitat assessment.*

iii. *Physical Monitoring:*

- *A geomorphologic stream assessment shall be conducted between the outfall and in-stream monitoring locations or in a reasonable area based on the approved study design. This assessment shall include an annual comparison of permanently monumented stream channel cross-sections and the stream profile; and*

- *A hydrologic and/or hydraulic model shall be used (e.g., TR-20, HEC-2, HEC-RAS, HSPF, SWMM, etc.) in the fourth year of the permit to analyze the effects of rainfall; discharge rates; stage; and, if necessary, continuous flow on channel geometry.*

iv. *Annual Data Submittal: The County shall describe in detail its monitoring activities for the previous year and include the following:*

- *EMCs submitted on MDE's long-term monitoring database as specified in Part V below;*

- *Chemical, biological, and physical monitoring results and a combined analysis for the approved monitoring locations;*

- *Any available analysis of surrogate relationships with the above monitoring parameters; and*

- *Any requests and accompanying justifications for proposed modifications to the monitoring program.*

FY 2025 Status

***Pooled Monitoring for BMP Effectiveness***

On March 24, 2023, Charles County notified MDE that it would be participating in the pooled monitoring option for BMP Effectiveness Monitoring. The final five-year agreement with the Chesapeake Bay Trust was fully executed on July 10, 2023, and a copy provided to MDE.

County staff continues to participate on the Pooled Monitoring Committee to provide input on the study questions posed in requests for grant proposals, review proposed projects, and work with grantees as they set up and progress through their projects.

2. *Watershed Assessment Monitoring*

   *By April 30, 2023, or by July 1 of each year, the County shall notify MDE which option it chooses for watershed assessment monitoring. The County must implement one of the two options as follows:*

   a. *The County shall collaborate with the Department in a Pooled Monitoring Advisory Committee administered by the CBT for determining appropriate watershed assessment monitoring. To implement the required monitoring, the County shall pay $134,100 annually into a pooled monitoring CBT fund. Enrollment in the program shall be demonstrated through an MOU between the County and CBT to be signed by September 1 of each year. The terms of the Watershed Assessment Monitoring MOU are described in the 2021 Monitoring Guidelines. The County shall remain in the program for the duration of this permit term; or*

   b. *The County shall submit a comprehensive plan for watershed assessment and trend monitoring by April 30, 2024, related to stream biology and habitat, bacteria, and chlorides and commence monitoring upon MDE's approval. The plan shall follow the 2021 Monitoring Guidelines and include:*

      i. *Biological and habitat assessment monitoring at randomly selected stream sites using MBSS protocols;*

ii. *Bacteria (i.e. E. coli, Enterococcus spp., or fecal coliform monitoring); and*

iii. *Chloride assessment at one location.*

2. *PCB Source Tracking*

*Within one year of permit issuance, Charles County shall develop a PCB source tracking monitoring plan for all applicable TMDL WLAs where watershed reductions are required to meet water quality standards. Charles County shall submit results and provide updates annually on the monitoring efforts.*

FY 2025 Status

***Watershed Assessment Monitoring***

For this permit condition the County has selected to prepare a comprehensive plan for watershed assessment and trend monitoring, to include annual stream biology and habitat for 25 sites within the County and monthly chloride monitoring for one site within the County.

The bacteria monitoring site is not required for Charles County, because the Maryland Department of Environment maintains the necessary monitoring site in the tidal portion of Indian Creek under the Shellfish Monitoring Program. However, bacteria monitoring is proposed in the non-tidal portion of the watershed as described in the County's Indian Creek Bacteria TMDL and Monitoring Plan. For further information on the plan see Part IV.F Countywide TMDL Stormwater Implementation Plan.

There are no PCB TMDL WLAs where watershed reductions are required by Charles County in order to meet water quality standards, thus a PCB source tracking monitoring plan is not applicable.

The County submitted the stream biology and habitat monitoring plan on October 2023 to MDE for review and approval. On December 20, 2023, MDE determined the plan was acceptable. The County completed the biomonitoring during the required spring and summer monitoring dates. The full Biomonitoring Report and Quality Assurance Project Plan are included with this submittal in Appendix I. The biomonitoring spreadsheet is included in Appendix J.

The County's draft Chloride Monitoring Plan was submitted to MDE on April 30, 2024. On June 28, 2024, MDE approved the plan and requested the County move to the next step of preparing and submitting the Quality Assurance Plan. The County submitted the Quality Assurance Plan for MDE's review on March 21, 2025, and received approval on April 22, 2025. Chloride Monitoring was initiated March 18, 2025. The Chloride Monitoring Narrative is included in Appendix I and the spreadsheet is in Appendix J.

## III.G. Program Funding

Overview of Permit Conditions

1. *Annually, a fiscal analysis of the capital, staffing, operation, and maintenance expenditures necessary to comply with all conditions of this permit shall be submitted by Charles County as required in PART V of the permit.*

2. *Adequate program funding to comply with all conditions of this permit shall be maintained. Lack of funding does not constitute a justification for noncompliance with the terms of this permit.*

FY 2025 Status

***Funding Sources***

Since the County's first generation NPDES MS4 permit was issued in 1997, the County has had dedicated enterprise funding to ensure permit compliance. The two original enterprise funds included the Environmental Service Fund and the Inspection and Review Fund. In 2013, the Watershed Protection and Restoration Fund was adopted. Revenues to support the enterprise funds are from the Environmental Service Fee, Lot Recordation Fee, Inspection and Review Fees, Stormwater Remediation Fee, and most recently a subsidy from the General Fund's Transfer Tax revenues. The adopted FY 2025 Enterprise Funds are in Appendix K.

1. Environmental Service Fund: The ESF is no longer the primary source of funding for MS4 permit compliance since replacement by the Watershed Protection and Restoration Fund. However, ESF litter control outreach and septic programs still support permit compliance.

2. Inspection and Review Fund: The MS4 permit requires the County to maintain acceptable stormwater management and erosion and sediment control programs for new development in accordance with the Annotated Code of Maryland. Operating revenues for these activities are generated primarily by service charges for engineering plan reviews, site plan reviews, grading inspection, erosion and sediment control inspections, storm drain and stormwater inspections, which are deposited in the Inspection and Review Fund. This fund is for salary and fringe of full time and contractual positions.

3. Watershed Protection and Restoration Fund (WPRF): In June 2013, Charles County adopted Chapter 275 of the Charles County Code, establishing the Watershed Protection and Restoration Program and associated Stormwater Remediation Fee. The WPRF may be used for: capital improvements for stormwater management, including stream and wetland restoration projects; operation and maintenance of stormwater management systems and facilities; public education and outreach related stormwater management or stream and wetland restoration; stormwater

management planning, including mapping and assessment of impervious surfaces, as well as related monitoring, inspection, and enforcement activities; reasonable costs necessary to administer the fund; and grants to nonprofit organizations for watershed restoration projects.

The Stormwater Remediation Fee is a flat rate charged to all improved properties countywide, except in the Towns of La Plata and Indian Head where the MS4 programs are funded and administered separately. Property owners in the County may obtain a 50% fee credit by demonstrating the use of onsite stormwater practices such as rain gardens, pervious paving, and other options. The following table shows the rates for the current permit term. Credits and exemptions are reported annually.

| Fiscal Year | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 | 2026 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Stormwater Remediation Fee | $78 | $92 | $115 | $127 | $146 | $156 | $162 |

In 2014 NPDES MS4 permit coverage was expanded countywide, however the lot recordation fee continued to apply only to new lots recorded in the Development District (revised boundary in 2016) because this continued to be the County's urban area. This fee was discontinued in FY 2021.

| Fiscal Year | 2020 | 2021 |
|---|---|---|
| Lot Recordation Fee | $154 | - |

Since FY 2016, subsidies from the General Fund have been approved in order to maintain a stable fee. The subsidy is only applied as needed.

| Fiscal Year | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 | 2026 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| General Fund Transfer | $550,000 | $300,000 | $0 | $0 | $33,722 | $0 | $0 |

***WPRF Budget and Staff Positions***

The WPRF supports applicable expenditures and staff from County Departments including Planning and Growth Management, Public Works, County Attorney's Office, and Fiscal and Administrative Services. The following tables summarize the WPRF budget and staff positions.

*Table 34: WPRF Budget - Fiscal Years 2021 through 2026*

| Fiscal Year | 2021 Audited | 2022 Audited | 2023 Audited | 2024 Audited | 2025 Unaudited | 2026 Budget |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Budget:** | 5,579,100 | 6,186,420 | 7,035,500 | 7,734,100 | 8,246,900 | 8,812,700 |
| **Revenue:** | | | | | | |
| Stormwater Remediation Fee | 4,714,488 | 5,915,720 | 6,566,660 | 7,599,372 | 8,163,191 | 8,657,700 |
| Recordation Fee per Lot | 0 | 0 | 66,836 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Miscellaneous | 15,550 | 14,343 | 14,871 | 16,538 | 20,074 | 155,000 |
| General Fund Subsidy | 300,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Total Operating Revenues | 5,030,038 | 5,930,063 | 6,648,367 | 7,615,910 | 8,183,264 | 8,812,700 |
| **Expenditures:** | | | | | | |
| Salary & Fringe | 1,065,151 | 1,189,668 | 1,371,521 | 1,676,078 | 2,181,823 | 2,256,040 |
| Operating | 1,891,509 | 2,161,178 | 2,332,391 | 2,819,869 | 3,084,349 | 3,878,960 |
| Capital Project Transfer | 343,200 | 249,000 | 77,000 | 0 | 77,000 | 77,000 |
| Debt Service | 2,146,031 | 1,972,586 | 2,331,480 | 695,163 | (929,799) | 2,600,700 |
| Total Expenditures | 5,445,891 | 5,572,432 | 6,112,392 | 5,191,110 | 4,413,373 | 8,812,700 |
| **Operating Gain/(Loss)** | (415,853) | 357,632 | 535,974 | 2,424,800 | 3,769,891 | 0 |
| **Fund Balance:** | | | | | | |
| Beginning | 637,435 | 221,582 | 579,214 | 1,115,188 | 3,539,988 | 7,309,879 |
| Ending | 221,582 | 579,214 | 1,115,188 | 3,539,988 | 7,309,879 | 7,159,879 |

*Table 35: WPRF Staff Positions by Full Time Equivalent (FTE) - Fiscal Years 2021 through 2026*

| Dept.-Division | Position | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 | 2026 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| PGM-Admin | Director | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 |
| PGM-Admin | Deputy Director | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 |
| PGM-Admin | Assist to the Director | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 |
| PGM-CPIS Permits | Engineer I-IV | 1.8 | 1.8 | 1.7 | - | - | - |
| PGM-CPIS-Insp | Chief | 0.05 | 0.05 | 0.05 | 0.05 | 0.05 | 0.05 |
| PGM-CPIS-Insp | Engineer Supervisor | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.3 | - | - | - |
| PGM-CPIS-Insp | Permit Technician | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | - | - | - |
| PGM-CPIS-Insp | Admin Associate | 0.05 | 0.05 | 0.05 | 0.05 | 0.05 | 0.05 |
| PGM-CPIS-Insp | PGM Support Specialist | 1.0 | 1.0 | 1.0 | 1.0 | 1.0 | 1.0 |
| PGM-CPIS-Insp | Inspection Supervisor | 1.0 | 1.0 | 1.0 | 1.0 | 1.0 | 1.0 |
| PGM-CPIS-Insp | Inspector | 2.0 | 2.0 | 2.0 | 2.0 | 3.0 | 3.0 |
| PGM-Planning | Chief | 0.25 | 0.25 | 0.25 | 0.25 | 0.25 | 0.25 |
| PGM-Planning | Climate Resilience & Sustainability Officer | - | 0.5 | 0.5 | 0.5 | 0.5 | 0.5 |
| PGM-Planning | Assistant Chief | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.2 |
| PGM-Planning | Assist to the Chief | - | - | 0.25 | 0.25 | 0.25 | 0.25 |
| PGM-Planning | Engineer I-IV | 1.0 | 2.0 | - | - | - | - |

| | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| PGM-Planning | Planning Supervisor | 0.3 | 0.3 | - | - | - | - |
| PGM-Planning | Planner I-III | 2.0 | 1.75 | 1.75 | 2.25 | 3.0 | 3.0 |
| PGM-Planning | Planning Technician | - | - | - | - | 0.75 | 0.75 |
| PGM-Planning | PGM Support Specialist | - | - | 0.25 | 0.25 | 0.25 | 0.25 |
| PGM-Planning | Admin Associate | 0.25 | 0.25 | 1.0 | - | - | - |
| PGM-Planning | Resource Analyst - GIS | 0.25 | 0.25 | 0.25 | 0.25 | 0.25 | 0.25 |
| PGM-Resource & Inf. Mgmt. | Assistant to the Chief | - | - | 0.25 | 0.25 | 0.25 | 0.25 |
| PGM-Resource & Inf. Mgmt. | Engineer Supervisor | - | 0.25 | 0.25 | 0.25 | 0.25 | 0.25 |
| PGM-Resource & Inf. Mgmt. | Engineer I-III | - | 2.95 | 2.95 | 2.95 | 2.95 | 2.95 |
| DPW-Admin | Director of Public Works | - | - | - | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 |
| DPW-Admin | Deputy Director of Public Works - Facilities | - | - | - | 0.05 | 0.05 | 0.05 |
| DPW-Admin | Assist to the Director | - | - | - | 0.05 | 0.05 | 0.05 |
| DPW-Admin | Management Support Specialist | - | - | - | 0.05 | 0.05 | 0.05 |
| DPW-Admin | Assist Chief of Env Resources | - | - | - | - | 0.34 | 0.34 |
| DPW-Admin | Human Resources Liaison | - | - | - | 0.05 | 0.05 | 0.05 |
| DPW-Env Res | Env Compliance Officer | 1.0 | 1.0 | 1.0 | 1.0 | 1.0 | 1.0 |
| DPW-Roads | Chief of Roads | - | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 |
| DPW-Roads | Assistant Chief of Roads | - | - | - | - | 1 | 1 |
| DPW-Roads | Bridge Mgmt./Proj Mgr. | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.3 | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.4 |
| DPW-Roads | Roads Construction Insp. | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.3 | 0.4 | 0.4 | - |
| DPW-Roads | Roads Project Manager | - | - | 0.65 | 0.75 | 0.75 | 0.75 |
| County Attorney Office | Right of Way Technician | - | - | - | - | - | 1.0 |
| TOTAL FTE | | 12 | 15.75 | 16.4 | 15.75 | 19.59 | 19.19 |

***ESF Budget and Staff Positions***

A small percentage of the Environmental Service Fund is allocated to support the County's Septic Pump-Out and Riser Reimbursement Programs implemented by the Department of Planning and Growth Management. This is because septic pumping is considered an alternative urban best management practice in MDE's 2021, *Accounting for Stormwater Wasteload Allocations and Impervious Acres Treated Guidance for NPDES Permits* and awarded 0.02 acres equivalent impervious surface per septic pumped towards the impervious surface restoration goal.

The Septic Pump-Out Reimbursement program started in 2015, and the Riser Reimbursement program started in 2018 per Chapter 122, Article I of the Charles County Code. The code requires new home construction utilizing on-site sewage disposal systems to install visible septic tank risers. The

code also includes reimbursement of up to $100 per single-family dwelling for homeowners voluntarily choosing to have a septic tank riser installed. The County began implementation of the reimbursement program on December 1, 2018. The Septic Tank Risers program is in Chapter 122, Article I of the Charles County Code.

*Table 36: ESF Budget for Septic Pump-Out Reimbursement Program – Fiscal Years 2021 through 2026*

| Fiscal Year | 2021 Audited | 2022 Audited | 2023 Audited | 2024 Audited | 2025 Unaudited | 2026 Budget |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Budget | $254,500 | $172,500 | $184,300 | $185,300 | $188,100 | 192,284 |
| Expenditures | $254,648 | $141,379 | $129,691 | $140,050 | $130,721 | 192,284 |

A portion of the Environmental Service Fund is allocated to support the County's Education and Outreach Program to reduce litter entering storm drain systems and the environment. The litter control and recycling outreach efforts increase recycling and educate the public on the importance of reducing, reusing, and recycling.

*Table 37: ESF Budget for DPW's Education & Outreach – Fiscal Years 2021 through 2026*

| Fiscal Year | 2021 Actual | 2022 Actual | 2023 Actual | 2024 Actual | 2025 Actual | 2026 Budget |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Budget | $210,400 | $239,000 | $316,200 | $364,500 | $258,300 | $245,060 |
| Expenditures | $211,499 | $204,100 | $204,700 | $228,900 | $217,498 | $245,060 |

*Table 38: ESF Positions Dedicated towards Education and Outreach - Fiscal Years 2021 thru 2026*

| Department-Division | Position | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 | 2026 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| DPW- Env Resources | Recyc./Litter Control Superintendent | 1.0 | 1.0 | 1.0 | 1.0 | 1.0 | 1.0 |
| DPW- Env Resources | Recycling Manager | 0.25 | 0.25 | 0.25 | 0.25 | 0.25 | 0.25 |
| DPW- Env Resources | Recycling Supervisor | 0.25 | 0.25 | 0.25 | 0.25 | 0.25 | 0.25 |
| DPW- Env Resources | Recycling Supervisor | 0.25 | 0.25 | 0.25 | 0.25 | 0.25 | 0.25 |

***Capital Improvement Projects Budgets***

Capital projects are the primary compliance tool in meeting Part IV.E Stormwater Restoration of the NPDES MS4 permit. The County's Capital Improvements Program (CIP) budget is funded by 30-year bonds. Payments on the bonds come from the WPRF and is noted as 'Debt Service' on Table 33.

In February 2004 the County began issuing bonds for the NPDES Retrofits Projects CIP budget. In March 2007 construction was initiated on the County's first watershed restoration projects. Individual project budgets and expenditures are listed in Table 39 below.

*Table 39: NPDES MS4 Capital Improvements Bond Expenditures 2004 through Fiscal Year 2025*

| Bonds Issued to Date | Issued | Spent | Balance |
|---|---|---|---|
| 2004 Public Improvement Bond | 40,000 | 40,000 | 0 |
| 2006 Public Improvement Bond | 100,000 | 100,000 | 0 |
| 2007 Public Improvement Bond | 1,000,000 | 1,000,000 | 0 |
| 2008 Public Improvement Bond | 400,000 | 400,000 | 0 |
| 2009 Public Improvement Bond | 471,800 | 471,800 | 0 |
| 2010 Public Improvement Bond | 500,000 | 500,000 | 0 |
| 2011 Public Improvement Bond | 1,400,000 | 1,400,000 | 0 |
| 2012 Public Improvement Bond | 700,000 | 700,000 | 0 |
| 2013 Public Improvement Bond | 1,700,000 | 1,700,000 | 0 |
| 2014 Public Improvement Bond | 3,000,000 | 3,000,000 | 0 |
| 2015 Public Improvement Bond | 2,000,000 | 2,000,000 | 0 |
| 2016 Public Improvement Bond | 4,880,000 | 4,880,000 | 0 |
| 2017 Public Improvement Bond | 4,800,000 | 4,800,000 | 0 |
| 2018 Public Improvement Bond | 5,000,000 | 5,000,000 | 0 |
| 2019 Public Improvement Bond | 6,000,000 | 6,000,000 | 0 |
| 2020 Public Improvement Bond | 3,800,000 | 3,800,000 | 0 |
| 2021 Public Improvement Bond | 3,500,000 | 3,500,000 | 0 |
| 2022 Public Improvement Bond | 6,060,000 | 6,004,416 | 55,584 |
| 2023 Public Improvement Bond | 300,000 | 142,951 | 157,049 |
| 2024 Public Improvement Bond | 185,000 | 0 | 185,000 |
| 2025 Public Improvement Bond | 87,648 | 0 | 87,648 |
| TOTAL | 45,924,448 | 45,439,167 | 485,281 |

*Table 40: Capital Improvement Expenditures 2004 through Fiscal Year 2025 for NPDES MS4 Projects*

| **CIP for NPDES Retrofits** | **Budget** | **Spent** | **Balance** |
|---|---|---|---|
| Carrington (8014) | $1,867,230 | $1,867,219 | complete |
| Pinefield (8023) | 1,096,090 | 1,096,057 | complete |
| Acton/Hamilton (8401008024) | 1,961,670 | 1,852,118 | 109,552 |
| Bryan's Road (8025) | 1,915,880 | 1,912,855 | complete |
| NPDES Study (8028) | 24,740 | 24,738 | complete |
| Fox Run (8030) | 930,670 | 930,632 | complete |
| Lancaster (8031) | 73,010 | 72,997 | complete |
| Northwood (8032) | 28,830 | 28,830 | complete |
| Ryon Woods (8033) | 121,750 | 121,716 | complete |
| White Plains Retrofits (8034) | 564,630 | 564,629 | complete |
| NPDES Mapping (8035) | 716,110 | 716,103 | complete |
| GIS Mapping (8036) | 455,530 | 455,521 | complete |
| Pinefield Temi Drive (8037) | 1,126,320 | 1,126,283 | complete |
| Holly Tree Farm Stream Restoration (8038) | 1,632,490 | 1,632,468 | complete |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Stavors Road (8039) | 0 | 0 | complete |
| Acton Lane (8040) | 282,700 | 282,676 | complete |
| Cobb Island Drainage Study (8043) | 20,710 | 20,704 | complete |
| Potomac Heights (8046) | 732,400 | 732,393 | complete |
| Master Drainage Plan (8047) | 186,390 | 183,332 | complete |
| Feasibility & Concept Design (8400008048) | 1,954,830 | 1,954,811 | complete |
| Port Tobacco (8049) | 11,750 | 11,744 | complete |
| Tanglewood (8050) | 1,341,570 | 1,341,571 | complete |
| Charles County Plaza (8051) | 870,160 | 870,160 | complete |
| Tenth District (8052) | 97,250 | 97,239 | complete |
| Swan Point WWTP Shoreline Stabilization (8053) | 1,498,470 | 1,498,470 | complete |
| Public Works Campus Stormwater Management Improvements (8400008055) | 1,412,000 | 1,046,718 | 365,282 |
| General Smallwood Middle School (8056) | 509,000 | 508,998 | complete |
| Lackey High School (8057) | 115,220 | 115,220 | complete |
| Poplar Court - Laurel Branch (8058) | 112,750 | 112,881 | complete |
| TC Martin Elementary School (8059) | 51,360 | 51,360 | complete |
| JP Ryon Elementary School (8060) | 41,360 | 41,354 | complete |
| Piccowaxen Middle School / Higdon Elementary School (8061) | 67,810 | 67,798 | complete |
| McDonough High School (8062) | 49,410 | 49,393 | complete |
| JC Parks Elementary School / Matthew Henson Middle School (8063) | 87,340 | 87,337 | complete |
| Mattawoman Middle School / Berry Elementary School (8065) | 22,180 | 22,165 | complete |
| Apple Creek Court (8066) | 818,860 | 679,692 | complete |
| Floodplain Analysis Studies (8070008069) | 473,610 | 264,954 | 208,656 |
| Gilbert Run Watershed Dam Repairs (8070) | 123,770 | 122,271 | complete |
| Roof Top Disconnects Inspections (8071) | 38,150 | 38,141 | complete |
| Cliffton Shoreline Restoration (8401008072) | 1,325,650 | 1,325,647 | complete |
| Benedict Shoreline Restoration (8073) | 864,190 | 864,156 | complete |
| Friendship Farm Park (8074) | 97,940 | 97,932 | complete |
| GIS Mapping (8075) | 42,250 | 42,244 | complete |
| La Plata High School (8401008076) | 796,240 | 692,966 | 103,274 |
| Hale Court (8077) | 65,880 | 65,864 | complete |
| Adams Farm Lake (Lambeth Lake) (8078) | 4,530 | 4,520 | complete |
| Huntington Lake (8079) | 4,530 | 4,520 | complete |
| Wakefield Lake (8080) | 4,530 | 4,520 | complete |
| Post Office Road Lake (8081) | 4,530 | 4,520 | complete |
| Upper Zekiah Ponds (8082) | 11,930 | 11,923 | complete |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Pinefield Drainage (8083) | 1,164,980 | 1,164,977 | complete |
| St. Charles Parkway Stream Restoration (8084) | 728,560 | 728,556 | complete |
| Bridle Path Stream Restoration (8401008085) | 1,083,670 | 1,083,632 | complete |
| Ruth Swann Stream Restoration (8401008086) | 1,407,230 | 1,407,202 | complete |
| Thomas Higdon Stream Restoration (8087) | 1,065,780 | 1,065,777 | complete |
| Marbella Subdivision (8401008088) | 2,408,760 | 362,259 | 2,046,501 |
| Longmeade Outfall Protection (8089) | 96,830 | 96,803 | complete |
| Bensville Park (8401008090) | 1,109,500 | 1,109,475 | complete |
| Cliffton Shoreline Rest Phase II (8401008091) | 1,501,620 | 1,501,613 | complete |
| County-wide Shoreline Assessment (8095) | 189,630 | 189,631 | complete |
| Bryan's Road Storm Filter Maintenance (8096) | 18,760 | 18,753 | complete |
| Ruth B. Swann Tributary Channel Stream Restoration (8401008097) | 1,122,170 | 1,122,142 | complete |
| Warren J. Willett Subdivision (8401008098) | 12,660 | 12,648 | complete |
| Potomac Heights Shoreline Stabilization (8401008099) | 1,392,520 | 1,392,717 | complete |
| South Hampton Stormwater Management Pond Retrofits (8401008100) | 3,045,740 | 430,198 | 2,615,542 |
| Oak Ridge Park - Upper Western Branch Stream Restoration (8401008101) | 424,080 | 381,086 | 42,994 |
| Oak Ridge Park - Lower Western Branch Stream Restoration (8401008102) | 446,060 | 158,685 | 287,375 |
| Cedar Tree Pond Retrofit (8103) | 180,030 | 180,030 | complete |
| Wilton Court Pond Retrofit (8401008104) | 485,790 | 415,037 | 70,753 |
| Milton Somers Middle School- Pond Retrofit and Stream Restoration (8401008105) | 1,728,720 | 348,180 | 1,380,540 |
| CSM North Tributaries Stream Restoration (8401008106) | 1,396,830 | 1,285,731 | 111,099 |
| Oak Ridge Park - Upper Eastern Branch Stream Restoration (8401008108) | 378,870 | 262,186 | 116,684 |
| Oak Ridge Park - Lower Eastern Branch Stream Restoration (8401008109) | 193,890 | 139,050 | 54,840 |
| Best Buy Pond Retrofit (8110) | 282,470 | 282,541 | complete |
| CSM Lot 5 Outfall Stream Restoration (8111) | 73,750 | 73,750 | complete |
| White Plains Golf Course Pond Retrofit and Stream Restoration (8401008112) | 1,317,150 | 221,900 | 1,095,250 |
| Walter Mitchell Outfall Repair and Stream Restoration (8401008113) | 1,982,250 | 384,365 | 1,597,885 |
| Locust Grove Farm (8401008115) | 336,470 | 211,745 | 124,725 |
| Port Tobacco (Upper) Stream Restoration (8401008116) | 226,650 | 227,861 | complete |
| Port Tobacco (Lower) Stream Rest. (8401008117) | 3,190,460 | 264,219 | 2,926,241 |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Ruth B. Swann North Tributary Stream Rest. (8401008118) | 2,271,410 | 1,835,110 | 436,300 |
| White Oak Pond Retrofit (8401008119) | 1,096,700 | 387,857 | 708,843 |
| Westdale Drive Stream Imp (8401008122) | 1,187,390 | 1,187,350 | complete |
| Gilbert Run Watershed Dam Repairs PH 2 (8050008124) | 9,349,000 | 907,188 | 8,441,812 |
| Full Delivery of Water Quality Improvement (8070008125) | 2,094,000 | 11,737 | 2,082,263 |
| Benedict Water Quality Study (8070008126) | 28,210 | 28,205 | complete |
| NPDES Swan Point Drainage (8401008128) | 131,300 | 131,300 | complete |
| Public Facilities Vehicle Wash Bay Roof Retrofit (8400000001) | 653,060 | 184,335 | 468,725 |
| Warren J. Willett Subdivision (8401000001) | 30,000 | 20,816 | 9,184 |
| Huntington Stormwater Improvement (8401000002) | 592,000 | 42,563 | 549,437 |
| RDIP East Waldorf (8401000003) | 18,500 | 0 | 18,500 |
| TBD (8401000000) | 43,784,700 | 0 | 43,784,700 |
| **TOTAL** | **$116,884,350** | **$46,981,567** | **$69,756,960** |

The Capital Improvement Program appropriation for the NPDES Retrofit budget is the annual amount approved by the County Commissioners. The appropriations are cumulative towards the project total.

*Table 41: Capital Improvement Program Appropriation per Fiscal Year*

| CIP Appropriation per Year | |
|---|---|
| FY03 | 214,000 |
| FY04 | 220,000 |
| FY05 | 224,000 |
| FY06 | 72,000 |
| FY07 | 778,000 |
| FY08 | 1,452,000 |
| FY09 | 2,127,000 |
| FY10 | 2,409,000 |

| CIP Appropriation per Year | |
|---|---|
| FY11 | 2,409,000 |
| FY12 | 1,505,000 |
| FY13 | 5,657,000 |
| FY14 | 5,290,000 |
| FY15 | 3,135,000 |
| FY16 | 11,514,000 |
| FY17 | 11,672,000 |
| FY18 | 11,070,000 |

| CIP Appropriation per Year | |
|---|---|
| FY19 | 11,346,000 |
| FY20 | 11,017,000 |
| FY21 | 7,958,000 |
| FY22 | 8,922,000 |
| FY23 | 8,956,000 |
| FY24 | 3,150,000 |
| FY25 | 8,568,000 |
| FY26 | 3,862,200 |

***Fiscal Analysis of Permit Conditions***

Permit task implementation is supported by the enterprise funds listed above and includes staff salary, contractual costs, and other expenses. In summary, the cost for permit implementation:

*Table 42: NPDES MS4 Permit Expenses per Permit Condition*

| Permit Condition | FY 2021 Audited | FY 2022 Audited | FY 2023 Audited | FY 2024 Unaudited | FY 2025 Unaudited |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Source Identification | 294,577 | 311,767 | 384,584 | 351,904 | 396,830 |
| Stormwater Management | 803,450 | 801,269 | 728,080 | 576,194 | 862,155 |
| Erosion and Sediment Control | 265,732 | 248,092 | 248,022 | 256,633 | 541,707 |
| Illicit Detection & Elimination | 74,543 | 102,726 | 96,075 | 122,218 | 111,466 |
| Trash Elimination Education | 219,407 | 212,672 | 214,468 | 374,117 | 227,545 |
| Property Management | 248,886 | 265,017 | 260,910 | 376,961 | 436,906 |
| Inlet Cleaning | 121,888 | 123,323 | 124,610 | 156,169 | 210,403 |
| Street Sweeping | 101,397 | 102,069 | 97,408 | 133,579 | 135,323 |
| Road Maintenance - Other | 805,445 | 859,725 | 1,900,667 | 1,380,513 | 360,005 |
| Public Education | 264,123 | 280,999 | 244,927 | 262,246 | 297,882 |
| Watershed Assessment | 13,832 | 37,778 | 30,595 | 36,484 | 12,300 |
| Watershed Restoration | 2,280,872 | 2,237,024 | 2,633,728 | 2,851,611 | 2,084,082 |
| Chemical Monitoring | 123,483 | 137,987 | 108,321 | 74,389 | 110,223 |
| Biological Monitoring and | 50,371 | 62,969 | 61,407 | 41,246 | 70,663 |
| Physical Stream Assessment | 24,954 | 35,110 | 17,878 | 14,274 | 0 |
| Design Manual Monitoring | 24,954 | 35,110 | 17,878 | 89,274 | 101,149 |
| TMDL Assessments | 44,767 | 57,999 | 30,425 | 30,456 | 61,951 |
| Total Cost | $5,906,796 | $5,911,636 | 7,199,984 | 8,125,399 | 6,020,589 |

***Financial Assurance Plan (FAP) and Watershed Protection and Restoration Program (WPRP) Annual Report***

The FY 2025 WPRP Annual Report includes information on the number of subject properties, approved credits, hardships and appeals, and does not require Charles County Commissioner approval. The WPRP Annual Report is included in Appendix L.

On November 19, 2024, Charles County's FY 2025 FAP Resolution Number 2024-14 was approved by the Charles County Commissioners to fulfill requirements specified in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Environment Article, §4-202.1. This FAP is included in Appendix I of the FY24 MS4 Annual Report.