

**Section 319 Nonpoint Source Grants
Program (2025)**

Grant Information
June 28, 2024


This session is being recorded.

Josh Shapiro, Governor Jessica Shirley,
Acting Secretary

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Purpose

- **Goal**
 - 53% impaired waters
 - Improve and protect waters from nonpoint source pollution
- **Purpose**
 - Implement NPS Management Plan
 - 319 Watershed Implementation Plans (WIPs)
- **Objectives**
 - Reduce pollutant loads
 - BMP implementation
 - WIP Phase 3 assistance



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Agenda



- 319 Nonpoint Source Grants



- WIP Audit and Closeout



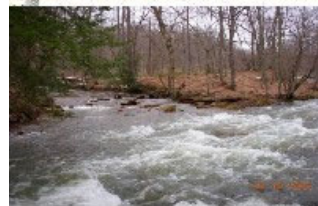
- PracticeKeeper

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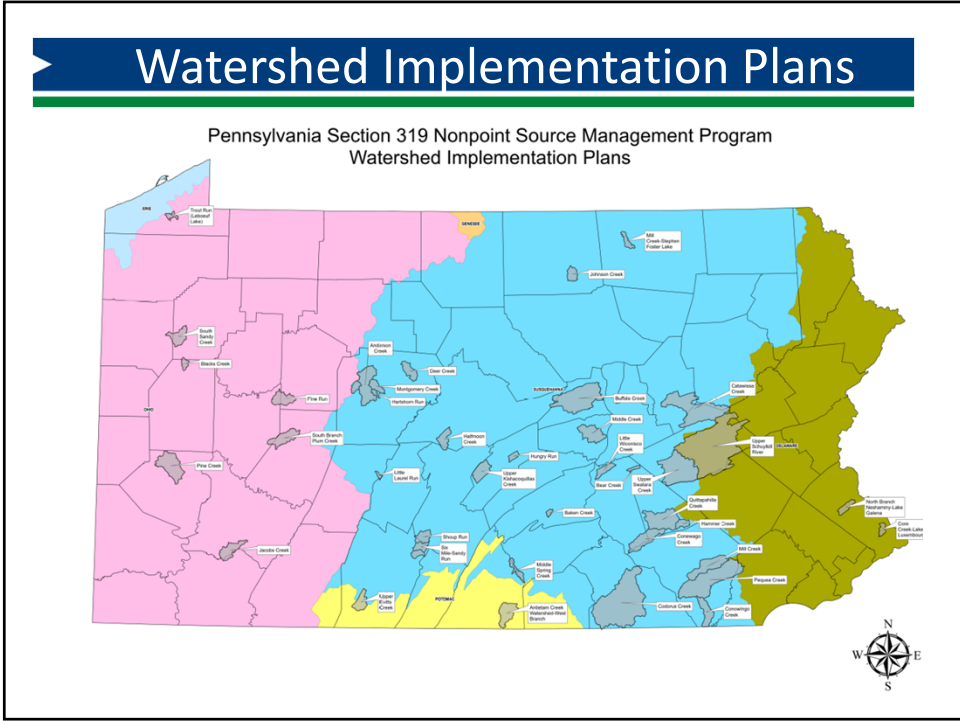
NPS Management Plan

Improve and protect from:

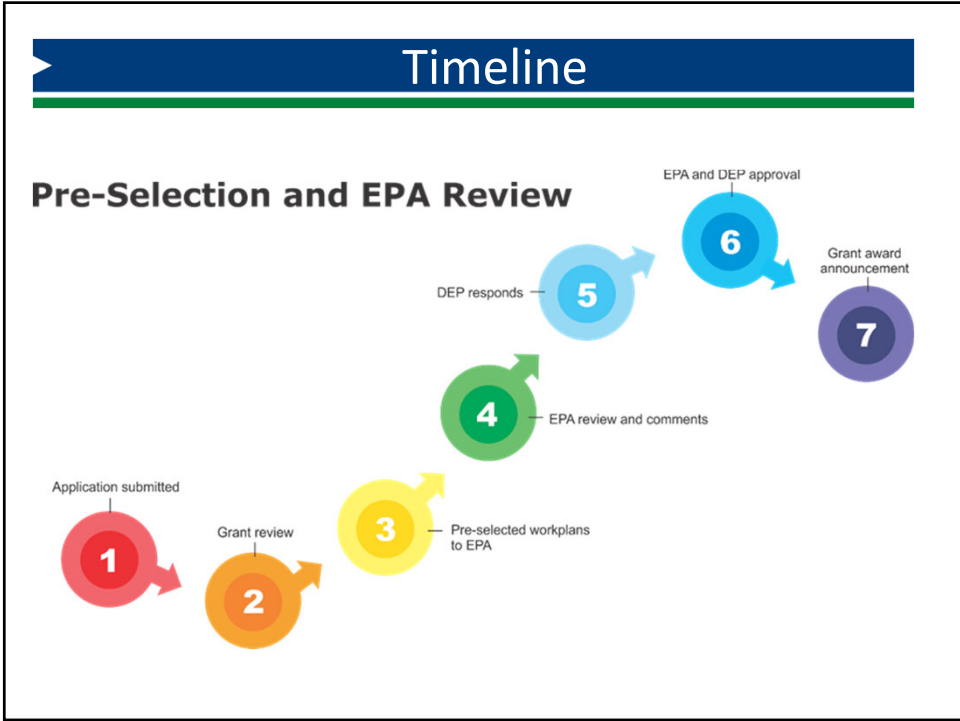
1. AMD and other energy resource extraction activities
2. Agricultural activities
3. Stormwater runoff, streambank and shoreline degradation
 - Develop and update watershed plans leading to the improvement and protection
 - Encourage opportunities to adapt to climate change impacts and promote environmental justice



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Timeline

- Applications due eGrants
– June 21st
- Grant review
– June – August
- EPA review/comment
- Dates – Oct. 1, 2025 – June 30, 2028



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What's New?

- Three-year subgrant timeframe (October 1, 2025 – June 30, 2028)
- Eligibility of BMP implementation projects within Pennsylvania, as listed in approved MD or DE Section 319 WIPs, on a case-by-case basis
- New WIP development projects no longer eligible for funding, however WIP updates are encouraged
- Eligibility of BMP implementation projects within EPA approved WIP or watershed-based plan watershed
- Preference for BMP implementation projects in EJ areas

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What's New?

- Removed preference for watersheds with approved Act 167 plans
- Use 2024 update of DEP's Integrated Report
- Removed Commonwealth Investment Criteria section
- Removed Worker Protection and Investment Certification section, form, and requirement
- Completed G&A form will now be project deliverable
- Administrative funding cannot exceed 10% of total grant funding

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Eligibility Criteria

Applications:

- Are complete, contain all required documents, and are submitted by due date through eGrants
- Contain program-specific criteria
- Include a budget which is correct and meets requirements



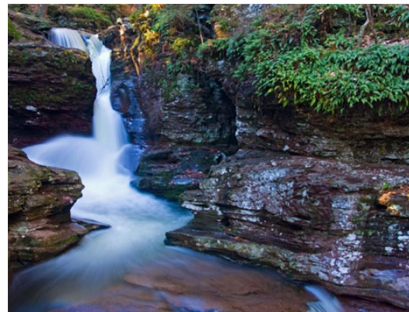
Applicants:

- Contacted Countywide Action Team (if applicable)

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Priorities

- Agricultural BMP implementation identified in an existing 319 WIP – flexibility to add sites
- 319 WIP BMP implementation projects in Pennsylvania EJ areas



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Preferences

- High priority WIP implementation projects located within *critical subwatershed areas*
- Projects that effectively address water quality impairments in a cost-effective way
- WIP implementation projects in Tier 1-4 counties within the Chesapeake Bay Watershed
- Projects in approved Act 47 municipalities

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Priority Levels

Priorities	Preferences
<div style="background-color: #008000; color: white; padding: 10px; border-radius: 15px;"> <p>Agricultural BMP implementation</p> <p>WIP implementation in EJ areas</p> </div>	<div style="background-color: #008000; color: white; padding: 10px; border-radius: 15px;"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High Priority WIP Implementation in critical subwatersheds • Cost-effective • Chesapeake Bay, Tier 1-4 </div>
<p>Eligible, but low priority:</p> <div style="background-color: #008000; color: white; padding: 5px; border-radius: 10px;"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Revising Existing WIPs • Statewide or Regional • Implementation in WIP-adjacent watersheds </div>	

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Grant Application

Mandatory Attachments

- Workplan
- Task and Deliverable Budget Worksheet
- Location maps, site maps, aerial maps and photos

Other Attachments

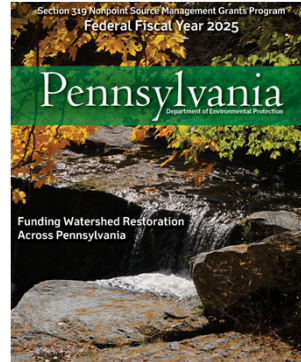
- AMDTreat output report
- Landowner Access Authorization form
- Landowner-Grantee Agreement form
- Landowner Letter of Commitment (prior to construction)
- Chesapeake Bay Countywide Action Plan BMP Implementation Form
- Letters of commitment/support







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Resources

- Presentation and videos
- Examples
 - Workplans, forms and budget worksheet
- Grant guidance
- Blank forms
- Link to apply
- Investment tracker
- Deadline – Friday, June 21st



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Bureau of Watershed Restoration and Nonpoint Source Management

WIP Audit and Closeout Process

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Background

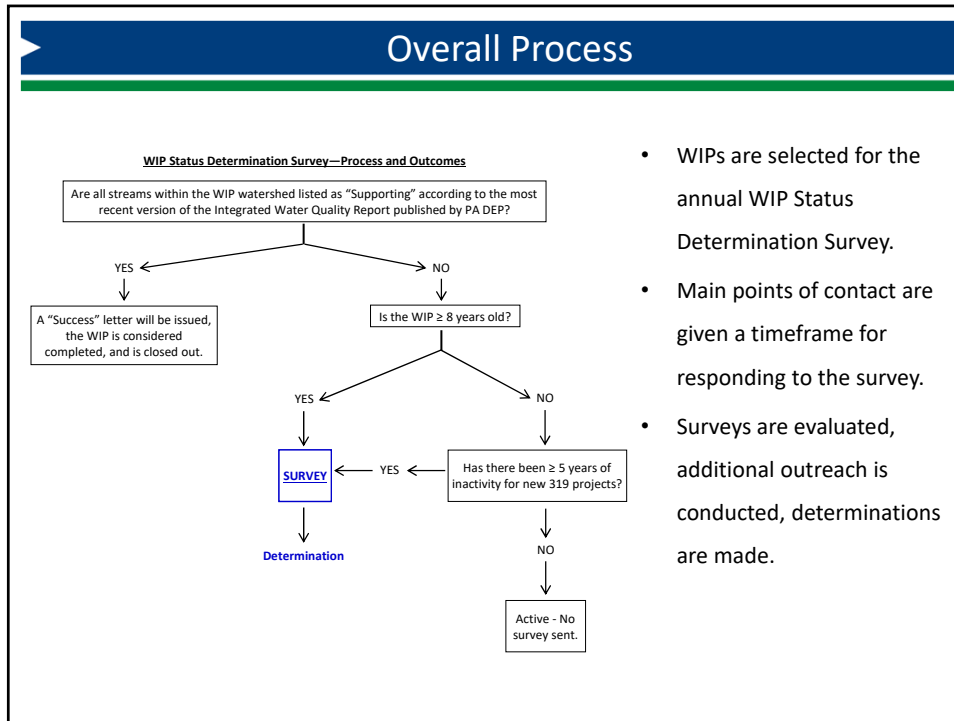
- PA had over 40 WIPs. Overall ~ 44% are over 10 years old.
- Of the WIPs that are over 10 years old:
 - 30% have not had new 319 grants awarded in the last 7+ years
 - 20% have not had any new projects initiated, 319 funded or otherwise, in the last 7+ years
- DEP is required to report to the EPA on all active WIPs and document their progress.
 - Implementation that has occurred beyond 319 funding must be manually tracked by DEP and entered into EPA's system.

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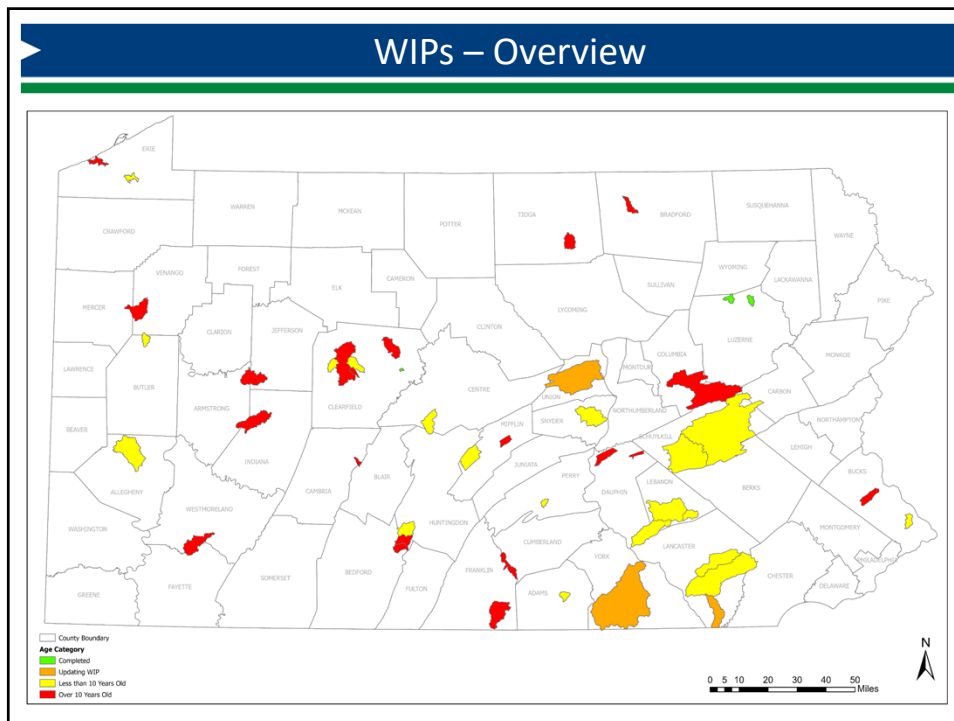
Background

- Developed a process to keep WIPs current with updated information and close out 319 inactive WIPs
 - Internal Audit
 - WIP Status Determination Survey
 - Follow-up correspondence
 - Issuance of formal status determinations
- Goal: Ensure that grant funds are being utilized in an effective manner with WIPs that are up-to-date

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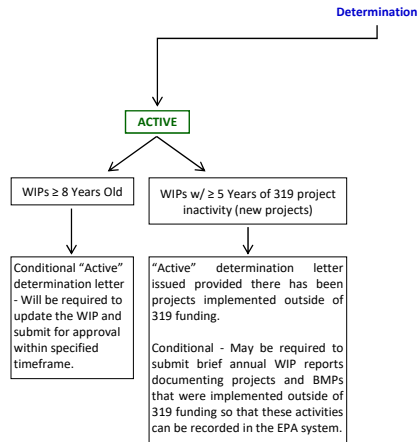


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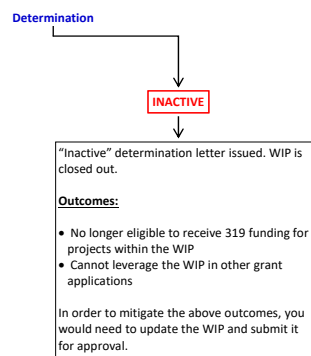
Overall Process (Cont.)



- Active WIPs - Conditions
 - **Apply** for a grant within **2 years***
 - **Prepare and submit** revised WIP within **4 years***
 - Annual WIP project summary
- *May request time extension in writing.
- If a WIP is determined to be conditionally active, projects within the WIP may still be eligible to receive funding while progress is being made in updating the WIP.

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Overall Process (Cont.)



- Inactive WIPs – Outcomes
 - What happens if a WIP is closed out?
 - Would it affect eligibility for grant funds other than 319?
 - If projects develop within the WIP watershed, the “closed” WIP can still be followed as a guide to continue work if 319 funds are not involved and the WIP is not leveraged in other grant applications used to fund the project.
- Resources/Options for Updating a WIP
 - 319 Grants – FY 2025 grant round open until June 21, 2024
 - Outside consultants/organizations

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Formal Decisions


- Formal determination letters will be distributed by the end of March.
- Active Determinations
 - **Apply** for a grant within 2 years*
 - Prepare and **submit** revised WIP within 4 years*
 - *May request time extension in writing.
 - If a request for an extension is not received and/or an updated WIP is not submitted within the timeframe, the WIP will be closed out.

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Formal Decisions (Cont.)

- Formal determination letters will be distributed by the end of March.
- Inactive Determinations
 - WIP is closed out
 - If you wish to receive 319 grant funding for projects within the WIP watershed or want to leverage the WIP in other grant applications, you will be required to prepare and submit an updated WIP for approval that includes the required 9 elements.

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Additional Questions?
Contact: RA-EP319GRANTFUNDING@pa.gov

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