

The Baltimore Watershed Agreement



Introduction to the Baltimore Watershed Agreement

Nicole Stern

Biohabitats

nstern@biohabitats.com

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Baltimore Watershed Agreement

- Signed in 2002 and 2006
- Joint commitment between Baltimore County & Baltimore City
- Goal: improve water quality

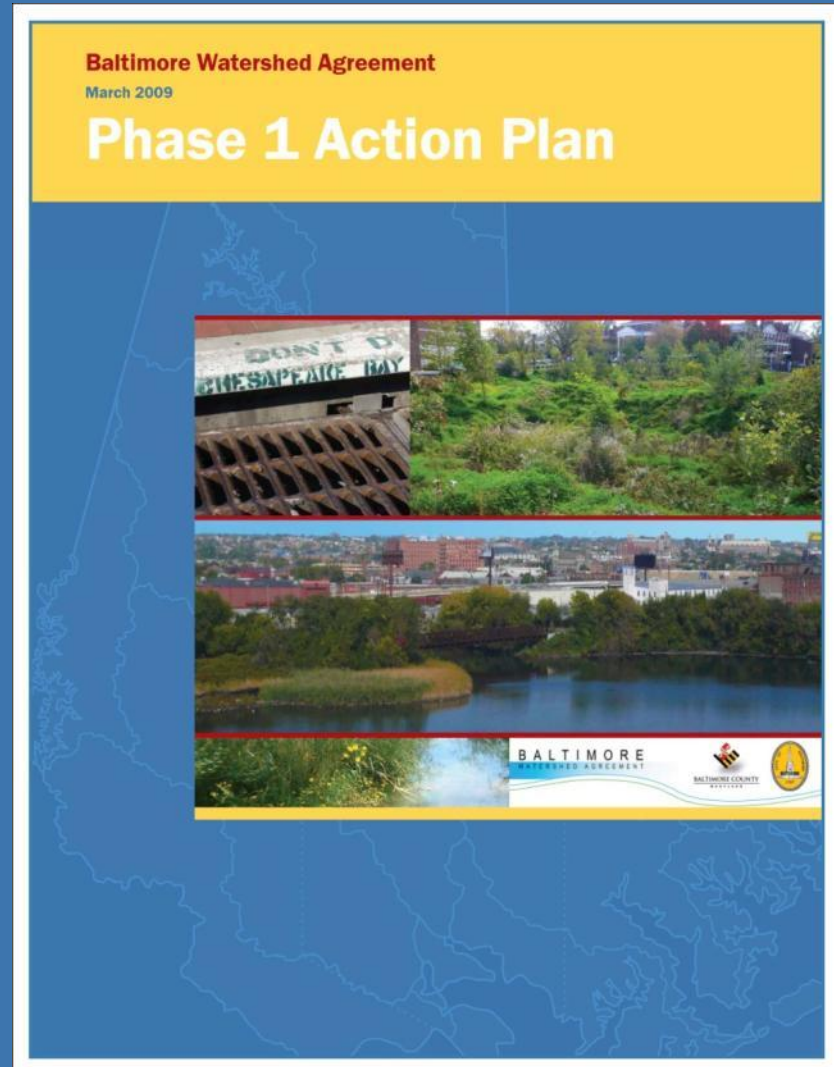


Shared Watersheds of Baltimore City & Baltimore County



Baltimore Watershed Agreement

- Builds on Reservoir Agreement
- Action Plan in 2009
- Committee of Principals & BWA Workgroup



Baltimore Watershed Agreement Timeline

Baltimore City Sustainability Plan at Planning Commission for adoption (February 2009); Planned adoption by City Council (March 2009)

Baltimore City Comprehensive Master Plan updated (April 2009)

Baltimore City Comprehensive Plan Cycle (2012)

Baltimore City Tree Canopy Goal of doubling tree canopy from 20% - 40% (2030)

Anticipated Trash TMDL (2010)

2010

2012

2015

2020

Phase 1 Action Plan

Phase 2 Action Plan

Phase 3 Action Plan

NPDES MS4 permit renewal (2009)

Baltimore Watershed Agreement renewal (December 2012)

Baltimore County Sustainability Plan due (2009-2010)






Baltimore County Master Plan Update (2009)

Phase 1 Action Plan Structure

Overarching Categories

1. Implementation
2. Policy & Regulation
3. Planning & Collaboration
4. Education
5. Outreach & Awareness

Topic Areas

6. Development & Redevelopment 
7. Community Greening 
8. Stormwater 
9. Public Health 
10. Trash 

Drivers for Achieving Clean Water and Healthy Watersheds

Federal

Clean Water Act
NPDES
(National Pollutant
Discharge Elimination
System)
Consent Decree
(part of Clean Water Act
for accelerated action)
Safe Drinking Water Act
TMDL
(Total Maximum
Daily Loads)

State/Local

Maryland Water Quality
Standards:
- Water quality certification
- Surface water quality
protection
- Ground water quality
standards
- Designated use of
water body
- Antidegradation policy
Stormwater, sediment
and erosion control -
MD SWM 2007 Act
Forest conservation,
forest buffer, critical area
regulations
Reservoir Agreement
House Bill 1141
Tributary Strategies

Example Actions Tied to Regulatory Drivers

Policy & Regulation
Action 2.3

Planning & Collaboration
Action 3.1

Education
Action 4.2

Outreach & Awareness
Action 5.3

Development & Redevelopment
Action 6.4

Community Greening
Action 7.1

Stormwater
Action 8.3

Public Health
Action 9.1

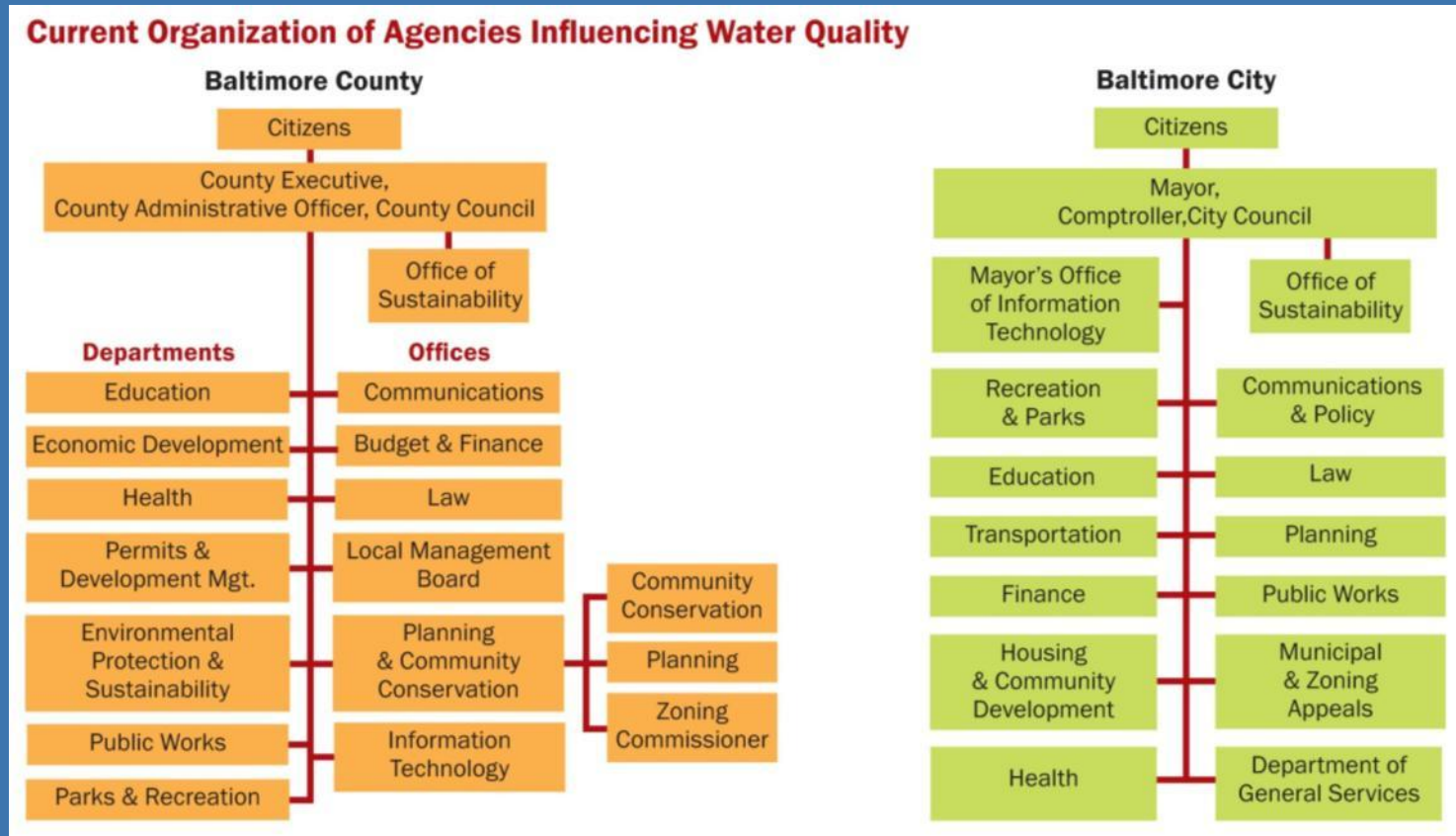
Trash
Action 10.1

3. Planning & Collaboration

GOAL:

Improve watershed planning efforts through collaboration across jurisdictions and among agencies.

Better integrate watershed plans into planning and zoning processes, review and permitting, enforcement and implementation



8. Stormwater

GOAL:

Achieve the necessary pollutant reductions and hydrological control to meet water quality standards in City and County streams and tidal waters by 2020



BWA Phase 1 Action Plan Implementation 2009 - 2011

Successes

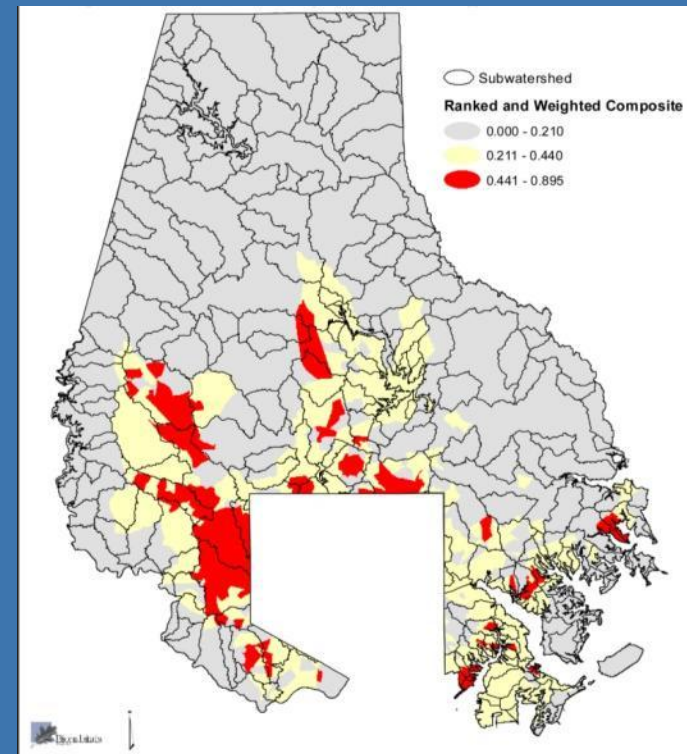
- Increased communication
- BWA Workgroup meeting quarterly
- Joint monitoring plans
- School & streetscape tree planting



BWAA Implementation 2009 - 2011

Progress

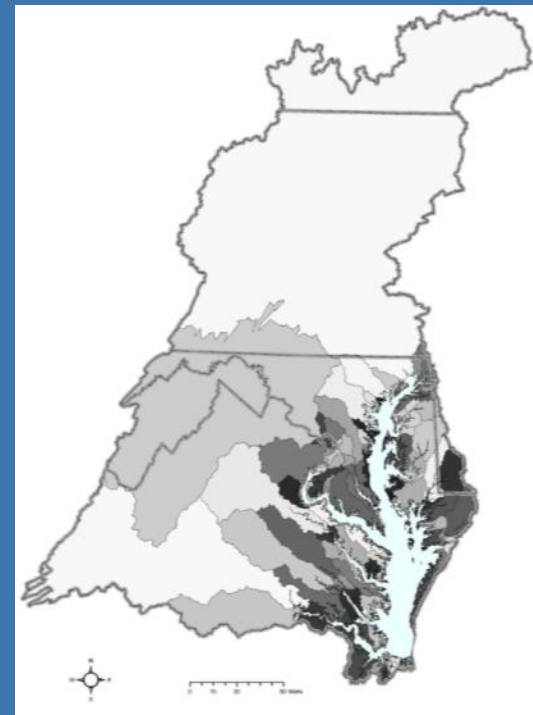
- Environmental Justice Mapping for County
- NGO round tables
- Joint outreach campaigns



BWAA Implementation 2009 - 2011

Challenges & Lessons Learned

- Staff & funding constraints
- Difficulty prioritizing actions not related to regulations
- Changing political climate
- Shift of priorities
- Changes in staff
- Engaging executive level



Biennial Watershed Conference

- 4 past conferences
- 2010
- Upcoming 2012

State of Our Watersheds

Map 1

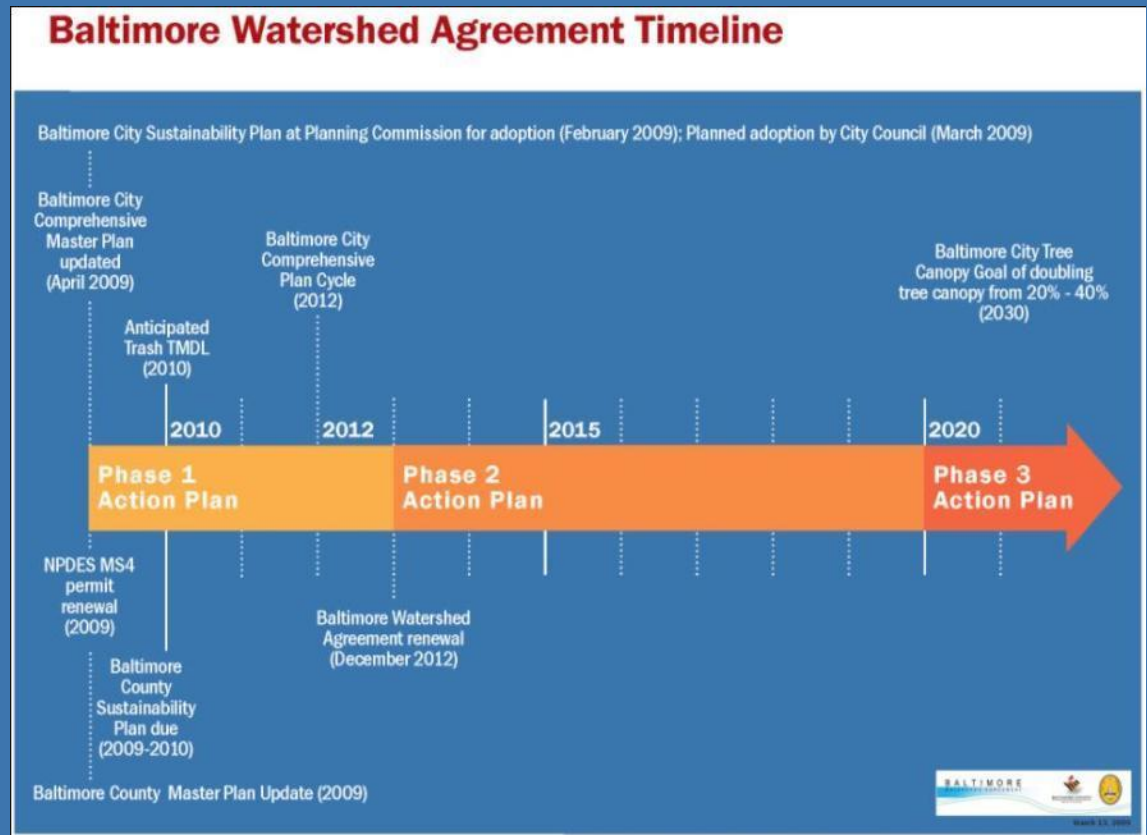


Impairment Rating



BWA Phase 2 Action Plan

- **Planning at the Watershed Conference**
- **More input from NGOs, citizens**





For more information, visit the
Baltimore County Website:

[www.baltimorecountymd.gov/
Agencies/environment/
watershedagreement/index.html](http://www.baltimorecountymd.gov/Agencies/environment/watershedagreement/index.html)