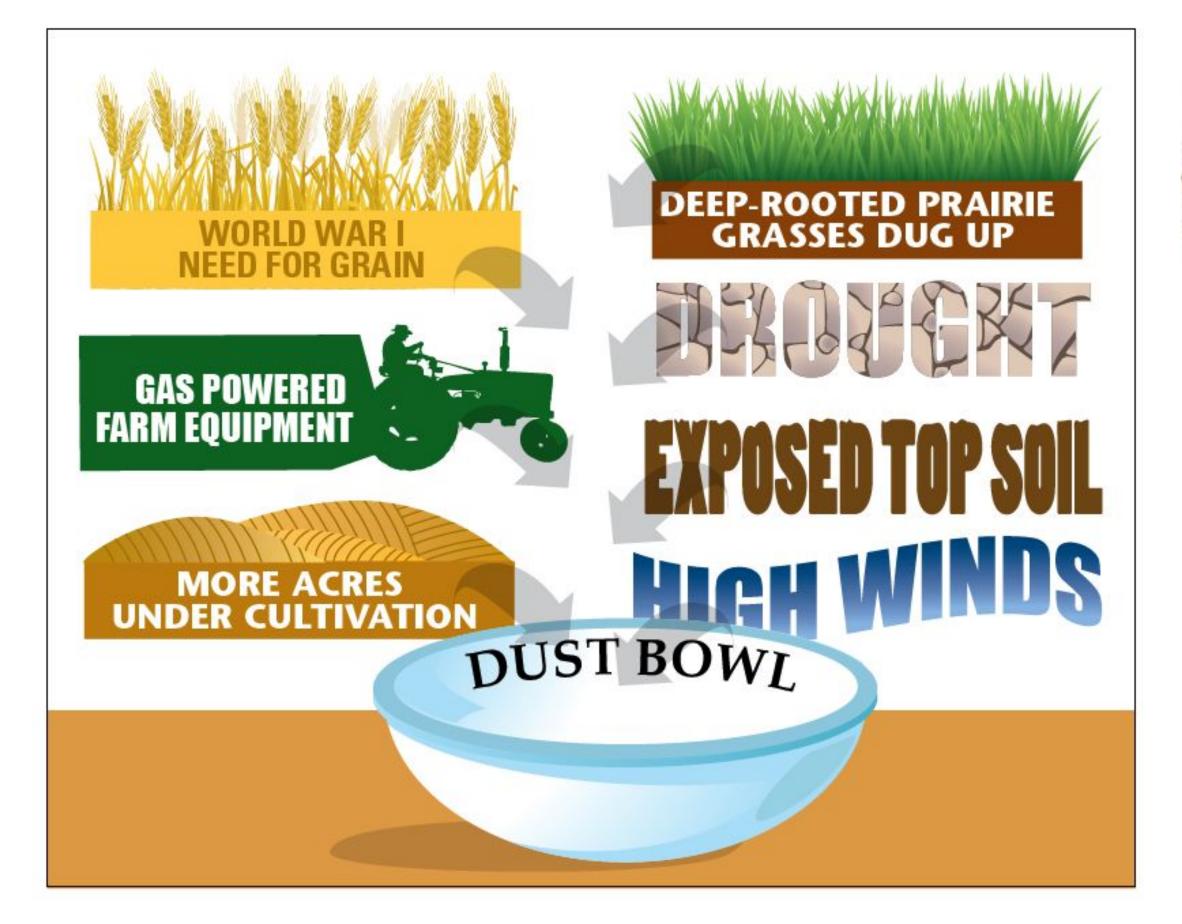


Hourglass Foundation March 7, 2025

• LANCASTER COUNTY Conservation District

Where, Why, and How Did **Conservation Districts Form?**





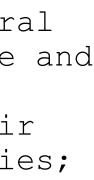






PA passed Act 217 in May 1945

Relating to the conservation of soil, water and related natural resources and land use practices contributing to soil wastage and soil erosion; providing for the organization of the various counties into conservation districts; the appointment of their officers and employees; and prescribing their powers and duties; creating the State Conservation Commission



Introduction





Introduction

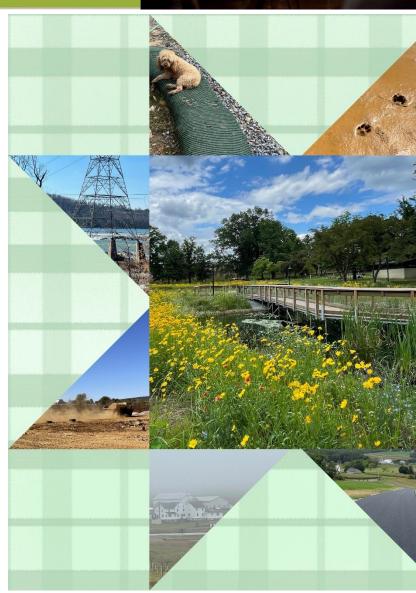




















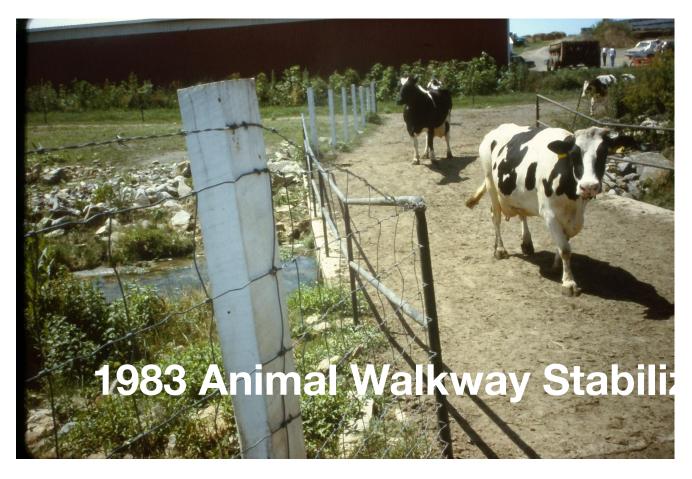
75th Anniversary

Lancaster County Conservation District 75 years in 2025

- Lancaster County leading the way for over 75 years
- Assisting farmers since 1938
- Resolution countywide 1950
- 1st District employee in 1965 Nancy Burkhart
- E&S Program started in 1972
- 1st Tree Sale 1975
- 1st Youth Conservation School 1978









1980s: Development moves from road sign to inland construction.

75th Anniversary

Lancaster County Conservation District 75 years in 2025

- Chesapeake Bay Program starts 1985
- County Envirothon Program 1984
- Watershed Program starts 1995
- Plain Sect Outreach starts 2007
- Today a budget over \$15 million
- Staff of over 40 (largest in state)
- Diamond Jubilee Gala Sept 25th

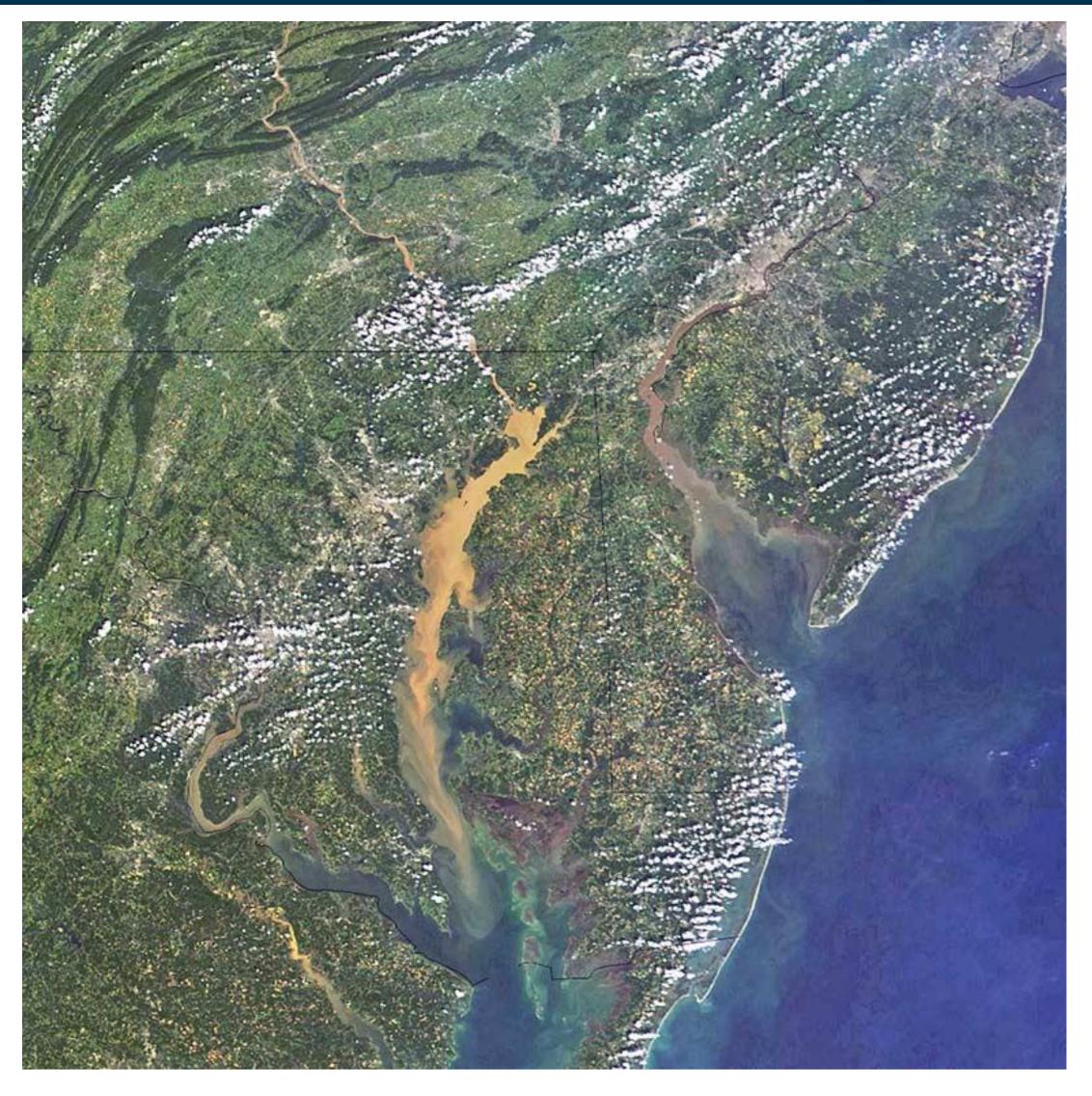








Water Quality





CHESAPEAKE BAY WATERSHED

Includes over 100K streams, creeks, and rivers

Covers 64,000 square miles

Has a population of over 18.5 million people

Home to over 3,600 species of plants and animals PENNSYLVANIA

Harrisburg

NEW

MARYLAND

DC

VIRGINIA

Annapolis

Richmond

VIRGINIA

1,176 Stream Miles (79%) are Impaired for Aquatic Life



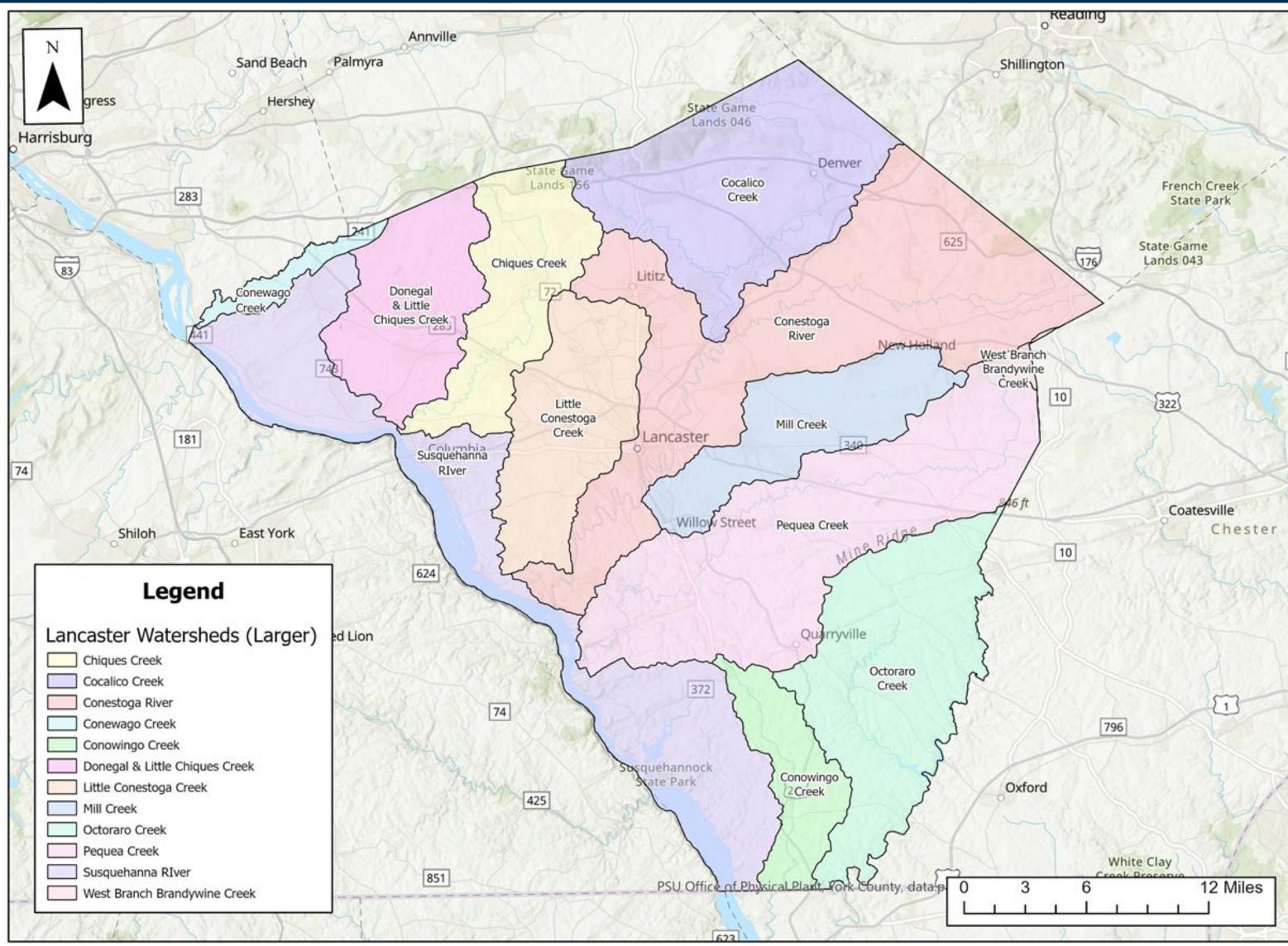








What's Your Watershed?







Programs & Services

LANCASTER COUNTY Conservation District

Watershed

Program Overview

- Stream Restoration Projects & Riparian Buffers
- Water Quality Monitoring
 - O Volunteer Program
 - In-Stream Sensors (Sondes)
- Outreach & Technical Assistance







Watershed

County Goals & Connections

- Landowner Technical Assistance
 - § Focus areas: Mill Creek, Pequea Creek, Conowingo Creek, Conewago Creek
- Countywide Watershed Planning
- Support Local Grassroots Efforts
- Project collaborations with townships, non-profits, and government agencies





Watershed Projects





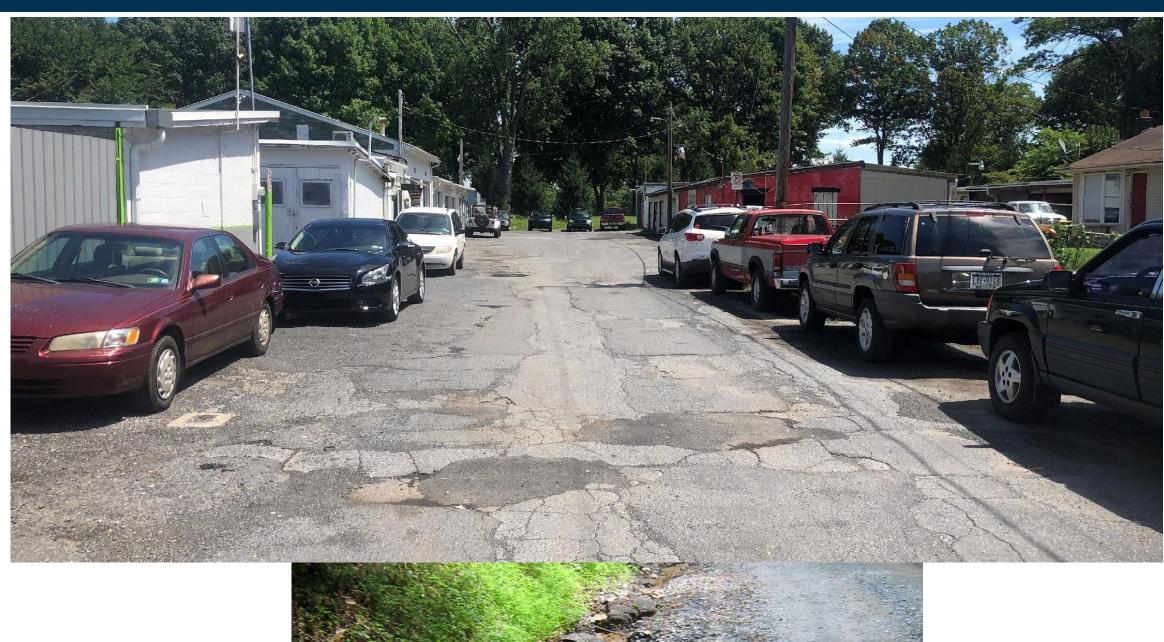


Dirt & Gravel/Low Volume Roads

Program Purpose

- Pay to fix/maintain roads that may get overlooked
- Reduce pollution to Lancaster's waterways
- Reduce maintenance costs for Townships
 DG vs LVR
- DG: Unbound surface, no traffic count
- LVR: Paved, <500 vehicles per day







Erosion & Sedimentation (E&S)

What do we do?

- Chapter 102.4(b) all earth disturbance activities except agriculture
- Review of plans and permits
- Inspection of construction sites
- Investigation of earth disturbance complaints





What do they have to do?



Best Management Practices (BMPs)

E&S BNPS



Compost Filter Sock





Sediment Basin

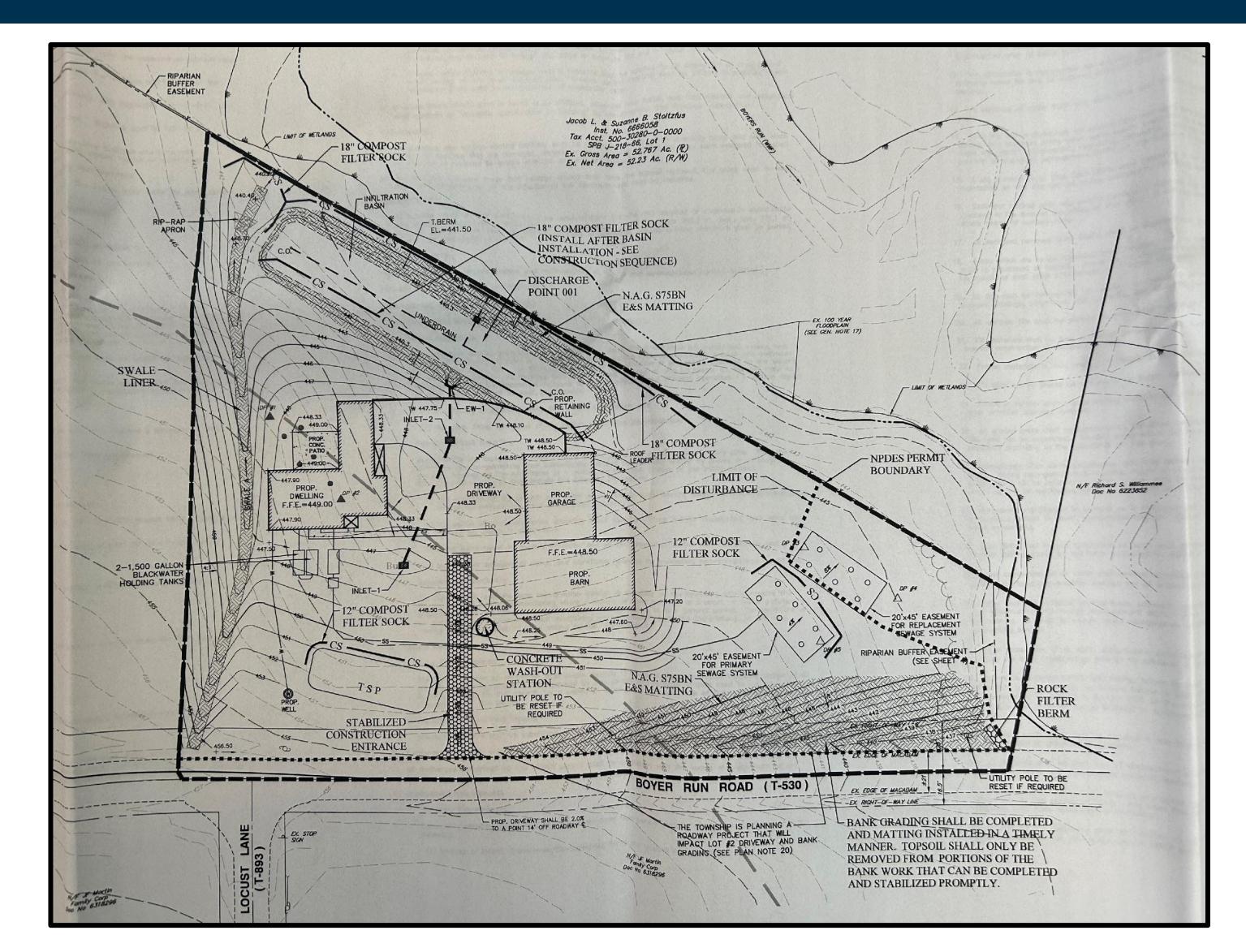


What do they have to do?

- Best Management Practices (BMPs)
- E&S Plan 5,000 sq. ft. or more



E&S Plan







What do they have to do?

- Best Management Practices (BMPs)
- E&S Plan 5,000 sq. ft. or more



• National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit – 1.0 acre or more

Stormwater Management





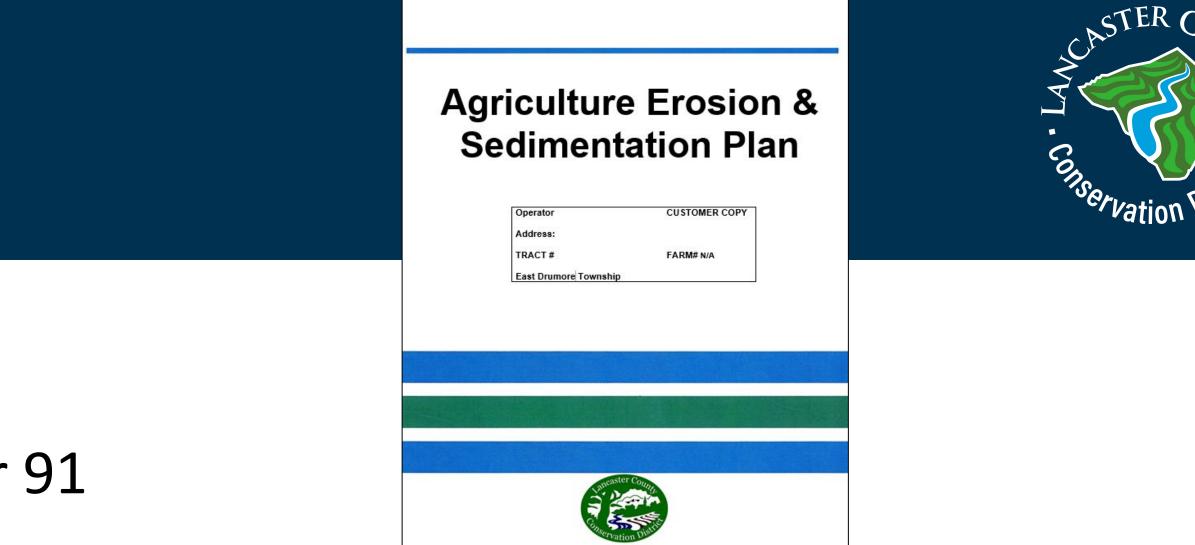
Agriculture

What do we do?

- Act 38 Nutrient Management & Chapter 91 Management Programs
- Chapter 102.4(a) Ag Erosion & Sediment Control
- Technical Assistance engineering funding













Agriculture

- Nutrient & Sediment Pollution Complaints
- Plain Sect Outreach
- Ag Conservation educational materials



Help turn this....





Into THIS!

Education and Outreach

PA Ombudsman - Conflict management related to agriculture

Education - Learning experiences to engage and ignite local understanding

O Natural Resources

O Human Impact











Education

Programs

- Teacher professional development







Lancaster County Envirothon program – grades 3-12, school teams of 5

Data & Analysis

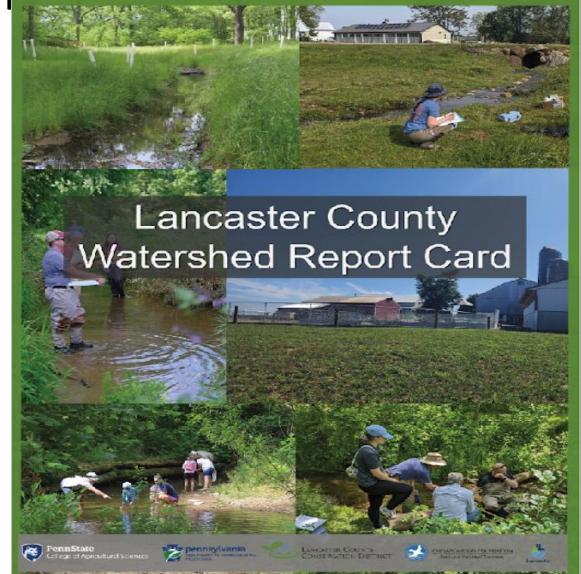
New District Department started in 2023

•Started with a Grants Coordinator in the summer of 2022

•A Data Coordinator position in late 2022









Roof Runoff Structure - NRCS Code 558



Why? Gutters that are not connected to downspout provide no stormwater control as runoff is intended to be routed to an appropriate outlet.



Ways We Assist

LANCASTER COUNTY Conservation District

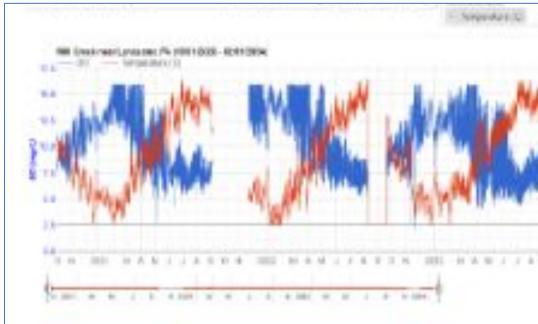
Data, WQ, and Partnerships

How We Assist

- GIS Datasets for Best Management Practices (PracticeKeeper)
- Water Quality data; <u>www.lancasterwatersheds.org</u>
- Currently creating a County-Wide Data Dashboard
- Municipal Coordination MOU
- Ag Plan Verification Program







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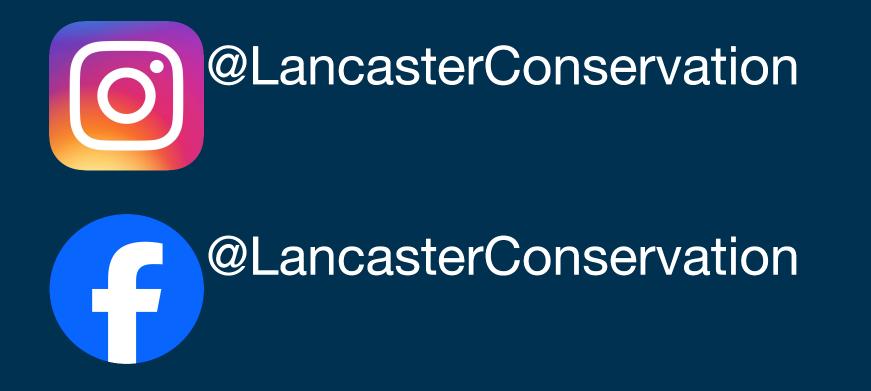








Thank You! 717-299-5361 ext. 5 www.lancasterconservation.org



LANCASTER COUNTY Conservation District