

# Virginia's Partnership with PDCs: Improving the Chesapeake Bay and Local Waters

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*ANN JENNINGS & JUTTA SCHNEIDER*

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*VAPDC SUMMER CONFERENCE & ANNUAL MEETING*



# THANK YOU PLANNING DISTRICT COMMISSIONS !

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# Restored Chesapeake Bay Robust Virginia Economy

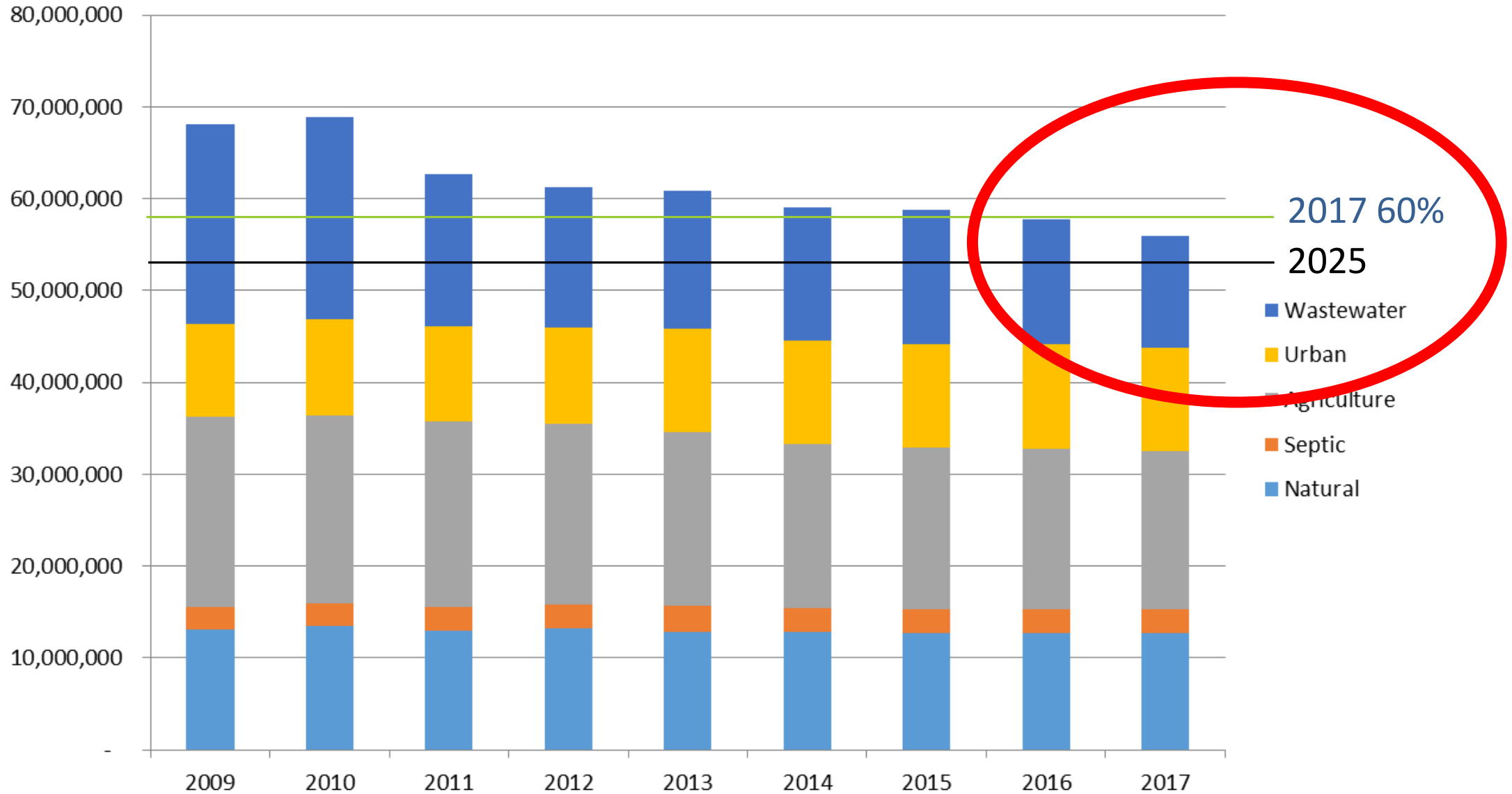




Nitrogen, Phosphorus, Sediment:  
Overall, the biggest problems plaguing Virginia rivers  
and the Chesapeake Bay.



# Virginia Achieves Midpoint Clean Water Goals for Nitrogen



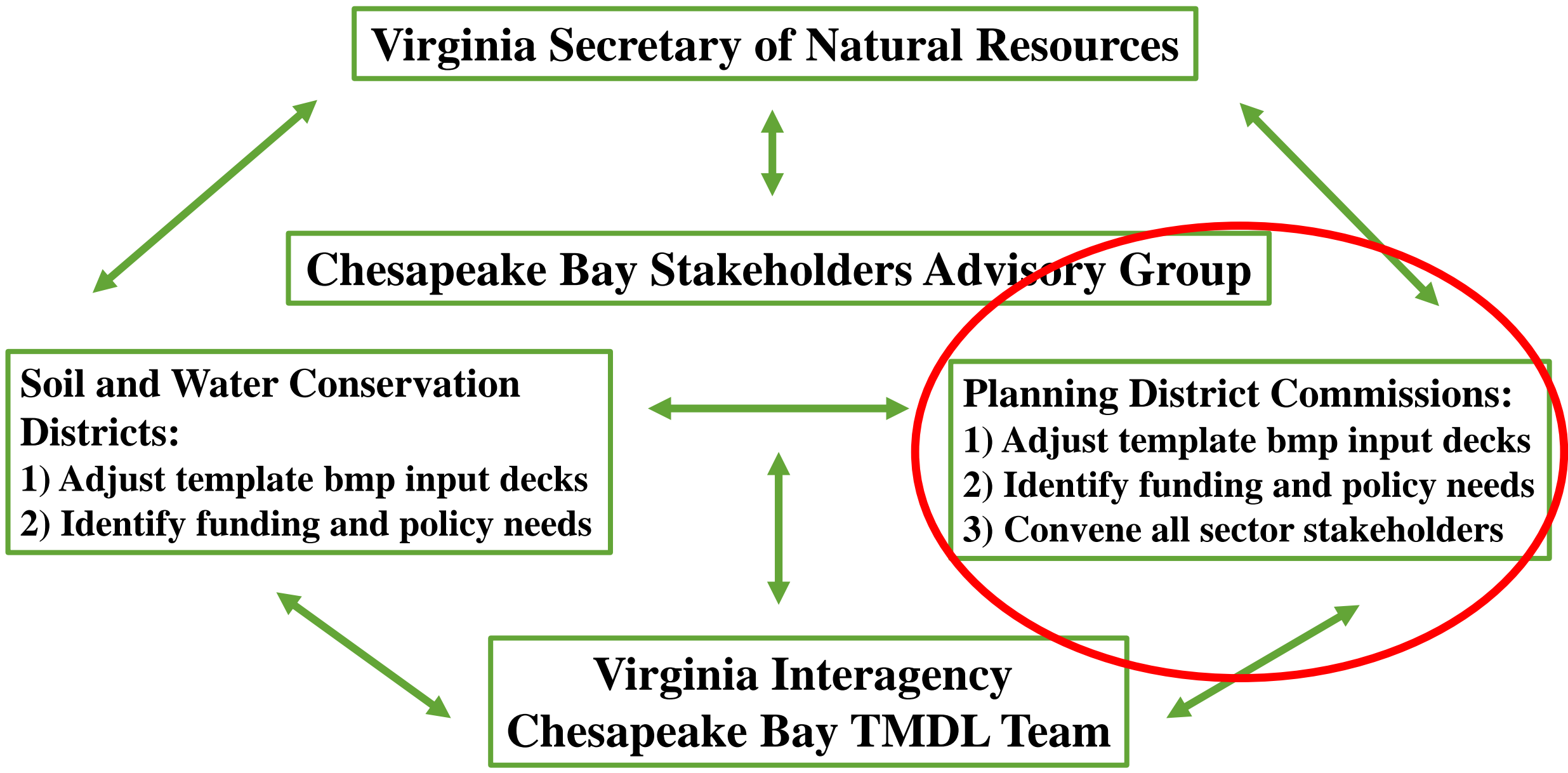
**Virginia Secretary of Natural Resources**

**Chesapeake Bay Stakeholders Advisory Group**

**Soil and Water Conservation Districts:**  
1) Adjust template bmp input decks  
2) Identify funding and policy needs

**Planning District Commissions:**  
1) Adjust template bmp input decks  
2) Identify funding and policy needs  
3) Convene all sector stakeholders

**Virginia Interagency Chesapeake Bay TMDL Team**



# Planning District and Regional Commissions

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14 of the 15 PDCs in Virginia's Bay watershed assisted with development of the Draft Phase III WIP.

- Utilizing federal Chesapeake Bay Program funding, the Department of Environmental Quality awarded grants to 14 Planning District/Regional Commissions (PDCs) to work with localities and stakeholders on development of the Draft Phase III WIP.
- PDCs were asked to provide recommendations on revised best management practice (BMP) input decks for the unregulated, urban sector as well as programmatic actions, capacity, and funding.
- The PDCs held 50 meetings to engage their local communities in addition to four concluding meetings held in collaboration with their local Districts.

# Current PDC Grant Contracts

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Each Bay watershed PDC is under a \$21,500 cost-share contract ending this September

- The goal is support for a long-term partnership.
- Transitioning from planning the WIP to implementing the WIP.
- PDCs serve as liaisons to localities and stakeholders.
- The work includes:
  - Prioritizing implementation to maximize nutrient reductions and co-benefits; and
  - Leading efforts to support and encourage urban BMPs and strategies to meet local area planning goals based on local conditions, knowledge and needs.



# Future PDC Grant Contracts

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**Seek funding to  
maintain on-going  
partnership  
throughout Phase III  
WIP implementation**

- Maintaining connection to local governments through the PDCs is vital to achieving the Bay TMDL goals.
- Supporting the data collection, capacity building, and technical and administrative assistance that PDCs can provide.
- DEQ plans to include in the next CBRAP work plan (period from Oct. 2019 to Sept. 2020) a total of \$780,000 in pass-through funds to contract with the PDCs, awarding up to \$52,000 each for ongoing partnership support.

# Virginia's Partnership with PDCs: Improving the Chesapeake Bay and Local Waters

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*QUESTIONS?*