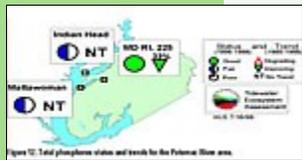


Why was the Watershed Registry Formed?

Federal, state and local agencies increasingly have turned to a watershed-based methodology to address the Clean Water Act (CWA) requirements.

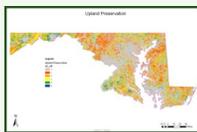
Historically, program management decisions have been constrained by the "stovepipe" or programmatic nature of agencies' enabling legislation. This "vertical approach," while useful for specific resources, impedes broad-based collaborative planning, application, and evaluation of environmental programs.

Prior to the development of the WRR, CWA authorities made decisions based on maps that may have, and in fact, did look vastly different. (see below) These decisions had secondary effects that impacted the goals and efforts of other programs. The Registry provides a platform for combining, examining, and targeting the best efforts of all agencies and programs affecting watershed health.

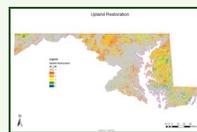


The Suitability Analyses

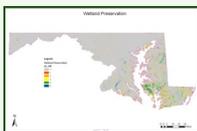
Upland Preservation



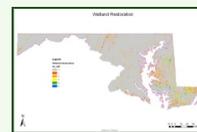
Upland Restoration



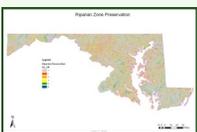
Wetland Preservation



Wetland Restoration



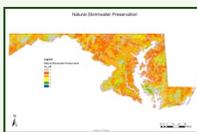
Riparian Zone Preservation



Riparian Zone Restoration



Natural Stormwater Hydrology Preservation



Natural Stormwater Hydrology Restoration



The Watershed Resources Registry







Contact Us

1650 Arch Street
Philadelphia, PA 19103-2029

Phone: 215-814-5122
Fax: 215-814-5103
E-mail: spagnolo.ralph@epa.gov







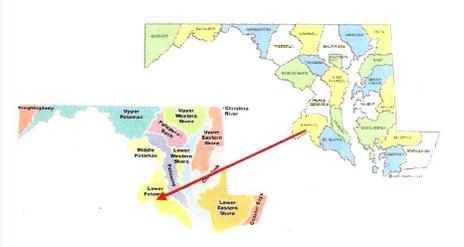

www.watershedresourcesregistry.org

215-814-2310

Overview of the Watershed Resources Registry

What is the purpose of a Watershed Resource Registry?

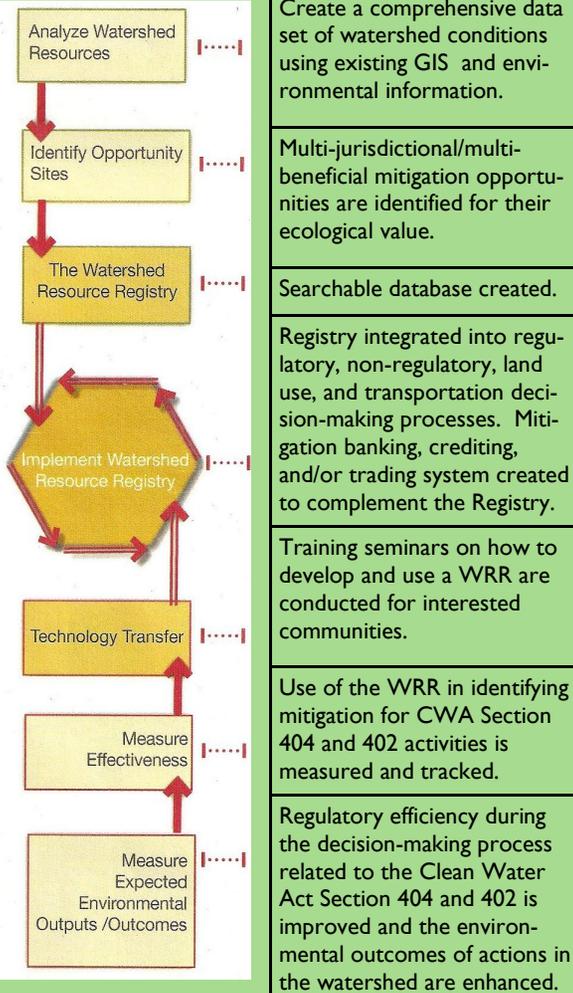
To improve resource planning and mitigation decision making using the watershed approach by integrating regulatory and non-regulatory programs.



To test the efficacy of the Registry, a pilot program was conducted in four 12-digit Hydrologic Unit Codes (HUC's) in Maryland: Mattawoman Creek, Port Tobacco, Piscataway Creek and Zekiah Swamp. The Registry has now been completed for all of Maryland.

Data layers from a variety of agencies and programs were combined to identify target opportunity sites for aquatic and terrestrial restoration and preservation for integration of both regulatory and non-regulatory program goals.

Development and Implementation Process



Benefits

- Identifies potential Section 404 compensatory mitigation sites based on a watershed analysis and watershed goals as required by the Compensatory Mitigation Rule.
- Allows for automatic integration
- Identifies mitigation sites
- Integrates land use planning within the watershed approach
- Data used is transferable
- Identifies advanced compensatory mitigation sites
- Increases the efficiency of non-regulatory decision making
- Facilitates interagency collaboration and communication
- Increases site identification and selection efficiency
- System is sustainable and retains its utility over

How does it work?

Using available data layers and GIS from various federal and state partner organizations, watersheds are analyzed for a variety of resource properties and conditions. From this data, a comprehensive picture of watershed health has been unveiled. The parameters examined included designations for and identification of:

- high quality aquatic resources
- other high quality resources
- opportunities for aquatic resource restoration
- wetland restoration sites,
- terrestrial restoration opportunities, and,
- implementation of structural or non-structural stormwater Best Management Practices.

Once overall watershed condition has been determined to the extent possible, missing data layers are identified and a ground-truthing sequence is commenced. Ultimately, the compilation of these data layers is used to identify sites for potential restoration and/or preservation based on a series of indicators.

Contact Us

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region III
 1650 Arch Street
 Philadelphia, PA 19103-2029
 Phone: 215-814-5122
 Fax: 215-814-5103
 E-mail: spagnolo.ralph@epa.gov