



CENTER FOR
**WATERSHED
PROTECTION**

Public Meeting #1:
**Lower Nanticoke
River Watershed
Plan**

Monday, July 20, 2026

Agenda

Introductions and Icebreaker
(5 minutes)

**What is Stormwater? What is a Watershed?
Why do we need a Watershed Plan?**
(15 minutes)

Community Concerns, Priorities, and Goals
(15 minutes)

Identifying Problem Areas
(15 minutes)

Next Steps and Next Meeting
(10 minutes)



Introductions and Icebreaker

Project Team Introductions

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PROTECTION**

CWP



Amanda Pollack, PE

- Director of Training and Senior Water Resources Engineer for CWP
- Former Director of Infrastructure and Development for the City of Salisbury, MD
- Resident of Fruitland, MD



NWA



John Sandkuhler

- Restoration Coordinator for NWA
- Former Native Plant Nursery manager in St. Michaels
- Resident of Cambridge, MD

Introductions and Icebreaker

- What's your name?
- What's your connection to the community? How long have you lived or worked here?
- What's your favorite local area?

What is Stormwater?
What is a Watershed?
Why do we need a Watershed Plan?

What is Stormwater?

Stormwater Runoff is water from rain or melting snow that travels across the land.

This runoff travels through ditches or pipes and eventually flows into the nearest waterbody, like streams, creeks, rivers, lakes, and estuaries.

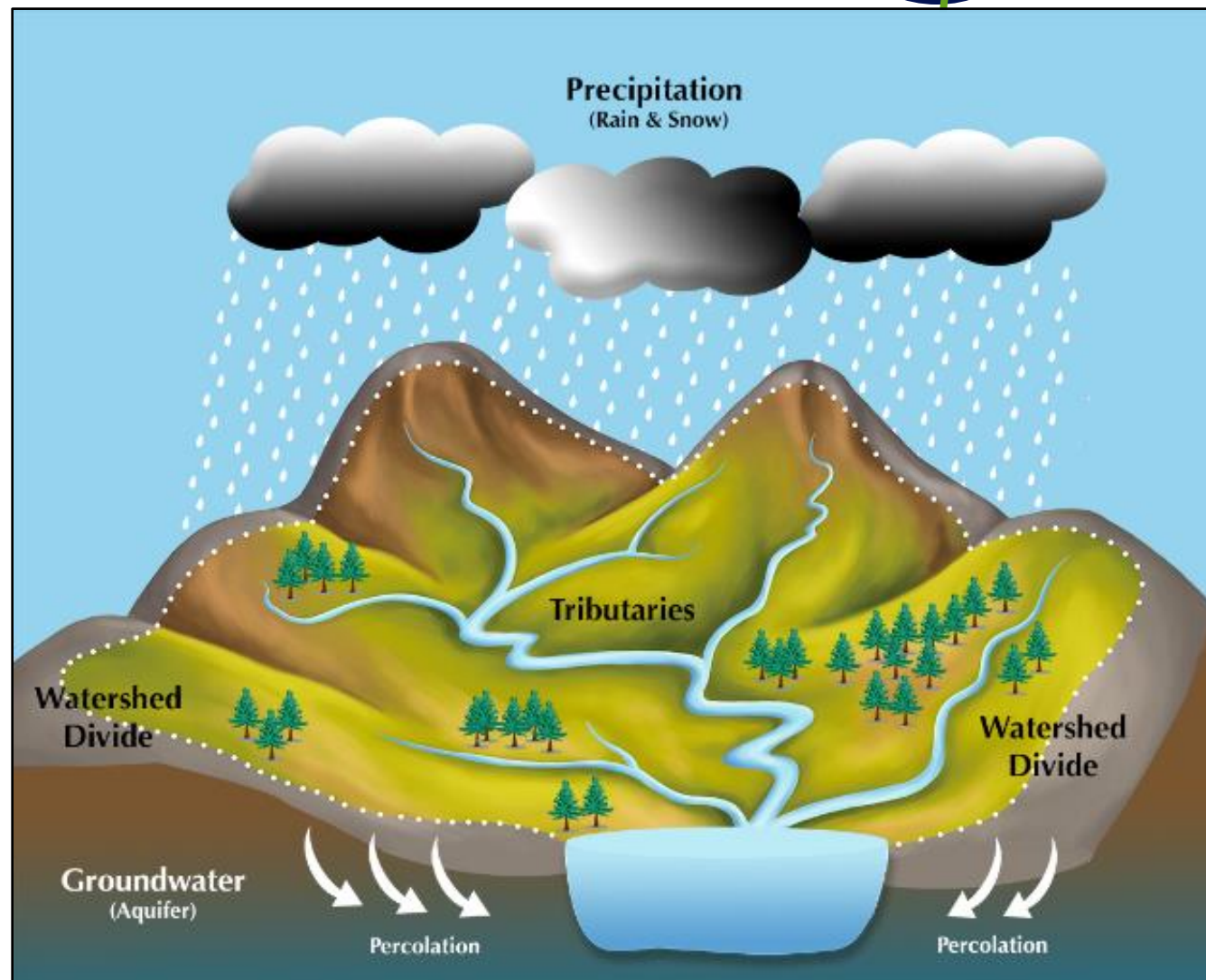


What is a Watershed?

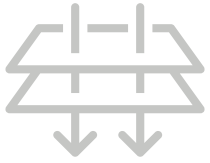
Watersheds are areas of land that drain to a particular body of water. The boundaries are defined by the ridges and valleys of the land.

Stormwater that doesn't soak into the ground becomes **runoff**, which carries pollution from the land into the water.

The way that land is used by humans, called **land use and land cover**, affects **water quality**, which impacts the ways we can safely enjoy natural resources, like fishing, swimming, and recreation.



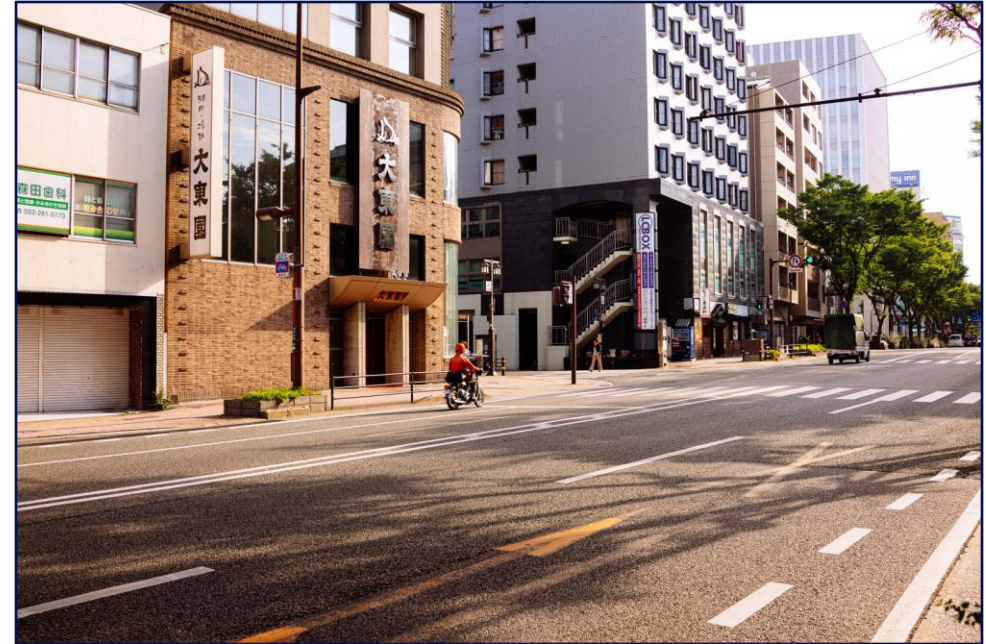
Land Cover Changes How Stormwater Moves



Pervious Land lets stormwater absorb into the soil and be absorbed by plants.



Impervious Land forces stormwater to follow gravity and move across the landscape.



We Can Help Capture and Treat Polluted Stormwater

Structural Practices involve constructing a physical structure with rocks, plants, and/or pipes to collect stormwater, let it absorb into the soil or plants, and filter out some of the pollution before it continues its journey.



Rain Barrel



Rain Garden



Cereal Rye Cover Crop



Fertilizer, Pesticide, and
Tillage Practices

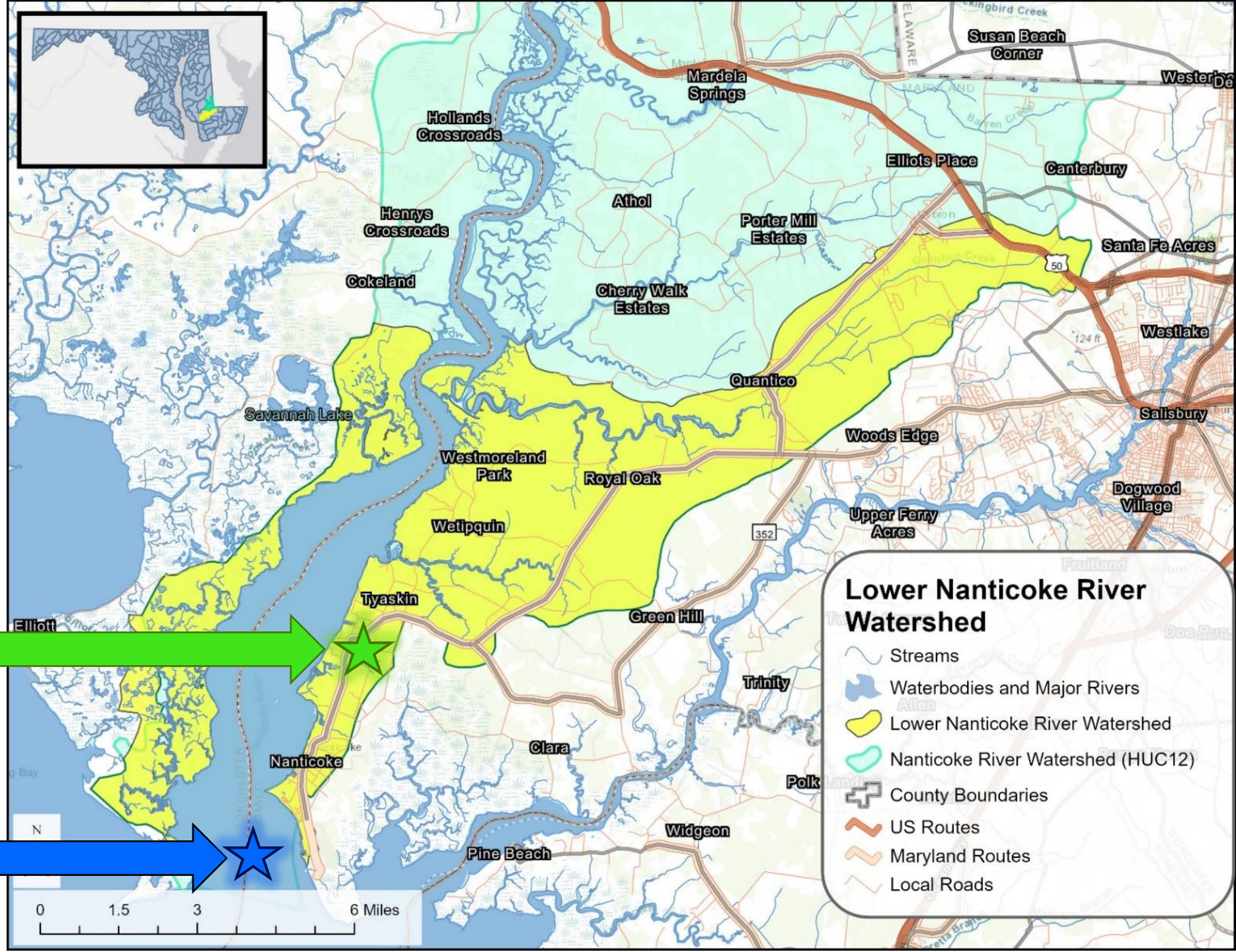
Land Management Practices are changes in the way we use the land to reduce or prevent pollution.

Our Watershed

Lower Nanticoke River Watershed

We are here!

Water from the land flows here, an estuary of the Chesapeake Bay.

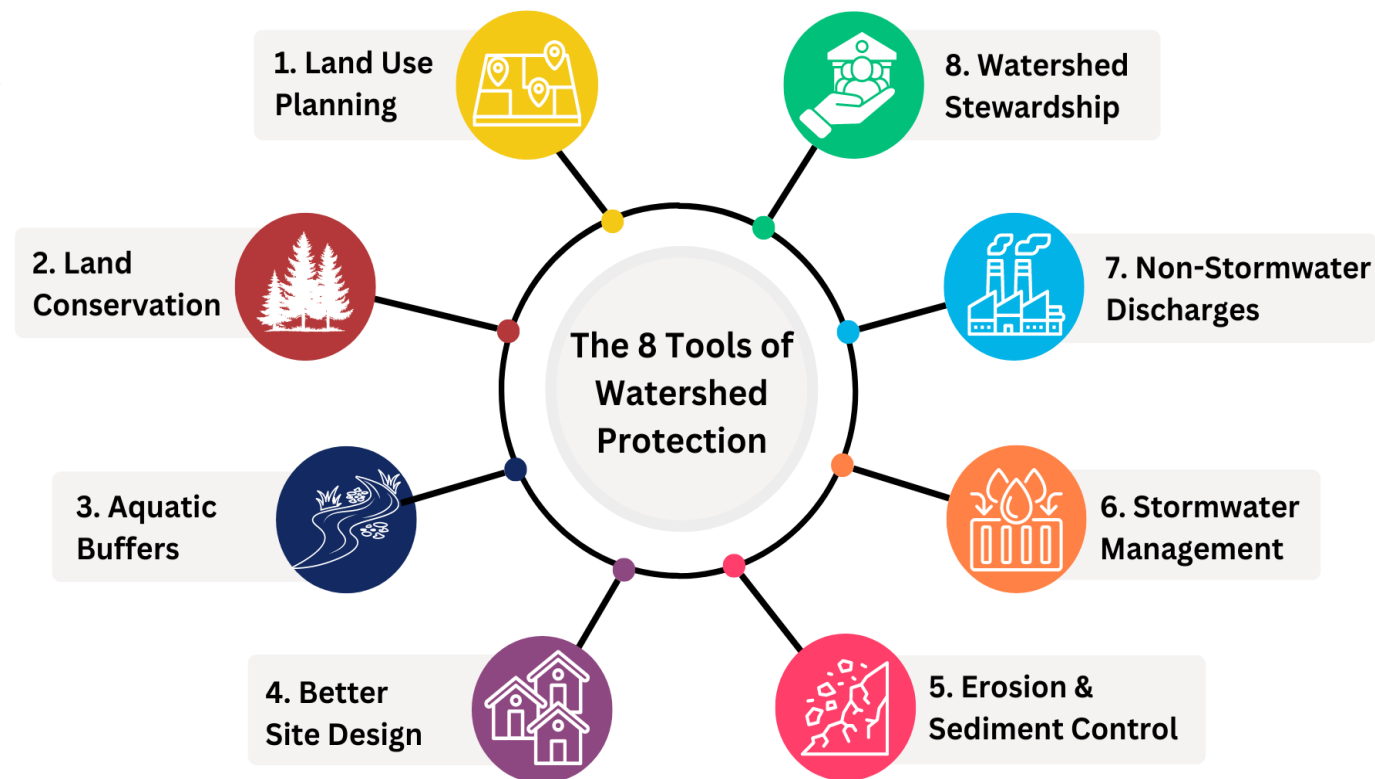


What is a Watershed Plan, and why do we need one?

A **Watershed Plan** is a document used by communities and their governments to identify problems, propose solutions, develop a strategy, and create tools for putting those strategies into action.

Watershed Plans:

- Based on science and community input
- Put into action by governments, community organizations, and individual landowners
- Include recommendations to reduce pollution and protect natural resources
- Organize strategies by specifying what, where, when, by whom, and with what money
- Eligibility for additional funding opportunities once approved (319 funds)



Community Concerns, Priorities, and Goals

Discussion: Community Concerns, Priorities, and Goals

Which natural features of the watershed are most important to you?

How have you seen the watershed change over the years that you've lived, worked, and enjoyed the area?

What threatens your use and enjoyment of the watershed?

What goals do you have for the natural resources, wildlife, and communities in the watershed?

What types of activities would you be willing to incorporate on your property to help meet our goals?

Identifying Problem Areas

Map Activity: Identifying Problem Areas

**Put sticky notes on the map to identify problem areas.
Write on the sticky note to describe the problem.**

Some example types of problems...

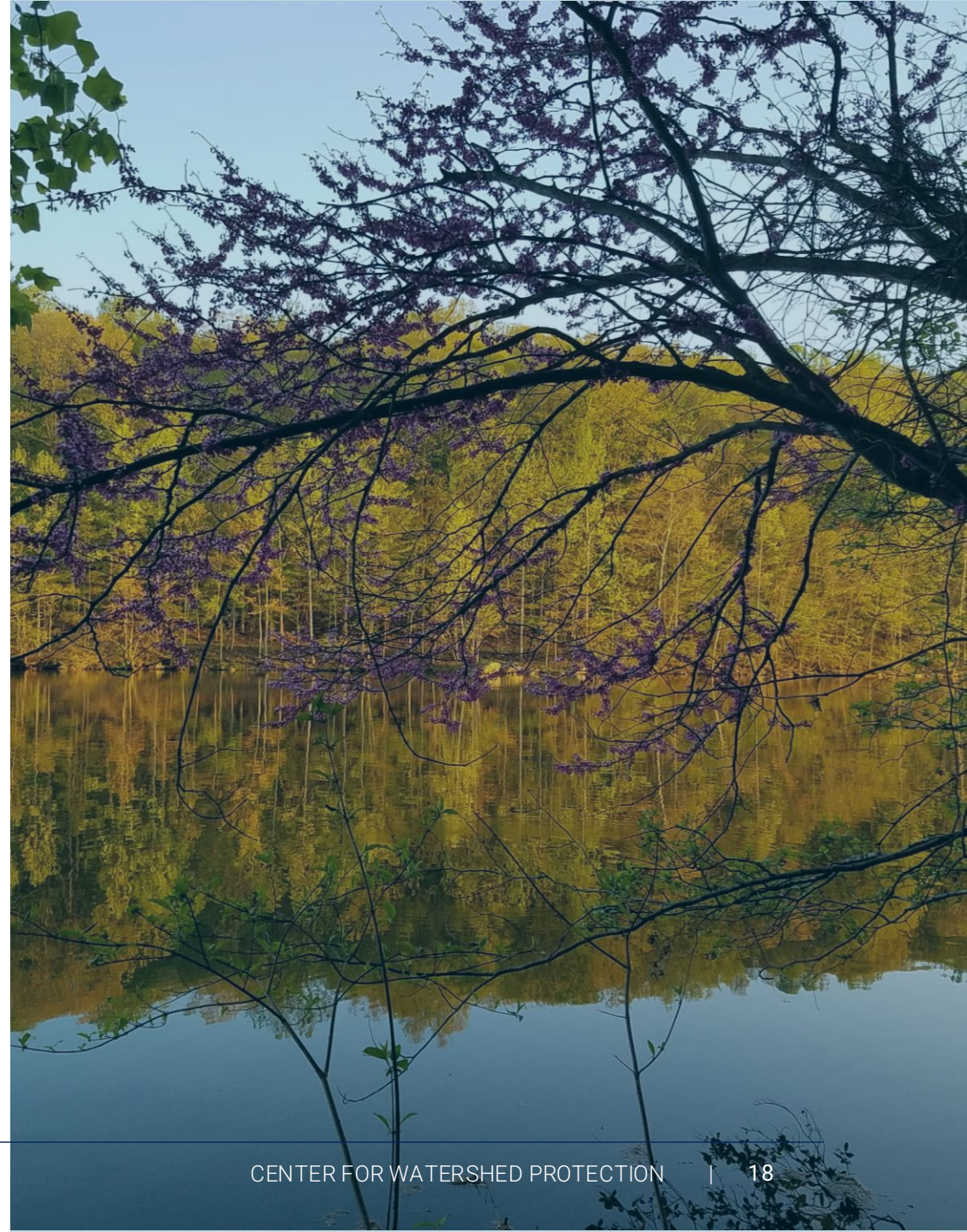
- Flooding and excessive stormwater runoff
- Erosion along the coastline
- Erosion in ditches and streams
- Livestock walking in stream channels
- Livestock waste flowing into streams
- Trash and debris
- Algae blooms and excessive floating aquatic vegetation
- Sick or sparse wildlife (fish kills, dwindling populations)

Next Steps and Next Meeting

What's next?

1. **Incorporate your feedback into the identification of priority areas and recommendations for stormwater management activities.**
2. **Propose a series of goals and objectives to address the most important issues in the watershed.**
3. **Draft a plan with actionable strategies.**

The draft plan will be shared with you all for input and revision before we submit it to state and federal agencies for approval.



Next Meeting

October 2026

Goals for next meeting...

- Review the priority areas
- Discuss the types of management activities and proposed projects in the draft plan
- Announce the public comment period on the draft plan
- Share resources and tips for actions you can take on your property to help support the watershed

Thank you!

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