

**Appendix A**  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
A through I Criteria for Watershed Planning

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This appendix will provide information on how the development of the Plumtree Run Small Watershed Action Plan addresses the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) A through I criteria for watershed planning. It will serve as a guide to the location within the document, including the appendices, where each criteria is addressed.

- a. *An identification of the causes and sources or groups of similar sources that will need to be controlled to achieve the load reductions estimated in this watershed-based plan (and to achieve any other watershed goals identified in the watershed-based plan), as discussed in item (b) immediately below. Sources that need to be controlled should be identified at the significant subcategory level with estimates of the extent to which they are present in the watershed (e.g., X number of dairy cattle feedlots needing upgrading, including a rough estimate of the number of cattle per facility; Y acres of row crops needing improved nutrient management or sediment control; or Z linear miles of eroded streambank needing remediation).*

The Plumtree Branch watershed is a subbasin of the Atkisson Reservoir, a first order tributary to Winters Run and a second order tributary to Bush River. All three watersheds are defined by MDE as Category 5, impaired waterbody, under Section 303(d) requirements of the Federal Clean Water Act. As to date, no TMDL has been assigned for Atkisson Reservoir, Winters Run or Bush River. Additional information on causes and sources needing to be controlled is located in Chapters 2, 4, 5 and 6.

- b. *An estimate of the load reductions expected for the management measures described under paragraph (c) below (recognizing the natural variability and the difficulty in precisely predicting the performance of management measures over time). Estimates should be provided at the same level as in item (a) above (e.g., the total load reduction expected for dairy cattle feedlots; row crops; or eroded streambanks).*

An evaluation of load reductions can be found in Chapter 7.

- c. *A description of the NPS management measures that will need to be implemented to achieve the load reductions estimated under paragraph (b) above (as well as to achieve other watershed goals identified in this watershed-based plan), and an identification (using a map or a description) of the critical areas in which those measures will be needed to implement this plan.*

The management measures that will need to be implemented to meet the pollutant load reductions detailed in Chapter 7 can be found in Chapters 5 and 6. The proposed stormwater BMPs and stream restoration projects can achieve significant reductions in the pollutant loading of Plumtree Branch and the downstream water bodies. The pollution reductions, combined with public

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outreach and other management strategies, will assist the county in meeting the TMDLs (once established) and other water quality standards for the waterbody.

- d. *An estimate of the amounts of technical and financial assistance needed, associated costs, and/or the sources and authorities that will be relied upon, to implement this plan. As sources of funding, States should consider the use of their Section 319 programs, State Revolving Funds, USDA's Environmental Quality Incentives Program and Conservation Reserve Program, and other relevant Federal, State, local and private funds that may be available to assist in implementing this plan.*

The costs for Plumtree Run restoration projects are presented in Chapter 6 and summarized in Chapter 9.

- e. *An information/education component that will be used to enhance public understanding of the project and encourage their early and continued participation in selecting, designing, and implementing the NPS management measures that will be implemented.*

Public outreach and education for the Plumtree Run is ongoing and current and future efforts are described in Chapter 3.

- f. *A schedule for implementing the NPS management measures identified in this plan that is reasonably expeditious.*

The implementation schedule is located in Chapter 9.

- g. *A description of interim, measurable milestones for determining whether NPS management measures or other control actions are being implemented.*

The milestones of the restoration are presented in Chapter 9.

- h. *A set of criteria that can be used to determine whether loading reductions are being achieved over time and substantial progress is being made towards attaining water quality standards and, if not, the criteria for determining whether this watershed based plan needs to be revised or, if a NPS TMDL has been established, whether the NPS TMDL needs to be revised.*

Current stormwater best management practices pollutant removal efficiencies as detailed in Section 6 of the Chesapeake Bay Watershed Model Phase 5.3 were utilized to evaluate the potential pollutant load reductions that could be achieved with each of the proposed projects. These efficiencies will be used in conjunction with the implementation tracking to calculate the load

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reductions being achieved.. The efficiency for stream restoration pollutant load reduction is based on the re-analysis of monitoring data.

- i. *A monitoring component to evaluate the effectiveness of the implementation efforts over time, measured against the criteria established under item (h) immediately above.*

Chapter 8 details the monitoring plan that will be created to determine the success of the restoration.