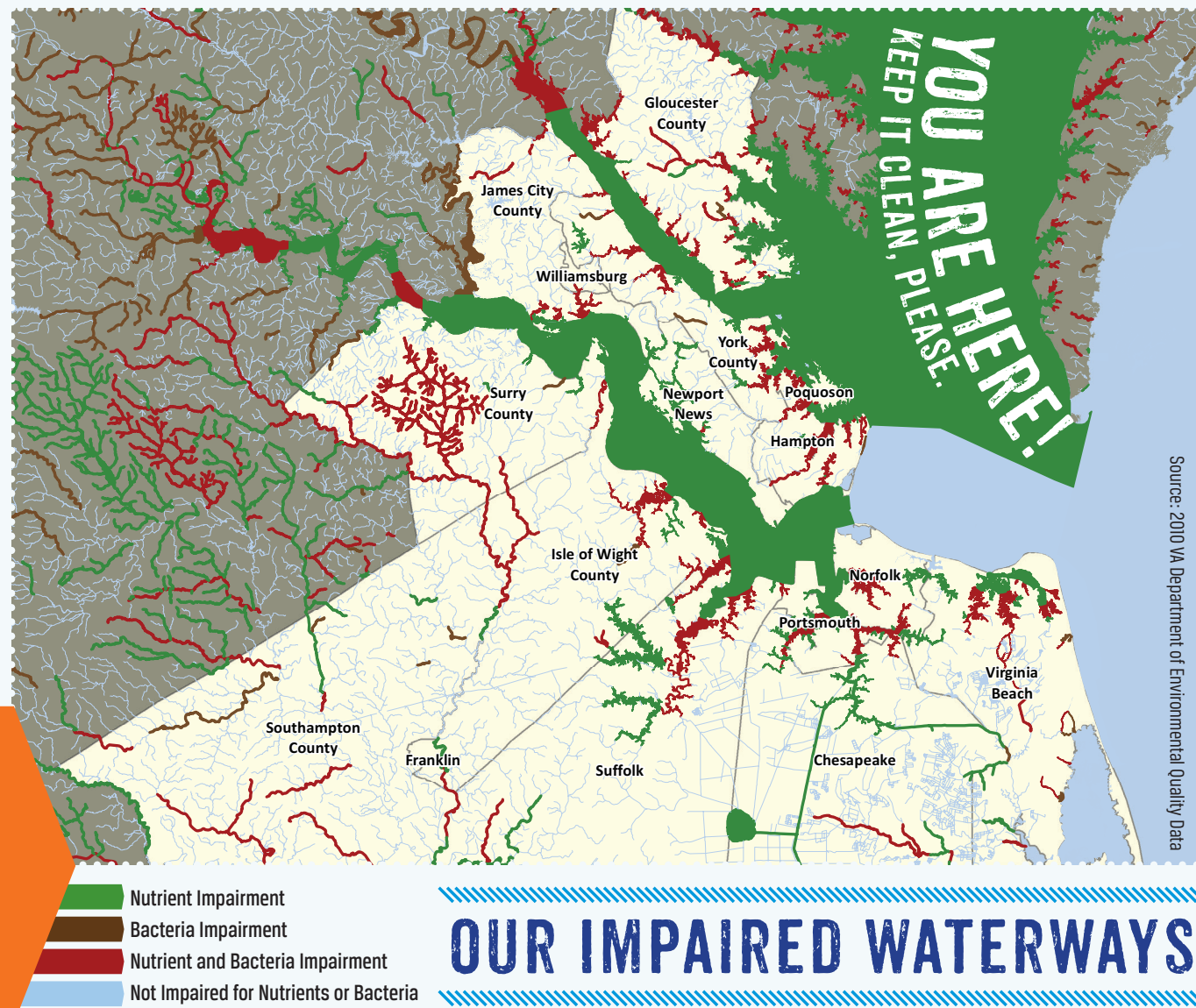


HOME SWEET FRAGILE HOME

THE TIME TO CLEAN
UP OUR WATERWAYS
IS NOW!



MAJOR OFFENDING POLLUTANTS

PHOSPHOROUS NITROGEN



**AGRICULTURAL
OPERATIONS**
from fertilizer, feed lots, animal waste



**WASTEWATER
FACILITIES**
from treatment and discharge



AIR POLLUTION
from power plants and
vehicle exhaust



URBAN AND SUBURBAN RUNOFF
from roadways, development, residential/
commercial lawn fertilizers



SEPTIC SYSTEMS
resulting from backups and
failures

BACTERIA



**SEWAGE DISCHARGE
FROM BOATERS**

**PET &
WILDLIFE
WASTE**



**SEPTIC
SYSTEMS**

**SANITARY
SEWER
OVERFLOWS**

Hampton Roads is a region defined by water, from the creeks and tributaries that flow into the Chesapeake Bay, to the recreational and culinary options these watery trails provide. We're known for our beautiful beaches, on-water fun and fresh-caught seafood. But did you know that many of our region's waterways have swimming and shellfish harvesting restrictions because they contain unhealthy levels of bacteria? Or that these waterways, including the Chesapeake Bay, have insufficient levels of dissolved oxygen which cause harm to our aquatic life?

The situation is serious and the time to act is now. Localities are working hard to improve water quality by upgrading wastewater and stormwater infrastructure and installing natural systems to slow the flow of rainwater and filter out pollutants. HRSD (Hampton Roads Sanitation District) is doing its part by upgrading wastewater treatment plants to reduce the amount of nutrients in their discharges to our local waterways. **Are we residents, though, doing enough to protect our unique and vulnerable landscape?**

EVERY ACTION WE TAKE HAS AN IMPACT
ON OUR HOME SWEET HOME

GOOD to DO



SCOOP, BAG,
AND TRASH
DOG WASTE



SEED BARE
SPOTS IN
THE YARD



PUT CIGARETTE
BUTTS IN THE
TRASH



DON'T FEED
THE WILDLIFE



TEST SOIL
BEFORE
FERTILIZING



PLANT
MORE
NATIVE
PLANTS



KEEP GRASS
AND YARD
WASTE OUT OF
THE STREET



DON'T TREAT
THE TOILET
LIKE A WASTE
BASKET



CAN COOKING GREASE,
SCRAPE LEFTOVER FOOD INTO
THE TRASH AND CATCH FOOD
SCRAPS IN THE SINK

STORMWATER POLLUTION

AS RAIN FALLS FROM
THE SKY, IT COLLECTS...



AIR POLLUTION

from power plants and vehicle exhaust



GUTTER RUNOFF

picks up leaves, sediment left behind
in gutters



LAWN RUNOFF

picks up soil, pet waste, fertilizer, trash



DRIVEWAY RUNOFF

picks up oil, gasoline, sediment, trash



ROAD RUNOFF

picks up oil, gasoline, sediment, trash, tar



STORM DRAIN

All water goes to a storm drain which leads to...



RIVER, LAKE OR OCEAN

By the time the rain makes it to the ocean, it has
picked up pollutants from hundreds of sources.

GETTING OUR LOCAL WATERWAYS BACK ON TRACK

MANY HAMPTON ROADS WATERWAYS
CONTAIN TOO MUCH SEDIMENT, NITROGEN,
PHOSPHOROUS AND BACTERIA.

To combat this, the state has assigned **Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDL)** to many of our waterways. A TMDL identifies how much pollutant a body of water can receive while still meeting water quality standards. You may have heard it called a "pollution diet."

In order to meet the TMDLs, state agencies are working with farmers and wastewater facilities to implement projects that reduce nutrient pollution; localities are undertaking capital improvement projects; and nonprofit river groups are working with private property owners to implement natural methods to manage rainfall.

Most of our waterways are part of the Chesapeake Bay Watershed. Therefore, our impaired waterways also are contributing to the poor health of the Chesapeake Bay, which has also been assigned a TMDL that every state within the watershed is working to achieve.

YOU'RE CLOSER THAN YOU THINK!

5 MIN WALK

10 MIN WALK

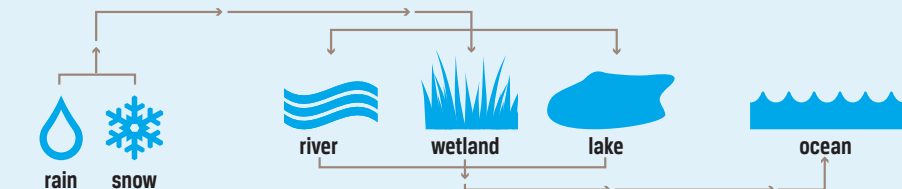
15 MIN WALK

20 MIN WALK



Even though you may not be able to see the Chesapeake Bay from your back yard, you're closer than you think! No matter where you live in the Chesapeake Bay watershed, it would take about 15 minutes to walk to a stream, river or body of water that flows into the Chesapeake Bay.

WHAT IS A WATERSHED?



When it rains or when snow melts, the precipitation flows across the ground's surface and begins to make its way to a nearby tributary, wetland, river or lake, and then on to a larger body of water, such as a bay or ocean. The land that the water flows across on this journey and the waterways that receive it are called a watershed.