



Update on Turf Grass Fix

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Year 2025 "Historic Trends" Growth Forecast

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U.S. Department of the Interior

U.S. Geological Survey

Disclaimer: These data are preliminary and are subject to revision. They are being provided to meet the need for timely 'best science' information. The assessment is provided on the condition that neither the U.S. Geological Survey nor the United States Government may be held liable for any damages resulting from the authorized or unauthorized use of the assessment.

Problem:

Turf Grass appears to be over-classified in areas that appear to be cropland, pasture, or mixed open.

Causes:

- 1. Phase 6 land use decision rules on the handling of herbaceous vegetation within federal lands, parks, and residential/commercial land uses.
- 2. Over-generalized local land use classifications.



Results for Chesapeake Bay watershed

- 116,273 acres of Turf Grass (~ 4% of total)
- + 56,767 acres of Pasture
- + 37,069 acres of Cropland
- + 22,435 acres of Mixed Open

Jurisdiction	Total Turf Change	Jurisdiction's Turf
District of Columbia	0.01%	-0.1%
Delaware	1.2%	-3.3%
Maryland	16.8%	-3.0%
New York	2.1%	-1.4%
Pennsylvania	39.5%	-5.2%
Virginia	33.4%	- 4.3%
West Virginia	7.0%	- 7.8%

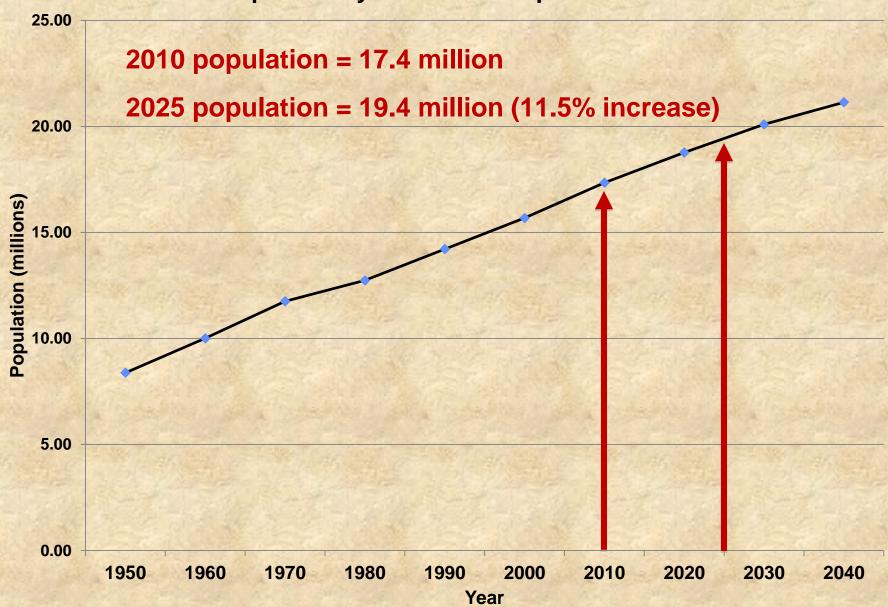


Role of Future Land Use Scenarios:

- 1. Develop a plausible 2025 land use scenario for consideration as the basis for "accounting for growth" in the Phase III WIPs.
- 2. Develop a suite of alternative future scenarios to inform CBP Partnership decisions on:
 - crediting land conservation and land use regulatory actions; and
 - identifying forests and farms at risk from development.



Chesapeake Bay Watershed PopulationTrends





Chesapeake Bay Future Scenarios

"Historical Trends": previous patterns of growth replicated into the future.

"Current Policy": growth focused towards local areas zoned or projected to accommodate it.



Chesapeake Bay Land Change Model "Historic Trends" Scenario Update

- Incorporates CBPO protected lands/ easements.
- Incorporates Phase 6 2013 developed footprint.
- Observed satellite change between 2001 2011 establishes minimum amount of future decadal change.
- Results computed as changes in <u>land use</u> (e.g., farming vs residential) and <u>land cover</u> (impervious vs turf grass).
- Results summarized by NHDv1, NHDv2, HUC12, Municipalities/Tracts, and Phase 6 model units.



"Historic Trends" Scenario Results District of Columbia 2013 - 2025

Demand:

84,060 new housing units 130,379 new jobs

Impact:

388 acres of greenfield development:

206 acres impervious

52 acres turf grass

0 acres mixed open

131 acres forest

100% change in pop on sewer



"Historic Trends" Scenario Results Delaware 2013 - 2025

Demand:

55,339 new housing units 49,133 new jobs

Impact:

41,709 acres of greenfield development:

10,309 acres impervious

27,771 acres turf grass

163 acres mixed open

3,466 acres forest

67% change in pop on sewer



"Historic Trends" Scenario Results Maryland 2013 - 2025

Demand:

248,547 new housing units 413,789 new jobs

Impact:

161,135 acres of greenfield development:

40,380 acres impervious

96,180 acres turf grass

744 acres mixed open

23,831 acres forest

66% change in pop on sewer



Chesapeake Bay Land Change Model "Current Policy" Scenario

- Incorporates local zoning:
 - Conservation / Highly-restricted growth
 - Residential
 - Commercial
 - Mixed
- Scheduled for Completion: 09-15-17
- LUWG Meeting and Review: 09-20-17

