

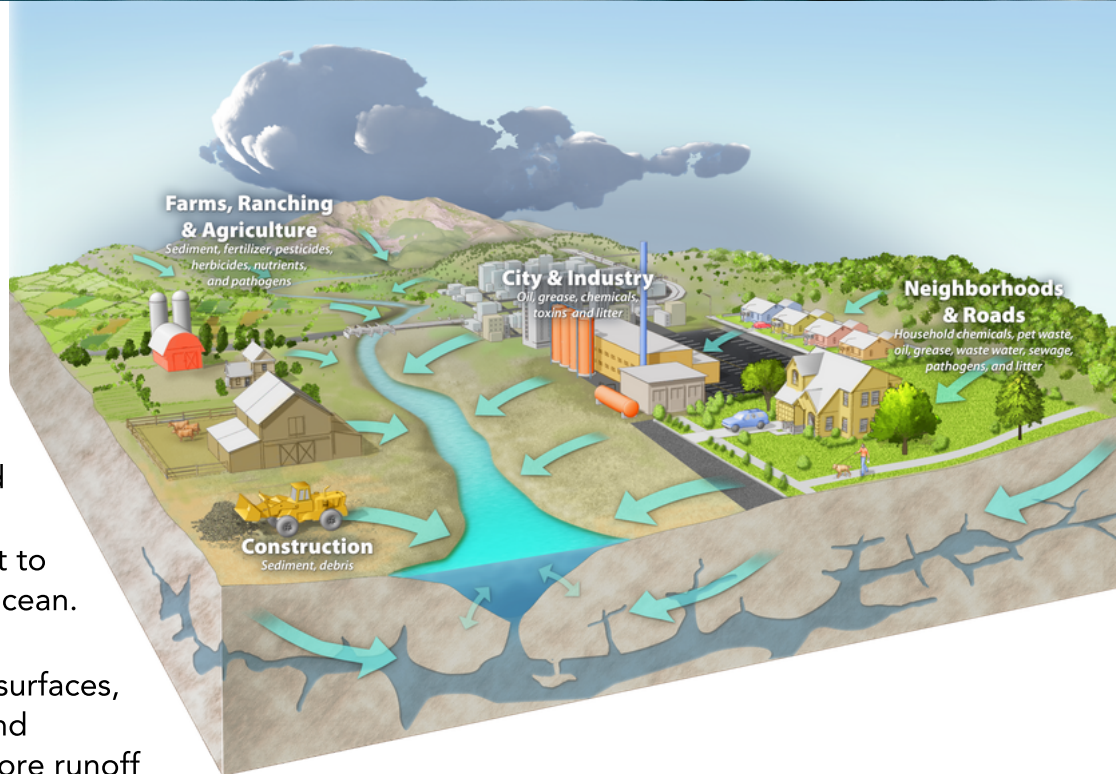
# DELAWARE'S WATERWAYS NEED YOUR HELP

*What we do on land impacts our water*

Clean water is everyone's responsibility. Whether you live in an urban or rural area, or somewhere in between, the pollution that impacts your waterways can come from many different sources.

Stormwater runoff—water from rain and snowmelt that flows across land—can pick up pollution such as trash and excess nutrients from animal waste or fertilizers and carry it to creeks, rivers, bays, and the ocean.

Places with more impervious surfaces, such as roads, parking lots, and rooftops, often experience more runoff than natural areas because the water cannot soak into the ground. Climate change and sea level rise can worsen runoff issues that contribute to Delaware's widespread flooding and drainage problems.



**B**eyond stormwater runoff, direct sources of pollution from agricultural fertilizers, wastewater and industrial operations can impact waterways. All of these pollution sources can contribute to harmful levels of toxins and excess nutrients entering the water.

Pollution can make waterways unsafe for swimming, drinking, or eating the fish from them. To protect our health, our water, our wildlife, and our way of life, we've got to make a change. Changes to protect and improve our waters mean funding—and your support—are needed.

**90%** of Delaware's waterways are impacted by pollution

**\$100** MILLION is the annual shortage Delaware faces for clean water funding



# Clean Water: Delaware's Clear Choice advocates for solutions

The Clean Water Campaign is a statewide effort to secure funding to safeguard Delaware's water. Funding will support:

- Improvements to wastewater treatment systems
- Improvements to drinking water systems
- Flood reduction and drainage control projects
- Innovative toxic removal technologies
- Efforts to protect water quality, such as using cover crops or planting trees along waterways to filter pollution or capture excess nutrients

The Clean Water Campaign is spearheaded by a coalition of diverse stakeholder groups (non-profit, academic, businesses, organizations, individual advocates) that are committed to improving and protecting Delaware's waterways and drinking water sources.

The Clean Water for Delaware Act, which would create a Clean Water Trust fund, will be considered by Delaware's lawmakers in 2021. We ask the General Assembly to make an initial investment of:

**\$50 MILLION**

Funding for clean water could support both large and small projects that could create new jobs. Funding is essential to ensure that we have clean water, for the sake of our public health, for the environment, and Delaware's economy.

To learn more and to take action, go to [cleanwaterdelaware.org](http://cleanwaterdelaware.org).

*Your support has never been more important.  
Contact your local legislator to voice your support for the  
Clean Water for Delaware Act in 2021.*

*To find your state lawmaker and their  
contact information, go to  
[inlandbays.org/clean-water-campaign](http://inlandbays.org/clean-water-campaign).*

DELAWARE CENTER FOR THE  
**INLAND BAYS**  
Research. Educate. Restore.

