Integrated watershed management: A case study in collaborative strategic planning between Clean Annapolis River Project and the Municipality of the County of Annapolis

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Clean Annapolis River Project
The formation of the Clean Annapolis River Project (CARP)

CARP was created in 1990 when two unrelated events converged:

- The rejection of the Annapolis River system as a candidate for designation as a heritage river
- Its selection by the scientific community as a demonstration site for an innovative environmental management initiative (ACAP Program)
Strategic planning

- 2008-2012: strategic plan, broader goals and specific objectives relating directly to CARP’s mission statement
- 2012: strategic plan update
- 2017: strategic planning and community consultation process initiated
Mission & Strategic Objectives

To enhance the ecological health of the Annapolis River watershed through science, leadership and community engagement.

1. To continually assess the ecological health and environmental stressors of the Annapolis River watershed
2. To identify and establish priorities and projects to enhance the ecological integrity of the Annapolis River watershed
3. To empower all decision-makers with the knowledge, tools, and research to make ecologically sound decisions with respect to the Annapolis River watershed
4. To facilitate collaboration among all stakeholders to address the environmental challenges facing the Annapolis River watershed
5. To engage local community members in the restoration and protection of the Annapolis River watershed in ways that are meaningful, relevant, and fun
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Organizational Lifecycle: How Nonprofits Evolve

- Start-up
- Core Program Development
- Infrastructure Development
- Mature
- Impact Expansion
- Adolescent
- Renew
- Mission Drift
- Irrelevance
- Defunct
- Dissolve
Annapolis River Watershed
Annapolis County Economic Development Strategy: 2050 Targets

1) Annapolis County will support and foster local agriculture, and encourage local food independence;

2) By 2050, 80% of the energy consumed in Annapolis County will be produced in Annapolis County;

3) Annapolis County will support and foster access to efficient, quality housing;

4) Annapolis County will support and foster access to affordable training in progressive vocational, innovative business, and living skills;

5) Annapolis County will support and foster efforts to remediate, manage, and ensure clean air, water, and soil.
Community meetings - 

Values > Threats > Actions

Most frequently identified values:
- Accessible, low cost recreational opportunities
- Scenery and aesthetics
- Clean, safe waterways
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Community meetings - Values > Threats > Actions

- Wetland loss
- Climate change
- Pesticides
- On-site septic development
- Acid precipitation
- Illegal dumping/waste disposal
- Lack of regulations
- Riparian degradation
- Marine debris
- High water temperatures
- Eutrophication
- Fish farms
- Mink farms
- Poverty
- Livestock access to waterways
- Tidal power
- Loss of access to waterways
- Oil tanks
- Dykes degrading/salt water breaching
- Surface water contamination/pollution
- Soil erosion/degradation
- Clearcutting
- Forest management practices
- Drinking water contamination
- Stormwater/flooding
- Lack of testing of soil and water
- Loss of natural areas/habitat degradation
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Community meetings-
Values > Threats > **Actions**

Forestry:
- Surface water contamination/pollution
- Soil erosion/degradation
- Clearcutting

Freshwater Resources:
- Surface water contamination/pollution
- Drinking water contamination
- Lack of testing of soil and water
Stakeholder Engagement Sessions: Forestry
Stakeholder Engagement Sessions: Freshwater Resources
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Thank you to our project partners and funders: