



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Department of Health
P O BOX 2448
RICHMOND, VA 23218

TTY 7-1-1 OR
1-800-828-1120

CHESAPEAKE BAY: NASSAWADOX AND WESTERHOUSE CREEKS Growing Area # 085 Northampton County Shoreline Sanitary Survey

Date: February 13, 2025

Survey Period: March 3, 2024 – December 31, 2024

Total Number of Properties Surveyed and samples analyzed: 251

Surveyed By: R. Snead

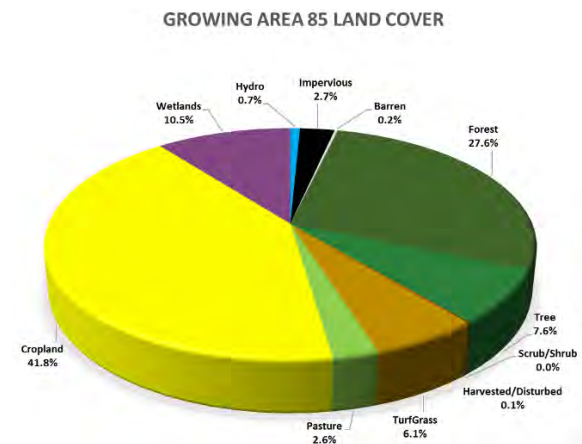
SECTION A: GENERAL

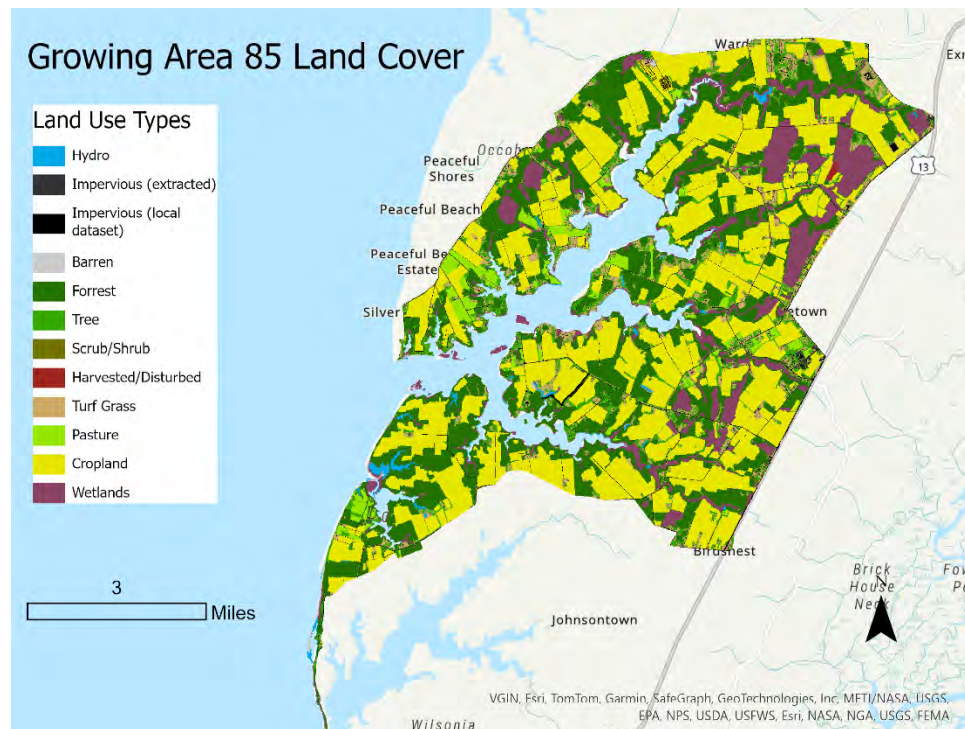
This survey area extends from Reference Point 85 at Nassawadox Point to Reference Point 86 at Great Neck Point, including the Chesapeake Bay shoreline between these two points, Nassawadox Creek (Kelley Cove, Holly Grove Cove, Warehouse Creek, and Church Creek), Westerhouse Creek, and all of their tributaries. After the start of this survey, the southern boundary was moved northward to Swan Drive. Future surveys will adhere to the [2024 Growing Area boundaries](#).

Most of this area utilizes onsite (septic) wastewater treatment. A wastewater treatment plant (VA0027537) associated with the former Northampton-Accomack Memorial Hospital has been decommissioned. The buildings that remain from that facility are now connected via force main to the HRSD Onancock WWTP.

The 2020 census reported that there are an estimated 1648 residents across 886 housing units in Growing Area 85. The population density is 61 residents per square mile.

Within Growing Area 85 there are 1938 land parcels. Land Cover data are shown below.





Meteorological data indicated that 34.85" of rain fell during the survey period. A monthly breakdown is as follows:

Date range	Cumulative Rainfall (inches)	Avg. Monthly rainfall (2013-2023)
March 2024	7.95"	3.43"
April 2024	1.52"	3.32"
May 2024	3.32"	3.77"
June 2024	1.96"	4.37"
July 2024	7.59"	4.77"
August 2024	4.27"	4.13"
September 2024	3.42"	4.48"
October 2024	0.14"	3.25"
November 2024	2.42"	2.81"
December 2024	2.26"	3.34"

For this survey, nearshore seawater stations were established to survey the full extent of navigable waters beyond routine classification stations. Stations were created in closer proximity to the shoreline and farther upstream than routine stations and are intended to evaluate drainage entry points of potential point and nonpoint source pollution. Station data were analyzed to compare relative concentrations of fecal indicator bacteria within the waterway to identify potential onshore sources of contamination.

Hydrographic data, sampling times and range of enterococcus concentrations measured are shown in the table below. Maps of the enterococcus sampling are shown at the conclusion of this report.

Growing Area # 85 Nearshore Sampling						Rainfall in inches	
Sample dates	High Tide *	Ebb Current **	Sampling time	Enterococcus range (MPN/100ml)	Day of	Previous 24 hours	Previous 7 days
4-23-2024	11:04	02:00-07:48	11:05-12:10	9-9	0	0	0.61"
6-4-2024	09:20	11:29-17:48	11:14-12:38	9-31	0	0.01"	0.2"
6-6-2024	10:58	12:54-19:15	10:52-1:03	9-86	0	0.34"	0.5"
7-16-2024	06:48	08:21-15:14	9:25-10:24	9-41	0	0	1.54"
7-17-2024	07:43	09:23-16:02	9:18-11:00	9-63	0.07"	0	1.54"
8-29-2024	07:28	09:50-16:08	9:26-10:30	9-75	0	0	0
10-16-2024	10:06	12:55-18:48	10:16-11:36	9-63	0	0	0
10-17-2024	10:55	13:51-19:44	10:30-11:54	9-63	0	0	0
11-1-2024	11:08	14:46-20:22	10:30-11:21	9-52	0	0	0
11-15-2024	09:36	12:48-18:46	9:47-10:57	30-1296	1.11"	0.11"	0.84"
12-12-2024	07:37	10:54-16:51	9:24-11:32	10-1314	0	1.93"	1.95"
12-31-2024	10:40	13:45-20:04	10:41-11:24	9-63	0	0.05"	0.05"
Total rainfall for nearshore sampling period 25.57"							

* High Tide estimated from Gaskins Point, Occohannock Creek (NOAA ID 8632869).

** Ebb Current estimated from Nassawadox Point, 1.9 n.mi. NW of (ACT4696) Depth: 13 feet.

Information in this report is gathered by and primarily for use by the Division of Shellfish Safety, Virginia Department of Health, in order to fulfill its responsibilities of shellfish growing area supervision and classification. However, the data are made available to various agencies participating in shellfish program coordinated activities or other interested parties.

Copies of VPDES permits and inspections are available at the Department of Environmental Quality. A directory and interactive map are available via the internet at <https://www.deq.virginia.gov/permits-regulations/permits/water/surface-water-virginia-pollutant-discharge-elimination-system> and <https://geohub-vadeq.hub.arcgis.com/pages/Water%20Datasets>

Copies of Bacteriological, Hydrographic and Shellfish Closure data are available at the area office for review. Copies of the current condemnation notices and maps are available via the Internet at <https://www.vdh.virginia.gov/environmental-health/environmental-health-services/shellfish-safety/>

This report lists only those properties which have a sanitary deficiency or have other environmental significance. **"DIRECT"** indicates that the significant activity or deficiency has a direct impact on shellfish waters.

SECTION B: SEWAGE POLLUTION SOURCES

[illegible]

SECTION D: BOATING ACTIVITY

[illegible]

SECTION F: ANIMALS PRESENT SITES

[illegible]

SUMMARY

Growing Area # 085

Chesapeake Bay: Nassawadox and Westerhouse Creeks

13 February 2025

SECTION B: SEWAGE POLLUTION SOURCES

1. SEWAGE TREATMENT FACILITIES

0 – DIRECT – # None.

0 – INDIRECT – None.

0 – TOTAL

2. ON-SITE SEWAGE DEFICIENCIES – Correction of deficiencies in this section is the responsibility of the local health department.

0 – CONTRIBUTES POLLUTION, DIRECT – None.

0 – CONTRIBUTES POLLUTION, INDIRECT – None.

0 – CP (Kitchen or Laundry Wastes), DIRECT – None.

0 – CP (Kitchen or Laundry Wastes), INDIRECT – None.

0 – NO FACILITIES, DIRECT – None.

0 – NO FACILITIES, INDIRECT – None.

0 – TOTAL

3. POTENTIAL POLLUTION – Periodic surveillance of these properties will be maintained to determine any status change.

0 – POTENTIAL POLLUTION – None.

SECTION C: NON-SEWAGE WASTE SITES

1. INDUSTRIAL WASTE SITES

0 – DIRECT – None.

0 – INDIRECT – None.

0 – TOTAL

2. SOLID WASTE DUMPSITES

0 – DIRECT – None.

0 – INDIRECT – None.

0 – TOTAL

3. STORMWATER OUTFALLS

0 – DIRECT – None.

0 – INDIRECT – None.

0 – C.3. TOTAL

SECTION D: BOATING ACTIVITY, INDIRECT

1 – MARINAS – # R7

2 – UNDER SURVEILLANCE – # 2, G2

3 – TOTAL

SECTION E: ANIMALS PRESENT

2 – DIRECT – # R1, R3

5 – INDIRECT – # R2, R4, R5, R6, R8, R9

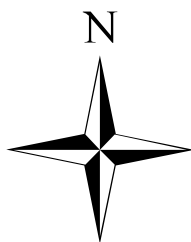
7 – TOTAL

Virginia Department of Health
Division of Shellfish Sanitation

Chesapeake Bay:
Nassawadox and
Westerhouse Creeks
085
Shoreline Sanitary Survey

Northampton County

Date: 13 February 2025
Survey By: R. Sneed
Number of Properties Surveyed: 251



0 1000 2000
Yards

Legend

Seawater Sampling Stations

- Active
- Inactive
- Sewered Areas
- Boat Ramps (DGF)

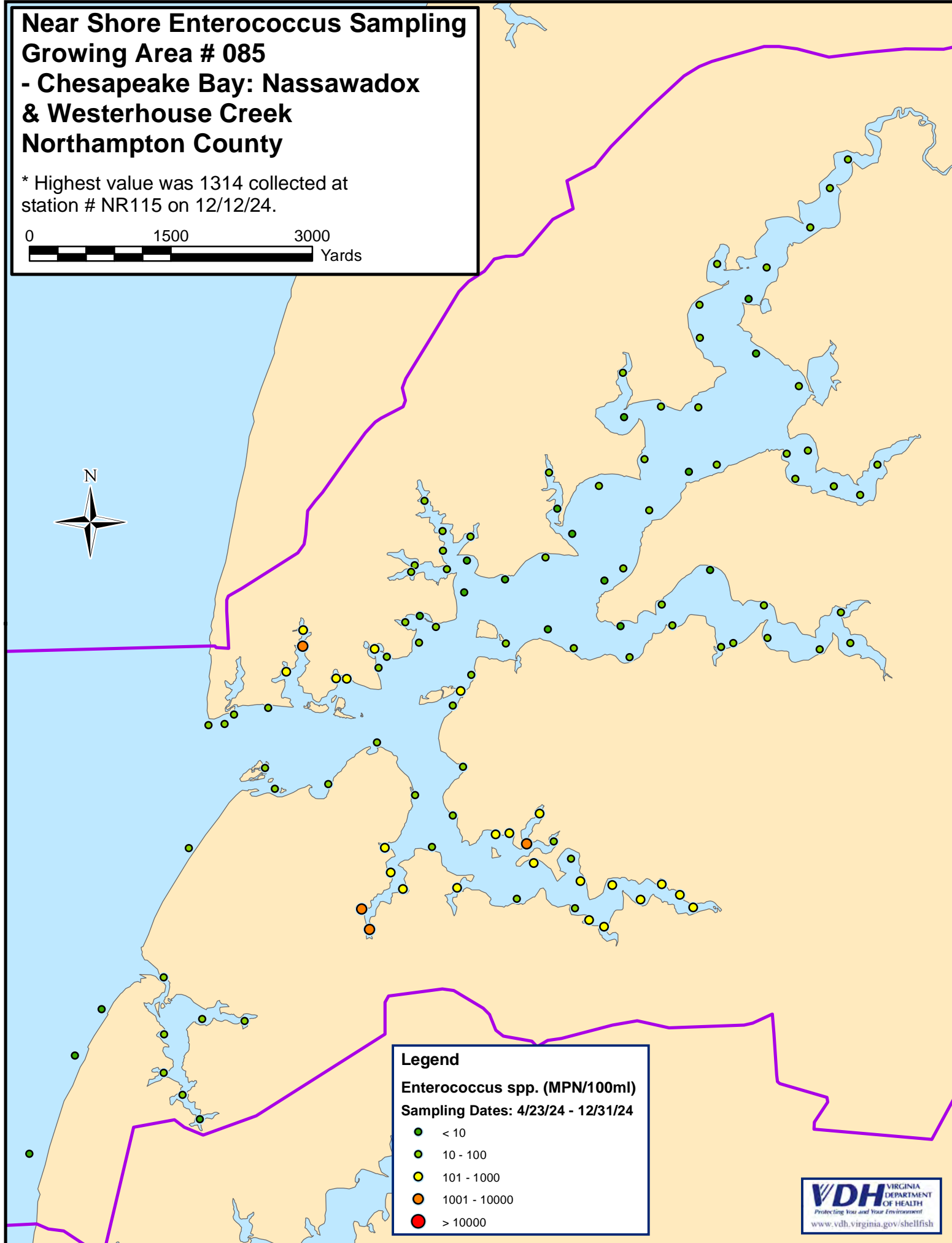
Shoreline Survey Deficiencies

- Sewage Treatment Facility - Direct
- Sewage Treatment Facility - Indirect
- Contributes Pollution - Direct
- Contributes Pollution - Indirect
- Contributes Pollution (Kitchen or Laundry wastes) - Direct
- Contributes Pollution (Kitchen or Laundry wastes) - Indirect
- No Facilities - Direct
- No Facilities - Indirect
- Potential Pollution
- Industrial Wastes, Direct
- Industrial Wastes, Indirect
- Solid Waste Dumpsite - Direct
- Solid Waste Dumpsite - Indirect
- Stormwater, Direct
- Stormwater, Indirect
- Boating Activity
- Contributes Animal Pollution - Direct
- Contributes Animal Pollution - Indirect

Near Shore Enterococcus Sampling Growing Area # 085 - Chesapeake Bay: Nassawadox & Westerhouse Creek Northampton County

* Highest value was 1314 collected at
station # NR115 on 12/12/24.

0 1500 3000
Yards



Legend

Enterococcus spp. (MPN/100ml)

Sampling Dates: 4/23/24 - 12/31/24

- < 10
- 10 - 100
- 1001 - 10000
- > 10000