



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Department of Health
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CHERRYSTONE INLET

Growing Area # 088
Northampton County
Shoreline Sanitary Survey

Date: 28 September 2023

Survey Period: April 4, 2023 – September 28, 2023

Total Number of Properties Surveyed and Near-Shore Samples Collected: 107

Surveyed By: T. Charnock, R. Snead, & I. Geeson

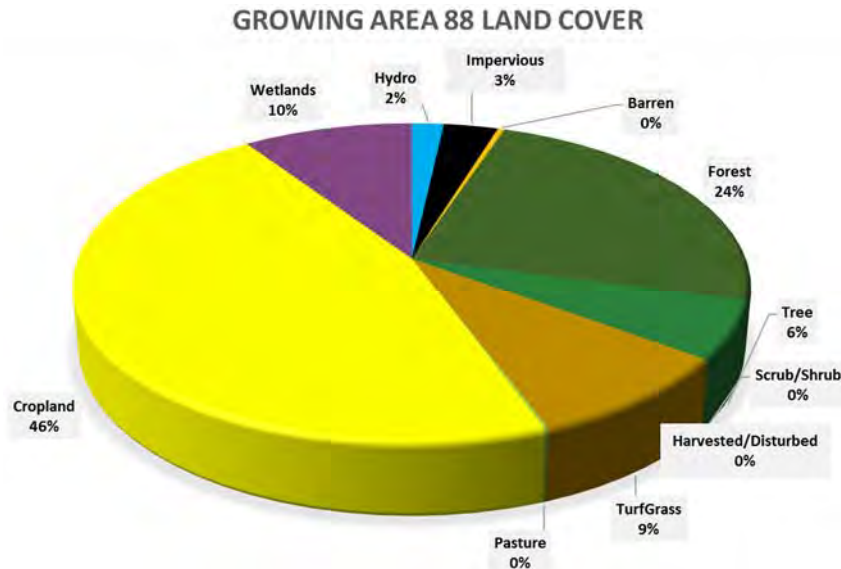
SECTION A: GENERAL

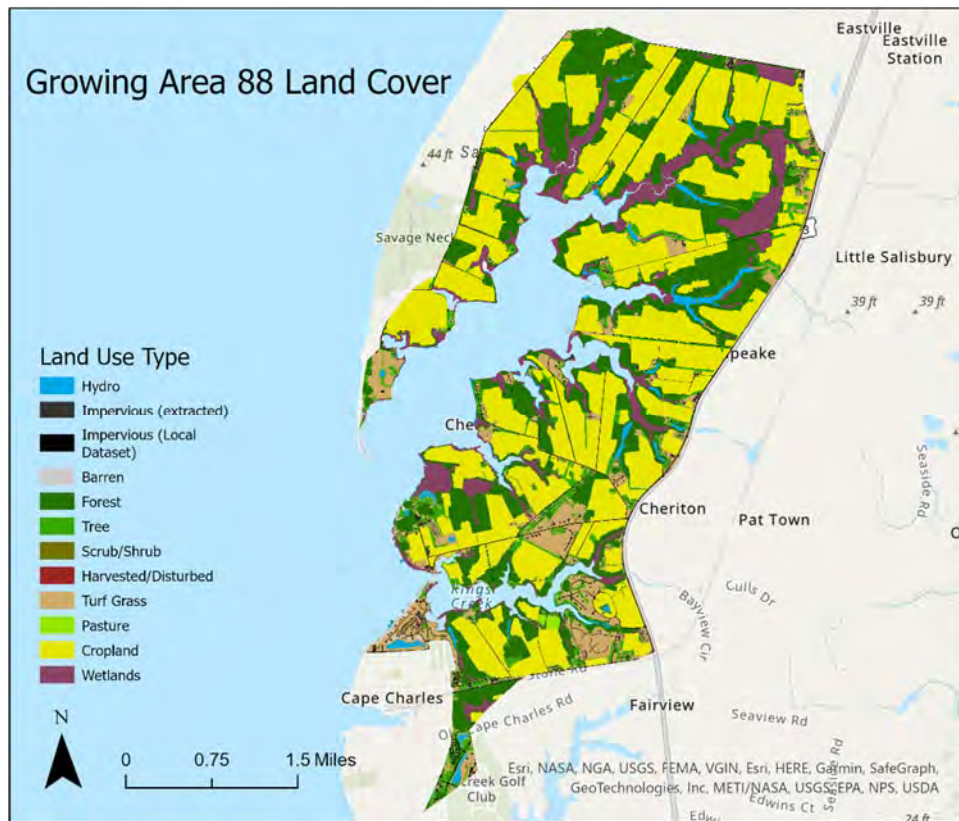
This survey area extends from Reference Point 88 at Wescoat Point to Reference Point 89 at the west end of Washington Ave. in the town of Cape Charles, including Cherrystone Inlet, Remus Creek, Wescoat Cove, Old Castle Creek, Eyreville Creek, Eyrehall Creek, Mill Creek, and Kings Creek and all their tributaries.

The topography of the area is relatively low with elevations ranging from less than 5' along the shoreline and marshy areas to 25' in the eastern portion of the survey area.

The survey area falls within Northampton County. The population in the 2022 census is an estimated 11,900 residents. This is a decrease of 4 percent since the 2010 census. Data from 2022 indicate there are 7517 housing units. In 2022, 122 building permits were issued.
<https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/fact/table/US/PST045221>

Within Growing Area 88, there are 1209 land parcels. Land Cover data are shown below.





Meteorological data indicated that a total rainfall of 21.83" during the survey period. A monthly breakdown is as follows:

Date Range	Cumulative Rainfall (inches)	Average Monthly rainfall 2012-2022
April 4-30, 2023	3.49	N/A Partial Month
May 2023	2.49	3.9
June 2023	5.43	3.85
July 2023	4.7	4.74
August 2023	2.98	4.11
September 1-28, 2023	2.73	N/A Partial Month

Most properties in the survey area are served by individual onsite sewage disposal systems. The exception are those homes in the town of Cape Charles connected to that town's sewage treatment plant. There is also a small, non-discharging wastewater treatment plant for the campground at the mouth of Cherrystone Inlet.

At the beginning of the survey, inspectors reviewed the available literature from prior reports, public works and online resources to characterize land use, drainage patterns, and establish nearshore seawater stations. Properties identified in the previous survey as having sanitary deficiencies or other environmental significance were revisited to evaluate their current status. All roadways and navigable shoreline within the survey boundary were visually inspected to identify potential pollution sources requiring further investigation.

Nearshore seawater stations were established to survey the full extent of 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.

Growing Area # 88 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
5/24/23	13:06	15:50	13:01 - 14:39	9-10	0	0	0.92
5/25/23	13:52	16:49	12:01 - 14:39	9-10	0	0	0.06
6/29/23	05:44	08:26	8:20 -10:25	9-63	0	0.02	2.62
7/19/23	10:56	13:41	11:22 -13:06	9-142	0.59	0	1.66
9/14/23	08:41	11:50	9:55 -11:23	9-20	0	0	0.9
Total rainfall for nearshore sampling period (5/24/23 - 9/11/23)						14.76"	

*High Tide estimated from Cape Charles Harbor NOAA ID 1917.

**Slack Ebb Current estimated from Cape Charles City, 3.3 n mi wet of NOAA ID 4571.

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/water/surface-waters-vpdes> and <https://geohub-vadeq.hub.arcgis.com/pages/Water%20Datasets>

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.

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/>.

SECTION B: SEWAGE POLLUTION SOURCES

[illegible]

SECTION C: NONSEWAGE WASTE SITES

[illegible]

SECTION D: BOATING ACTIVITY

[illegible]

SECTION E: ANIMALS PRESENT

[illegible]

SUMMARY

Growing Area # 088
Cherrystone Inlet
28 September 2023

SECTION B: SEWAGE POLLUTIN SOURCES

1. SEWAGE TREATMENT FACILITIES

0 – DIRECT – None
1 – INDIRECT – # T5
1 – B.1. 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 – B.2. 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

1 – DIRECT – # T5
0 – INDIRECT – None.
1 – C.1. TOTAL

2. SOLID WASTE DUMPSITES

0 – DIRECT – None
0 – INDIRECT – None
0 – C.2. TOTAL

3. STORMWATER OUTFALLS

0 – DIRECT – None.
0 – INDIRECT – None.
0 – E. TOTAL

SECTION D: BOATING ACTIVITY

2 – MARINAS – # T6, T7
3 – UNDER SURVEILLANCE – # T1, T2, T3
5 – D TOTAL

SECTION E: ANIMALS PRESENT

1 – DIRECT – # T8
0 – INDIRECT – None.
1 – E. TOTAL

Virginia Department of Health
Division of Shellfish Sanitation

Cherrystone Inlet
088
Shoreline Sanitary Survey

Northampton County

Date: 28 September 2023
Survey By: T. Charnock, R. Snead, & I. Geeson
Number of Properties Surveyed and
Near-shore Samples Collected: 107

0 600 1,200
Yards



37°20'0"N

37°20'0"N

37°17'30"N

37°17'30"N

Legend

Seawater Sampling Stations

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

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 # 088 - Cherrystone Inlet Northampton County

* Highest value was 142 collected at
C3 on 7/19/23.

0 1000 2000
Yards



Legend

Enterococcus spp. (MPN/100ml)

Sampling Dates: 5/24/23 - 9/14/23

- < 10
- 10 - 100
- 101 - 1000
- 1001 - 10000
- > 10000
- Roads (RCL)