

How We Can Help

RESIDENTS

Reduce fertilizer usage, recycle yard debris, pick up after pets, wash cars at a carwash, fix fluid leaks from cars

BUSINESSES

Keep outdoor areas clean, do not allow chemicals to be stored outdoors or to leak onto the ground

CONSTRUCTION

Prevent soil erosion by maintaining a clean site

LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

Implement policies to foster sustainable clean water practices, enforce stormwater violations and fund projects to restore waterways



**Our county depends
on clean water!**



For more information:

TMDLs on the EPA website
www.epa.gov/owow/tmdl

TMDLs at the state level
www.dep.state.fl.us/water/tmdl

Local water quality information
www.pinellascounty.org/environment
<http://wateratlas.org>

To report a water quality violation or
illegal dumping, please call (727) 464-5060
or (727) 464-4425

Watershed Management Division
300 S. Garden Ave.
Clearwater, FL 33756

Phone: (727) 464-4425
Fax: (727) 464-4403
E-mail: watershed@pinellascounty.org

www.pinellascounty.org

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Produced in cooperation with the Pinellas County Communications Department.

TMDLs What are they and what do they mean to Pinellas County?



Leadership Dedicated to a Sustainable Natural
and Urban Environment in Pinellas County
for Present and Future Generations

What is a TMDL?

A TMDL or Total Maximum Daily Load is the maximum amount of a pollutant that a water body can receive and still meet water quality standards. A TMDL also specifies an amount of the pollutant allowed from each specific source. For example, if 100 pounds of pollutant X is all that is allowed in the bay to protect water quality, then that 100 pounds of pollutant X is divided among all the sources. The sources may include industries, farms, wastewater treatment plants or permitted stormwater discharges. A TMDL could be considered a “pollutant diet” for a water body: if the pollutant load results in the water body meeting the water quality standard, the water body is considered healthy; if it exceeds the standard, the water body is judged unhealthy or impaired.

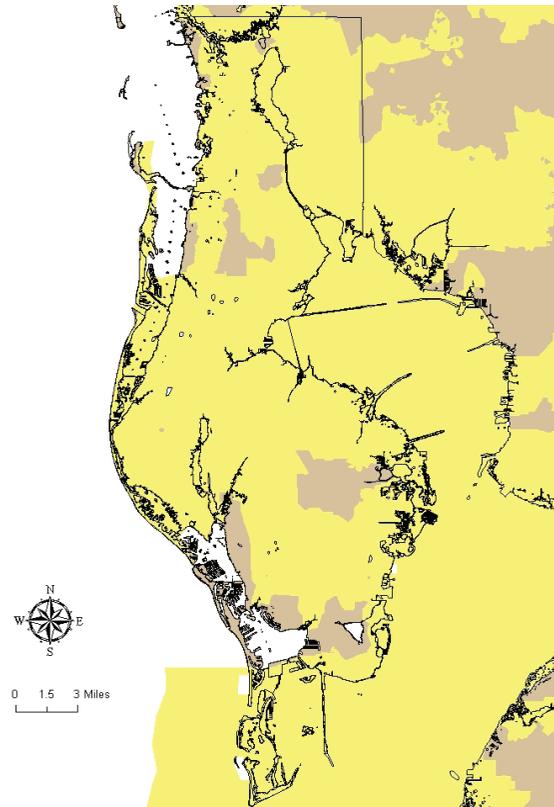
What is a BMAP?

A Basin Management Action Plan or BMAP is like a road map that guides a community toward improving water quality and meeting a TMDL.

What Does This Mean to Pinellas County?

- As a built-out community surrounded by water, the potential for TMDL is high.
- Pinellas County has several permitted point sources and a federally permitted stormwater system that will need to be assessed for potential improvements.
- Due to the age of our communities, treatment of large volumes of previously untreated stormwater is likely to be required.
- Implementation of TMDLs through the BMAP process will likely become a federal stormwater permit requirement.
- Cleaning up the county's impaired waters will cost millions of dollars.
- Improvements to unhealthy waters will be required under state and federal regulations.

Pinellas County Waters Deemed Impaired by FDEP or EPA as of August 2010



Legend Impaired Waters
 Land

Top Three Causes of Impairment in Florida Waters

#1 NUTRIENTS

#2 DISSOLVED OXYGEN

#3 BACTERIA

TMDL Program Phases

The Florida Department of Environmental Protection divides the state of Florida into six DEP Regulatory Districts with five distinct basin groups. All watershed basins that are relative to Pinellas County are found within the SW District. Pinellas County TMDL groups include Group 1 Waters (Tampa Bay and Tributaries) and Group 5 Waters (Springs Coast - Gulf of Mexico).

Implementation of the TMDL program phases generally take five years and will be repeated continuously to refine what is known about the basin and evaluate success in restoring impaired waters.

Phase Activity

Phase I

Initial Water Quality Evaluation

Phase II

Water Quality Monitoring and Assessment

Phase III

TMDL Development and Adoption

Phase IV

Basin Management Action Plan (BMAP) Development

Phase V

Begin BMAP Implementation

Phase Schedule

Group 1 - Tampa Bay

1st five-year cycle started in 2000
2nd five-year cycle started in 2005
3rd five-year cycle starts in 2011

Group 5 - Springs Coast

1st five-year cycle started in 2004
2nd five-year cycle started in 2009

For more information about TMDLs at the State level, please visit www.dep.state.fl.us/water/tmdl.