

# Pennsylvania Water Resources and Climate Change

DRBC Advisory Committee on Climate Change  
12/17/2024

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Department of  
Environmental Protection

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# **This Presentation**

- Context – The State Water Plan & Act 220
- Climate Change in Pennsylvania
- Climate Change Adaptation in Water Resources
- The Delaware Basin



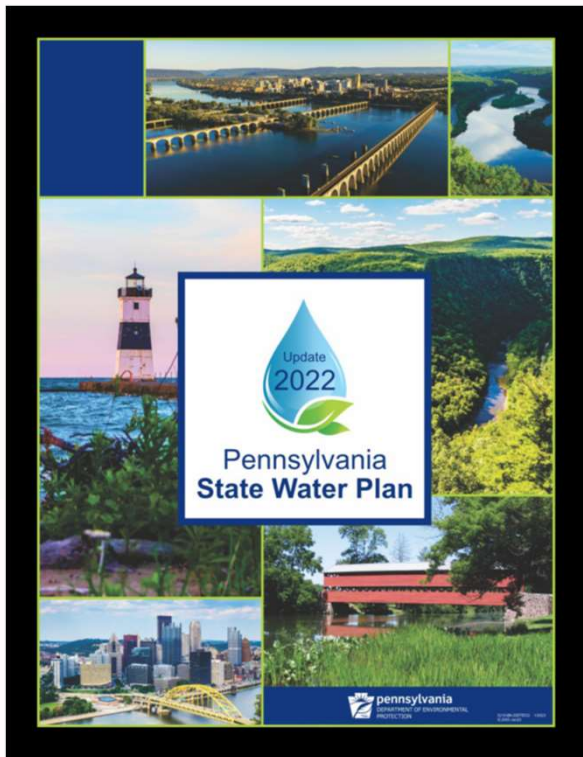
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## Act 220



- Signed into Law in 2002
- Requires assessment of Pennsylvania's water resources
- Establishes seven committees

# The State Water Plan



- Signed in 2023
- Information
- Assessments
- Recommendations
- Non-regulatory

# Climate Change in Pennsylvania

- Pennsylvania Climate Action Plan (2018 & 2021)
- Pennsylvania Climate Impacts Assessment (2021)





- Recommendations were tied to objectives in the Climate Action Plan

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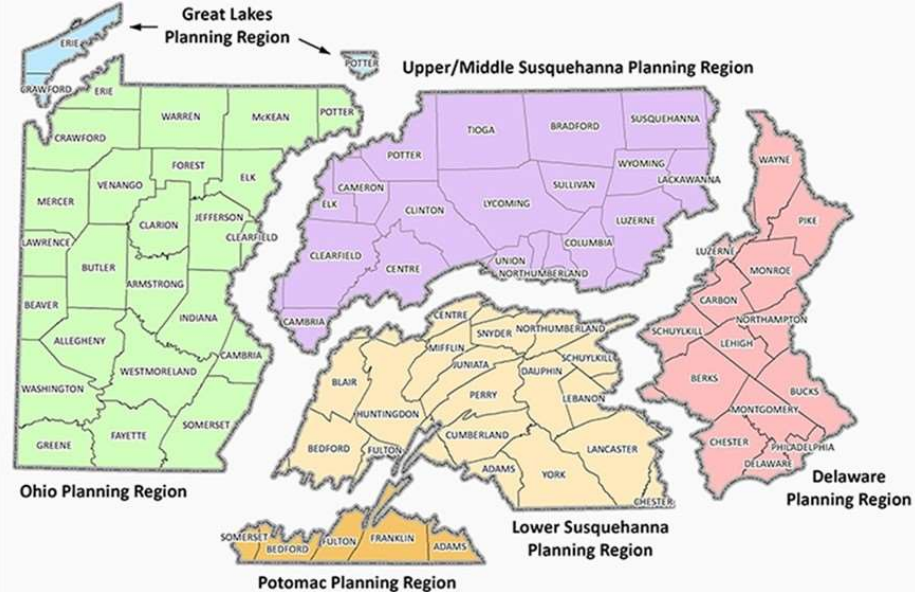
# Example

Adaptation Opportunities to Impacts of Climate Change			Related State Water Plan Priority Action Recommendation Topics	State Water Plan Priority Action Recommendations
Most Significant Impacts	Water Resource Related Approaches	Example Strategies		
Impacts of increasing heat and flooding on health – harmful algal blooms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>State revise policies to support health given projected increased heat and flood risks</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review zoning codes, create system to reflect climate projection data</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">Floodplain and stormwater management</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Flood control recommendations involving reviewing and updating hazard mitigation plans, investment in enhanced flood forecasting and warning systems, updating flood insurance maps and communications with property owners, and establishment of information centers/clearing houses for education and training for municipal decisions</li> </ul>



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# Regional Climate Considerations



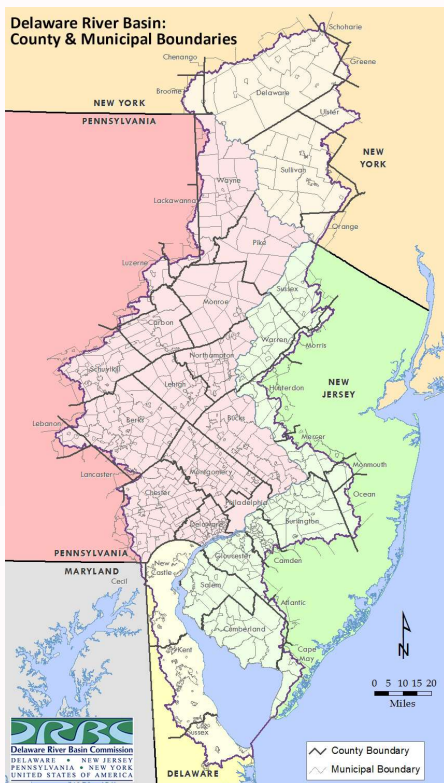
- Large Population Centers – impervious surfaces.
- ACCC – Assist with research, updating scenarios, crafting tools.





## Specific to the Delaware River Basin

- Acknowledgement of the risk of drought, aquifer recharge, as well as flooding
- Saltwater intrusion





# Get In Touch

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