Project Title: Comparative analysis of urban watershed sediment loads and yields from multiple cities along the mid-Atlantic eastern seaboard

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Brief project description:

Concerns about the impact of erosion and sediment transport associated with intensive land use in the Chesapeake Bay watershed have led to management efforts intended to reduce the amount of sediment being transported from both agricultural and urban landscapes. However, the evidence about how much sediment is actually being exported from urban watersheds is mixed, and there is a need for improved understanding of what controls these patterns. This project involves analysis of sediment data from the Baltimore, Philadelphia, Washington, D.C., and Charlotte, NC metropolitan areas. We will draw on existing data from intensive monitoring of a set of small urban watersheds in Baltimore, compared with observations from urban watersheds in the other cities.