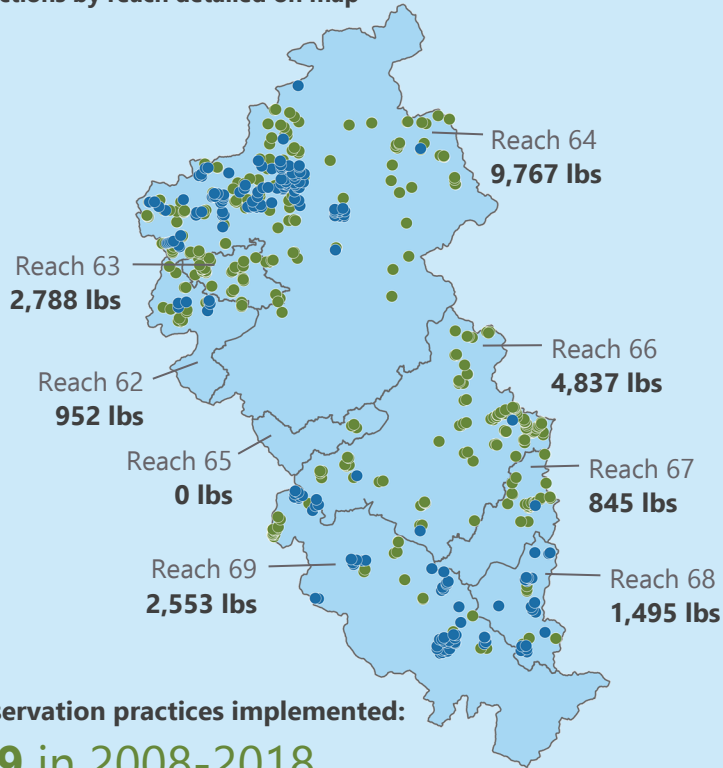


# Key 2019 Yahara Watershed Conservation Highlights...

Reduced annual phosphorus load by **23,237 lbs**  
 Reductions by reach detailed on map



Conservation practices implemented:  
**639** in 2008-2018  
**158** in 2019



Assisted

**237 producers**

and landowners with conservation practice implementation, environmental compliance and cost-share assistance.



Entered into

**40 cost-share**

agreements for conservation practices and systems.



Tracked over

**41,500 acres**

of nutrient management plans.



Allocated over

**\$1.15 Million**

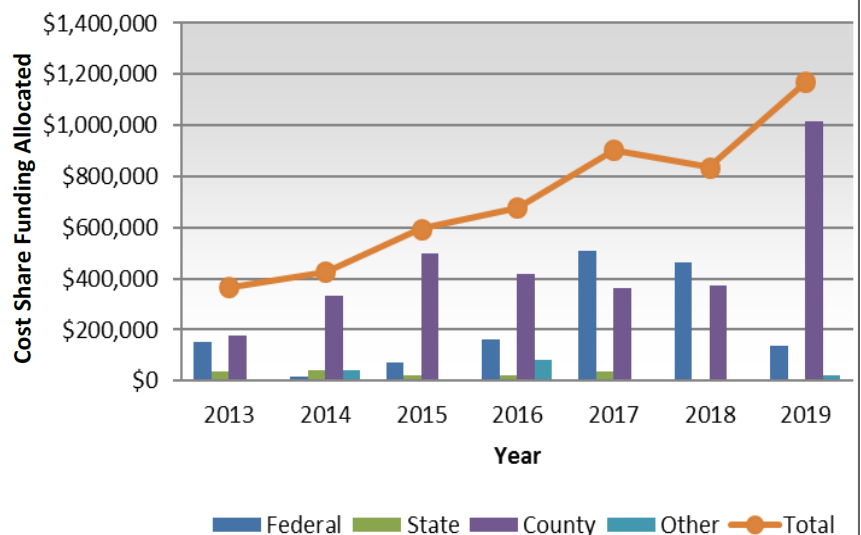
**Conservation Practices**  
 that reduce phosphorus delivery to nearby surface waters.

**780** implemented and tracked  
**40** planning completed



Revised June 2020

## Funding Sources and Amounts



Read the full report at: <https://lwr.dane-county.gov/yahara2019report>

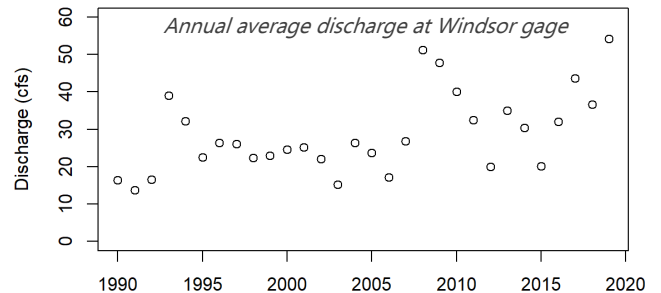
## Water Quality Trends

Phosphorus loads are being monitored by USGS at four stream sites to track the impact of conservation practices on water quality. Phosphorus runoff into waterways is influenced by what occurs on the landscape, including agricultural production systems and levels, management practices, and precipitation.

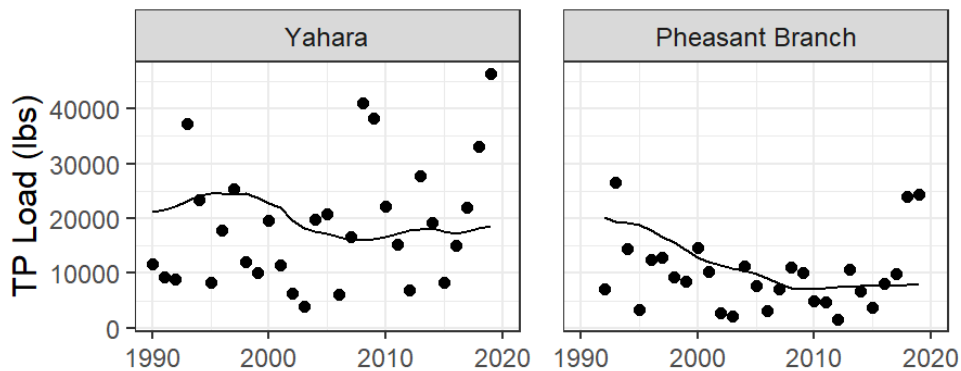
Precipitation has a very large influence on phosphorus load, partly because it affects phosphorus concentration, but mainly because it affects streamflow which has increased over the past 30 years (see *Yahara River Streamflow Trend* graph).

Water years 2018 and 2019 had some of the highest phosphorus loads on record, mainly attributed to the wet weather.

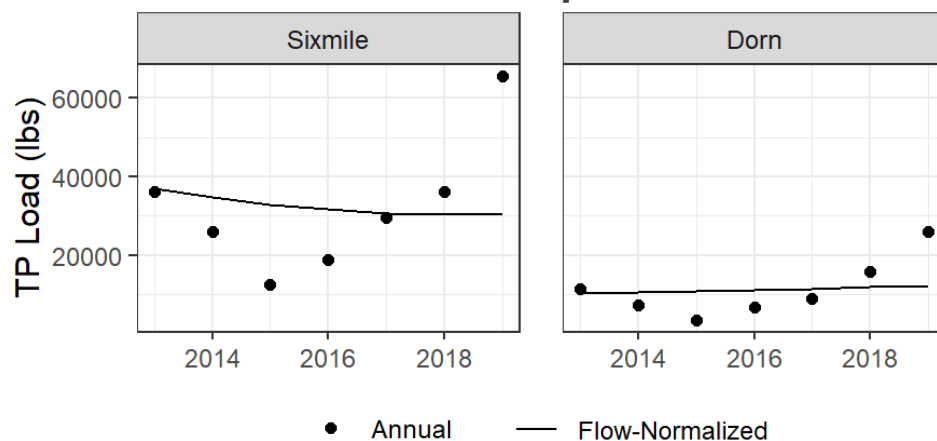
### Yahara River Streamflow Trend



### Long-term Phosphorus Trends



### Short-term Phosphorus Trends



Flow-normalized phosphorus loads (lines on plots above) have decreased over the past 30 years at the Yahara and Pheasant Branch sites and have not significantly changed over the last 7-10 years at all sites. This reflects a balance between implementation of conservation practices and changes in agricultural production systems and levels, and delivery of phosphorus through the watershed.