



Photo: Delmarva Chicken Association

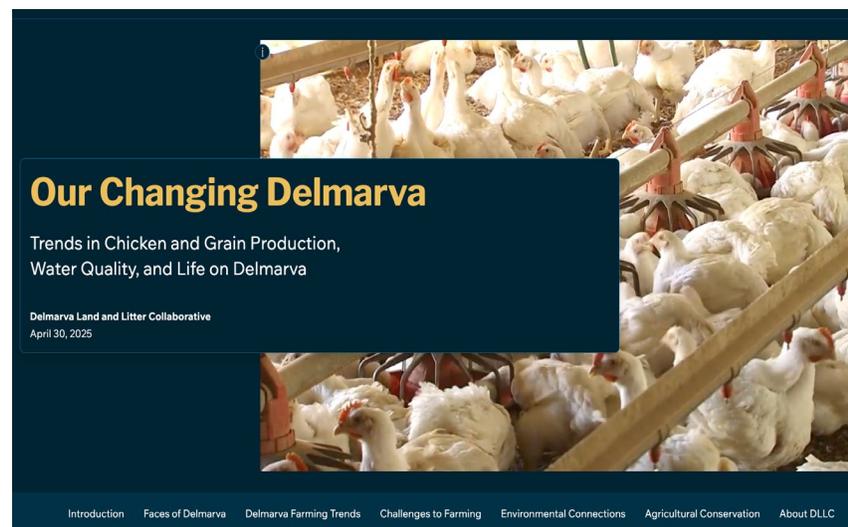
New interactive, visual, data explorer for Delmarva

The Delmarva Land and Litter Collaborative (DLLC) is a forum bringing diverse interests together to discuss solutions in support of healthy and productive ecosystems, farming, and poultry. In support of that, the group has launched a new online tool that allows anyone to explore changes in farming, chicken production, water quality, and more on Delmarva over the last several decades.

The Delmarva Peninsula is a national leader in chicken production, home to productive farmland, and bordered by waterways that flow into the Chesapeake Bay and Atlantic Ocean.

Decisions made about our region affect local communities, economies, and ecosystems, yet this array of data and stories that can inform decisions was not readily available through any one source.

The new StoryMap, “[Our Changing Delmarva](#),” brings together the best available science, regional data, industry expertise, and personal stories in one accessible platform. The tool features engaging charts, maps, graphics, and visuals, as well as links to resources for further exploration.



Who Is It For?

DLLC created this tool to provide a portal for diverse users to see data and stories in context with each other. The information provided can be used by researchers, environmental advocates, policymakers, residents, farmers, and others to gain insights on status and trends related to farming, poultry production, and environmental health on Delmarva.

Access the Tool

Visit: bit.ly/ChangingDelmarva

The StoryMap's functionality is best when viewed from a desktop.



Explore the Data Yourself

DLLC first introduced a StoryMap, “Exploring Chicken Farming on Delmarva,” in 2019 to provide data about the poultry industry and to develop a baseline of information for discussion. The updated tool, “[Our Changing Delmarva](#),” adds new and improved data (Fig. 1), enhanced interactivity (Fig. 2), summary graphics (Fig. 3), and personal stories (Fig. 4). Together, these elements create a strong foundation for informed conversations and decision making about the future of agriculture, poultry production, and water quality in the region.

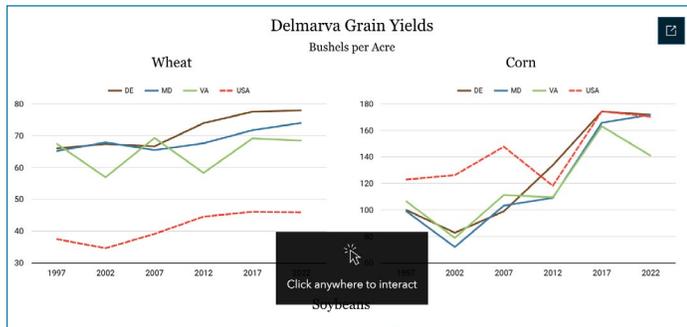


Figure 1: Users can interact with fourteen sets of interactive graphs displaying Delmarva-specific data and trends.

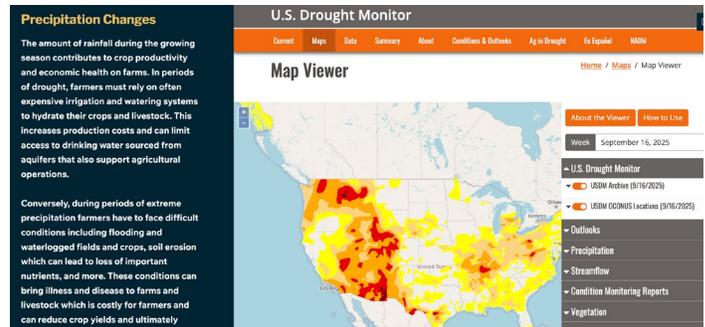


Figure 2: Interactive map viewers allow users to view real-time, localized data for Delmarva.

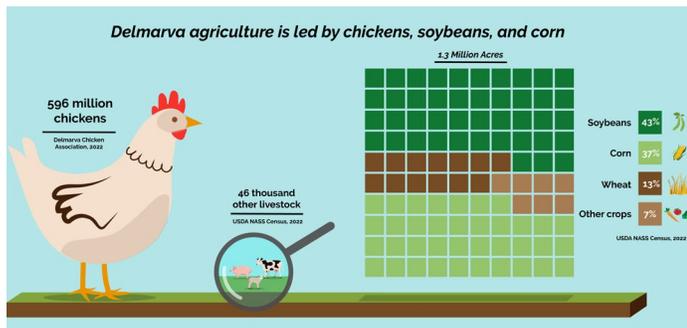


Figure 3: Infographics summarize agriculture, nutrient dynamics and sources on Delmarva.

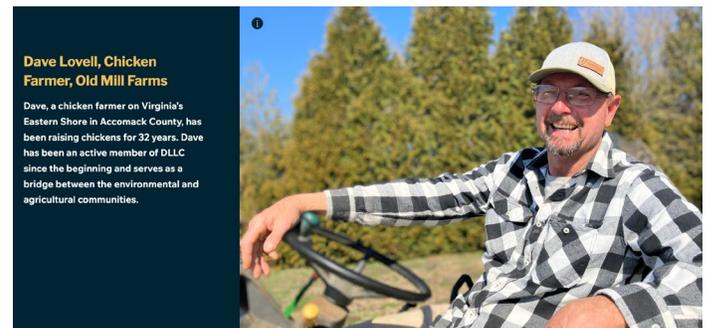


Figure 4: DLLC members with diverse interests share insights of what it is like to live and work on Delmarva.

Delmarva Insights and Trends

- Between 1985 and 2023, the pounds of chicken produced on Delmarva increased by 92% (Delmarva Chicken Association, 2023).
- During that same time period, the estimated amount of dry litter (chicken manure) produced on Delmarva increased by 53% (Chesapeake Assessment Scenario Tool, 2023).
- There has been a steep decline in both the number of chicken farmers and chicken houses in the region since the late 1980’s (Delmarva Chicken Association, 2023).
- Due to the complex dynamics between activities happening on land and their impact on water quality, it may take years to decades between the initial implementation of conservation practices and observed nutrient reductions in local waterways.