

Potomac River Basin Drinking Water Source Protection Partnership

A Resolution, initiated this 13th day of April 2004, forming a cooperative and voluntary partnership of water suppliers and state, interstate, and federal agencies working towards the goal of improved source water protection of the Potomac River Basin in order to safeguard the drinking water supply for public health.

Whereas, the surface and ground waters of the Potomac River Basin serve as a vital and shared drinking water source to millions of people; and

Whereas, watershed protection efforts can be an effective means of safeguarding the drinking water supply for public health; and

Whereas, the drinking water suppliers and their governmental counterparts seek a unified voice and more effective position in the numerous watershed protection efforts and decision making structures that are already in place for the Potomac River Basin; and

Whereas, the drinking water suppliers and their governmental counterparts can provide a complementary voice in the ongoing watershed protection efforts to ensure that drinking water issues are adequately prioritized and addressed; and

Whereas, complementary technical, operational, and regulatory expertise from government agencies and water utilities can help to both assess priorities and address issues; and

Whereas, basin-wide commitment and cooperation is needed to enhance source water protection efforts in an efficient manner; and

Whereas, cooperative studies and actions to meet common goals can be more cost effective than uncoordinated individual actions; and

Whereas, the Interstate Commission on the Potomac River Basin has a mission to enhance, protect, and conserve the water resources of the Potomac River Basin through regional and interstate cooperation, placing it in a position to undertake coordination of multiple organizations for the purpose of protecting drinking water sources throughout the Potomac River Basin.

Therefore, Be it Resolved, that the undersigned organizations establish this Potomac River Basin Drinking Water Source Protection Partnership, with the Interstate Commission on the Potomac River Basin serving as Partnership Coordinator, in order to:

- Identify regional priorities for source water protection efforts.
- Coordinate, where appropriate, source water and drinking water protection efforts to benefit multiple water systems.

- Establish and maintain a coordinated dialogue, including a Partnership Framework, between water suppliers and government agencies involved in drinking water source protection within the Potomac River Watershed.
- Establish and maintain a coordinated dialogue between the Partnership agencies and other groups working towards watershed protection within the Potomac River Watershed.
- Promote information sharing among groups working on, and affected by, safe drinking water issues.
- Enhance coordinated approaches to water supply protection measures in the Potomac basin, especially for boundary waters and for project planning that impacts interstate waterways.
- Develop new initiatives within the drinking water community and with partners that will fill program voids ensuring higher quality drinking water supplies.

The Partnership shall consist of a Governmental Partners Committee and regionally-based Utility Source Water Protection Committees which may meet jointly and individually to accomplish Partnership goals. Each committee may act independently, but the Partnership's actions or positions will be based on the consensus of its interested members.

Signed on the dates indicated, by authorized officials of the following water suppliers and governmental organizations:

City of Frederick, Maryland
 City of Hagerstown, Maryland
 City of Rockville, Maryland
 Fairfax Water
 Frederick County, Maryland
 Interstate Commission on the Potomac River Basin
 Maryland Department of the Environment
 Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection
 Town of Leesburg, Virginia
 United States Environmental Protection Agency, Region III
 United States Geological Survey
 Virginia Department of Environmental Quality
 Virginia Department of Health
 Washington Aqueduct Division of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
 Washington County, Maryland
 Washington, D.C. Department of Health
 Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission
 West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources