



POTOMAC RIVER BASIN DRINKING WATER SOURCE PROTECTION PARTNERSHIP

Quarterly Meeting Summary for February 14, 2013

Location: ICPRB, Rockville, Maryland

Attendees

Utilities

City of Rockville:
Judy Ding

DC Water:
Fikremariam Tesfai
Charles Kiely

Fairfax Water:
Greg Prelewicz
Niffy Saji

Fort Detrick:
Mark Lewis

Loudoun Water:
Beate Wright

Fort Detrick:
Mark Lewis

Washington Aqueduct:
Julia Battocchi
Shabir Choudhary
Anne Spiesman

WSSC:
Martin Chandler
Plato Chen
Mohammad Habibian

State and Local Government

DDOE:
Shah Nawaz

MDE:
Robert Peoples
Lyn Poorman

Montgomery County DEP:
Dave Lake

PA DEP:
Patrick Bowling

VDH:
John Aulbach

WV DHHR:
Walt Ivey
Bill Toomey

Federal and Regional Agencies

EPA Region 3:
Chuck Kanetsky
Ellen Schmitt

ICPRB:
Olushola Akinleye
Karin Bencala
Carlton Haywood
Heidi Moltz

MWCOG:
Steve Bieber

USGS:
Cherie Miller

Workgroup and Committee Reports

Early Warning and Emergency Response – Carlton Haywood, ICPRB

- The meeting with Colonial Pipeline has been postponed. Hopefully it will be rescheduled for later this year.
- The workgroup continues to address tasks raised following last year's spill exercise. Specifically, tasks related to how data would be collected and shared during a spill are being worked on by ICPRB and MWCOG. Simple communication exercises to test various data-sharing options (web, WARN, GDX, etc.) will be run this year. Members are also interested in practicing how communications would work in the event of a power and/or internet outage. What form these take will be decided on by the workgroup.
- MWCOG's Steve Bieber reported on the continuous water quality monitoring network that they coordinate for a few of the utilities on the Potomac. He reported that the focus is getting the communications equipment functioning so that the utility where the data is being collected can access it reliably. He suggests that the utilities used the GDX system to exchange data. The monitor at Williamsport has been moved to Shepherdstown.
- Karin Bencala, ICPRB, attended a training on using the GDX system. She reported that it is a useful tool for sharing spatial data if the utilities and other members are going to use the system for more than just spill response (like for sharing data from the continuous monitors).
- Montgomery County, Md., Department of Environment Protection's David Lake is looking for information on Colonial Pipeline's risk analysis for the region. He is also interested in locating independent risk analyses, worst-case scenarios, estimated release volumes, technical reviews, and prevention information.
- Chuck Kanetsky, EPA Region 3, mentioned an upcoming training for the Delaware Valley Early Warning System that might be of interest to the workgroup and Partnership members. The system includes a telephone-based notification system, data management, and water quality monitoring network.

Reaching Out – K. Bencala for Curtis Dalpra, ICPRB

- The meeting with watershed/environmental groups has been on hold pending interest from the target groups. Planning should move forward this next quarter.
- The Nature Conservancy has been in touch with WSSC on doing some watershed protection work in the Watts Branch watershed.
- Fairfax Water and ICPRB met with Hedrick Belin, executive director of the Potomac Conservancy. Common water protection topics were discussed, focusing on the Growing Native program that Fairfax Water helps support through a grant.

Urban Issues – Greg Prelewicz, Fairfax Water

- Many workgroup members attended an EPA webinar on road salt pollution prevention strategies. The webinar provided examples from New Hampshire and Minnesota on how to build partnerships and coalitions to reduce salt application in sensitive areas. More information on these and other efforts can be found on the Urban Issues page of the DWSP website – www.PotomacDWSP.org. Lessons from the webinar include the need for an organization to drive the effort and for a funding source. The workgroup is looking for groups to partner with this issue in the Potomac.
- MDE's Lyn Poorman wrote an article on reducing salt for drinking water protection – [Cutting down on salt](#).
- The workgroup would like to meet with Virginia and West Virginia this year on state water quality standards for water supply. They could use some help getting the correct contacts for this meeting.

- The next call of the workgroup is scheduled for April 9. All are welcome to participate - contact Greg for more information.

Emerging Contaminants – Anne Spiesman, Washington Aqueduct

- Anne is taking over the workgroup's chair position for the year; Patrick Bowling will remain the group's co-chair.
- The DEA's proposed rules for controlled substance take backs has been published - http://www.deadiversion.usdoj.gov/fed_regs/rules/2012/fr1221_8.htm. The proposed rules allow for mailing back pharmaceuticals and collection events, but it limits who can organize them and still requires law enforcement to be present. There is also no proposed means for telling the public about the available options or for gauging effectiveness. The workgroup decided not to comment this round since it is really beyond the scope of the Partnership. The next take-back event is scheduled for April 27.
- Planning has started for a workshop this year. A couple of topics are being considered, including identifying ways that the Partnership could realistically address ECs and developing an internal and/or public consensus position statement.
- Systems in the basin have already or soon will begin monitoring for the UCMR-3. The workgroup will organize a call or meeting for systems to discuss results and how to communicate them to their customers.
- Here are a couple of for-your-information items from members:
 - [Pharmaceuticals, Hormones, Anthropogenic Waste Indicators, and Total Estrogenicity in Liquid and Solid Samples from Municipal Sludge Stabilization and Dewatering](#)
 - DC Water is working with the DC Council to implement the Water Quality Assurance Amendment Act of 2012 which was signed into law in December. It requires DC Water to test for 30 unregulated contaminants, basically mirroring requirements from EPA's UCMR. A Montgomery County, Md., representative has introduced similar legislation in Maryland, requiring only WSSC to do the monitoring and without an expert panel. Monitoring would be required quarterly in perpetuity starting in 2014. WSSC is working with the representative to refine the bill. For instance the current bill would require testing for contaminants that are not of concern for surface water systems.

Ag Issues – Ellen Schmitt, EPA Region III

- Ellen is going on a year-long detail in the EPA's air quality division. The workgroup is in need of an interim chair person. Contact Karin if you are interested.
- Ellen has reviewed the components of the WIPs more closely and has indicated places where we might get involved in the workgroup's outreach strategy. Maps of agricultural areas in the headwater portions of the basin have also been added.
- Maryland has issued new fertilizer and revised nutrient management plan regulations as part of its WIP efforts. Robert Peoples from MDE provided a summary of these regulations: These regulations are through Maryland Department of Agriculture and relate to nutrient applications. In 2011, the Fertilizer Use Act was passed as part of the MD WIP plan to reduce N and P. It has two parts: ag sources and urban sources (44% of fertilizer in Maryland is used for lawns and the rest is used for ag).
 - AG requirements: These went into effect on 10/15/12, but take a transitional approach with requirements being phased in. There are fall nutrient application timing requirements, limits on nutrient applications to small grain crops, requirements for cover crops, and a manure injection/incorporation requirement (there are exceptions to this based on the ability to pay for required equipment). No fertilization application zones were created next to waterways

(within 35 ft) and BMPs are required next to waterways. There is a winter ban on nutrient application which should go into effect around 2015/2016. For more information:

http://mda.maryland.gov/resource_conservation/counties/NMPqanda.pdf

- URBAN requirements: MDA is the lead agency on these as well. There is a training and certification requirement for lawn care professionals. They are also required to do soil testing on a three-year cycle for each customer to figure out what is needed. Maximum application rates have been set. There are application guidelines for organic Phosphorus and required BMPS – black out days, setbacks, etc. These regulations are also phased in – lawn care rules were just published and should go into full effect by end of this year. There are also instruction requirements for fertilizer manufacturers to tell users when it is and is not appropriate to apply fertilizer. Homeowners have to follow the same lawn care rules, but do not have to go through the lawn care training and certification process. There is a ban on Phosphorus in fertilizer unless soil is tested and a need is identified – it will need to be bought separately if there is a need. For more information: http://mda.maryland.gov/resource_conservation/Documents/fertilizerwebpage.pdf
- 2013 goals and plans
 - Finalize outreach strategy (waiting on final results from Salter Mitchell’s work)
 - Organize an information session for a quarterly meeting (NRCS and/or SWCD speaker)
 - Identify the NRCS-targeted areas and assist states in reaching out to them
 - Determine common goals and interest with others involved in Potomac water quality issues

Government Committee – W. Ivey

- The workgroup will have a call soon to discuss holding another outreach event this year. To be decided are the audience, timeframe, and topics. Leesburg has a conference room that is available, depending on the size of the group.

Water Quality Data – K. Bencala

- An ICPRB intern is continuing the effort to develop an inventory of sources of water quality data. The following information will be collected on the datasets:

Source	QA/QC program (Y/N)
Originator	Coverage – Spatial
Contact – Name	Coverage – Description
Contact – Phone	Period of Record – Start Date
Contact – Email	Period of Record – End Date
Site Location	Update Frequency
Data Link	Lat/Long (Y/N)
Program website	Data: Public or Restricted
Purpose	Dataset Fees (Y/N)
Collection Method (samples)	Metric/Parameter Codes
Analysis Method	Number of Sites Sampled
Detection Limit	Frequency Sampled
Information on practical quantitation limits (Y/N)	Funding Source
Information on reporting limits (Y/N)	Data Type – Water Quantity
Laboratory Used (name)	Dataset Type – Watershed Characteristics
Laboratory Certification Type	Validation – Author
	Validation – Data

- At some point the group will need to know what data members would like to make available on the Partnership's website and what subset is secure. Ellen is going to circulate some questions to the utilities about how secure would the data need to be - would a password protected website be enough?
- The [Occoquan Watershed Monitoring Laboratory](#) plans to do a long-term analysis of trends at Chain Bridge.
- A. Spiesman proposed that the utilities characterize the types of water quality challenges that come up for which the cause is unknown. This would allow the Partnership to track problems over time and help us respond to future challenges in a timely manner.

Issue Updates

Marcellus Shale updates –

- Lyn Poorman, MDE – A [draft version of a report on recommended BMPs](#) is available for review; the final report will be finalized by August of this year. MD DNR has [expanded monitoring efforts](#) and has mapped special areas that could be impacted by drilling.
 - [Map of Marcellus in Maryland](#)
- Patrick Bowling, PA DEP – Approximately 2,500 wells have been fractured in PA and nearly all have registered with FracFocus. The Ground Water Protection Council is rolling out a new version in May that will have improved searching capabilities.

Act 13 created an impact fee that generated \$205 million in its first year. This money is distributed to impacted areas, with a portion also going to all counties. This money can be used for water resource management and protecting open space.

DEP is updating its regulations on both surface and subsurface oil and gas activities. (25 Pa. Code, Chapter 78, Subparts C & D, respectively).

Act 9 requires unconventional well sites to report an address and lat/long location to emergency management agencies.

PA has over 6,000 unconventional wells drilled.

- Bill Toomey, W.Va. DHHR – drilling is still going on in the northern panhandle and central areas of the state. DEP now has a GIS website where users can go to find out the distance from a well to a water supply intake.

Uranium update – G. Prelewicz – There was no legislation to remove the moratorium on uranium mining. The interagency workgroup has completed its report. There has been discussion by legislators about having a State working group develop regulations in preparation for the moratorium to be lifted in the future.

Patuxent Watershed Plan – Mohammad Habibian, WSSC

Dr. Habibian provided a review of the source water protection efforts going on in the Patuxent watershed which feeds into WSSC's reservoirs. Reservoirs are different from streams and act somewhat similar to the Chesapeake Bay; they stratify in several layers with their bottom layer becoming anoxic

during the summer months. They also retain contaminants for an extended period and lose their storage capacity over time. While contaminants could come from point and non-point sources, the Patuxent reservoirs are mainly impacted by non-point sources, which are the main sources of Phosphorus and sediment inputs. Given these unique features, WSSC along with Howard, Prince George's, and Montgomery counties, two soil and water conservation districts, and the Maryland National Capital Parks and Planning Commission formed a partnership about 15 years ago and have been working together to improve reservoirs water quality. Additionally, MDE-EPA has jointly established a TMDL for these reservoirs. However, there is no effective regulatory provision for controlling non-point sources. This fact, plus funding issues, has limited progress for watershed protection.

**Next Quarterly Meeting:
May 15, 2013**