



## POTOMAC RIVER BASIN DRINKING WATER SOURCE PROTECTION PARTNERSHIP

Quarterly Meeting Summary for May 23, 2012

Location: ICPRB, Rockville, Maryland

### Attendees

#### Utilities

City of Rockville:  
Judy Ding

DC Water:  
Sarah Neiderer

Fairfax Water:  
Chuck Murray  
Greg Prelewicz  
Niffy Saji  
Joel Thompson

Town of Leesburg:  
Russell Chambers  
Larry Taylor

Washington Aqueduct:  
Shabir Choudhary  
Anne Spiesman

WSSC:  
Martin Chandler  
Plato Chen  
Mohammad Habibian  
Caroline Nguyen

#### State and Local Government

DDOE:  
Shah Nawaz

MDE:  
Jeremy Klavans  
Robert Peoples  
Lyn Poorman

PA DEP:  
Patrick Bowling

WV DHHR:  
Bill Toomey

#### Federal and Regional Agencies

EPA Headquarters:  
Marjorie Copeland

EPA Region 3:  
Bill Arguto  
Vicky Binetti  
Ellen Schmitt

ICPRB:  
Karin Bencala  
Curtis Dalpra  
Carlton Haywood  
Heidi Moltz

MWCOG:  
Steve Bieber

USGS:  
John Young

## Workgroup and Committee Reports

### **Emerging Contaminants** – Pat Bowling, PA DEP

- The most recent DEA-sponsored take-back event was on April 28. This was the fourth event and a record 276 tons were collected. Another event will be held on September 29, 2012.
- A [recent paper](#) from the University of Michigan reviews a life-cycle analysis comparing emissions of active pharmaceutical ingredients (API) from trash (landfill) disposal versus take-back events. Transportation of unused medications to take-back events and incineration may produce more greenhouse emissions with only a minimal reduction in the amount of API released to the environment. This is prompting a larger discussion of the costs and benefits of disposal options.
- The Rule for Disposal of Controlled Substances was sent from the Drug Enforcement Administration to the Office of Management and Budget on May 15. OMB now has 90 days to comment on the rule. Once that process is complete, the rule will be put up for public comment.
- Marjorie Copeland (EPA) and the Potomac Safe Medicine Disposal Alliance have been looking at the NPDES permit database to identify pharmaceutical plants in basin (list attached to email). There is one true pharmaceutical manufacturing plant, a Merck plant near Elkton, Virginia. There are 18 other dischargers in the basin whose waste streams may contain pharmaceuticals and other EDCs. These include facilities such as medical labs, fish hatcheries, and nursing schools. The next step is to plot these facilities on a map to see if any fall just upstream of drinking water intakes. Research has shown that wastewater from these facilities contain higher rates of EDCs.
- There has been no progress on neither of the bills the workgroup has been tracking - Safe Chemicals Act and EDC Exposure Elimination Act. Action on these bills is not expected at this time.
- EPA's Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Regulation (UCMR 3) is requiring 6,000 public water suppliers to monitor for seven hormones, total chromium, hexavalent chromium, chlorate, and perfluorinated compounds in addition to other emerging contaminants. More information can be found on [EPA's website](#).
- A [study](#) reviewing estrogenic compound removal rates given different wastewater treatment processes was reviewed in [Chemical Engineering News](#) (subscription required). The most effective was shown to be sand filtration. The rate of removal from chlorine dioxide was actually better, but more intersex fish were found in association with this process than with the sand filtration.
- The workgroup plans to hold a workshop in 2013. Pat will be talking with the workgroup about this this quarter.
- Sarah Neiderer (DC Water) updated participants on a [bill](#) recently introduced to the D.C. Council that would allow the mayor to require any type of water quality monitoring requested. The bill would require monitoring to take place initially and then, working with a panel of experts, new standards would be developed. DC Water and Washington Aqueduct are compiling information on the monitoring requirements of the UCMR 3 for the Council's information. Many members feel like this would be hard for D.C. given that how to set standards for emerging contaminants is being looked at on the national level with no consensus readily developing.
- Mohammad Habibian (WSSC) provided a [handout](#) summarizing the on-going Water Research Foundation projects of interest to the Partnership.
- Caroline Nguyen (WSSC) presented a [review](#) of EDC removal rates given different wastewater treatment processes.

### **Agricultural Issues** – Ellen Schmitt, EPA Region III

- The workgroup recently had a call to discuss the new NRCS [nutrient management guidelines](#) (referred to as the 590 guidelines). Each state is now required to develop their own guidelines and

get concurrence from the state water quality agency. This provides the workgroup the opportunity to talk with the state agencies about how these guidelines can protect sources of drinking water. Farmers that received funds through this program will be required to follow the guidelines. Ellen will send state Partnership members the contact information for the respective agencies that will be involved in this process.

- The [EQIP program](#) has set aside 5% of funding to target 303d-listed streams. The workgroup will identify streams in the basin that also need drinking water source protection.
- An updated version of the outreach strategy will be distributed for feedback. Specifically, the workgroup is looking for volunteers to review the strategy and make suggestions and explain why certain BMPs are preferred over others. The group would also like to incorporate data from the water utilities into the strategy. Send any raw water Phosphorus data to Ellen. The workgroup will take a look at the data for any seasonal changes and patterns.
- The workgroup, along with the Urban Issues workgroup, will be reviewing the basin's Phase II WIPs to identify any projects that we may want to promote. They are hoping to find two people to review each state's plan.
- The Source Water Collaborative has released a [Field-to-Faucet guide](#) that can be downloaded from their website. The workgroup would like to know if members think this should be distributed to partners in the basin or if it should be tailored to the Potomac first.
- [FFA source water protection lessons](#) are now available.
- Let Ellen know if there any topics you think the workgroup should be addressing or if there are meetings/people/places that the groups should be reaching out to.

#### **Urban Issues** – Greg Prelewicz, Fairfax Water

- The road salt webinar the workgroup has been developing will be held next quarter, likely in July or August to coincide with the planning schedules for transportation departments. The webinar will focus on the benefits of reducing salt use and available alternative resources. Speakers will include Greg, Maryland State Highway Administration, and R&D researchers for environmentally friendly deicing products. The target audience is local planning and transportation officials.
- The workgroup continues to review state stormwater regulations.
- The workgroup will coordinate with the Ag Issues workgroup to review the Phase II WIPs.
- Federal airport deicing regulations and standards are now final; the workgroup will review them for any changes from the proposed rules.
  - The discharge permit for IAD requires continuous TOC monitoring and has had a big impact on what is now discharged from the airport.
- The Center for Watershed Protection is holding a [conference](#) in Baltimore on October 8 – 10. There will be a session on source water protection as a part of stormwater management and watershed protection.
- The Water Environment Federation is organizing a [Stormwater Symposium](#) in Baltimore on July 18 – 20.

#### **Early Warning and Emergency Response** – Carlton Haywood, ICPRB

- The spill exercise after action review meeting will be held on May 30. Please fill out review forms and send them to Horsley Witten. E. Schmitt mentioned that there is some funding available through the EPA for follow-up items such as fact sheets, trainings, or research. Many thanks to EPA for funding the exercise.
- During the exercise, it was realized that once the utilities shut down the intakes monitoring stops.
- WSSC has a portable GMCS that can be used for petroleum testing.

- Let the workgroup know if you have ideas for future spill exercises or activities. Specifically, should the focus remain in the metro area or should we focus on some of the upstream utilities? M. Habibian expressed a preference for focusing on prevention in addition to response.
- Steve Bieber (COG) has been in touch with Colonial Pipeline to set up a time to review the integrity management plan. He will let the workgroup know what the meeting options are. G. Prelewicz requested that the risk modeling experts attend the meeting as well.
- Steve also provided an update on the continuous monitoring stations in the basin. Currently, the Brunswick, New Design, and Williamsport stations are up and running, but do not have a reliable communications connection. COG is working to fix this and data should be online soon. Williamsport is having the most trouble with the station's communications system. They may try something other than a cellular connection.
  - Steve would like the Partnership to consider how important monitoring is far upstream and at both Brunswick and New Design (since they are relatively close to one another). Placing a monitoring station at Hagerstown was raised as a possible alternative location. Carlton feels that both Brunswick and New Design are important due to the travel time between the two. It is anticipated to get more difficult to secure federal funding for monitoring in future years.
  - COG is considering phasing out their role as the communications and monitoring center for the data from these stations. Steve views the priority issue to be making sure that the utilities are able to access the data at their station at any time from on-site and remote locations. (Fairfax Water is using a virtual, private network to make their data available remotely.) Once this is figured out, then COG will look into how to share the data regionally. A couple of options suggested for sharing data included the regional GDX system already used by law enforcement to share geospatial data and the CCTV feeds throughout the region.
- Fairfax Water and WSSC participated in the two-day webinar, [Improving Pipeline Leak Detection System Effectiveness and Understanding the Application of Automatic/Remote Control Valves](#), sponsored by Pipeline & Hazardous Materials Safety Administration.

**Government Committee** – Bill Toomey, WV DHHR

The system outreach meeting was held on April 26. Thirteen systems attended the meeting from around the basin. Bill provided a [written summary](#) of the meeting. Most of these systems are now on our mailing list and will receive our news items and meeting notices. The committee will discuss follow-up options and ideas for future meetings. The Monocacy area might be a good place to focus our efforts given that most of the systems in the watershed are either members of the Partnership or were in attendance at the outreach meeting.

**Water Quality Data** – E. Schmitt, G. Prelewicz, Karin Bencala, ICPRB

The group has drafted an objective and initial list of water quality data resources. The list of resources includes which parameters are being tested for, how often, and where to go to access the data. When available, monitoring station location information is also being collected. ICPRB will hold on to the master version of the list. Send any additional data sources to Karin.

**Reaching Out** – Curtis Dalpra, ICPRB

- The 2011 Annual Report is available on the Partnership's website. Send Curtis any ideas for future reports (content, design, etc.)
- The website is going through a redesign process. Send any ideas or comments to Karin.

- Let Curtis know if you need any outreach materials developed. It was suggested that the workgroup consider writing articles that can be placed in relevant regional publications (i.e. publications of AWWA's Chesapeake Bay section and the Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay).

## Issue Updates

### ***Marcellus Shale/hydrofracking***

Maryland – Jeremy Klavans, MDE

The legislature considered many Marcellus-related bills, but few were passed during the last session. The bills that would have created a study fee and a severance tax did not pass. One bill that did pass includes a provision for a presumptive impact area.

Pennsylvania – P. Bowling

- Approximately 9,300 permits have been issued. Of these, 5,400 wells are in place and at least 1,400 of these have been fractured. Those wells in place but not fractured will either eventually be abandoned or fractured.
- The provisions of HB 1950 are being implemented, including the enhanced environmental protections. A lawsuit has been brought over the provision to standardize land use controls over drilling at the state level. This would preempt land use decisions at the local level. A 120-day injunction has been granted. This issue should be resolved within the next couple of months.
- The Ground Water Protection Council and the Source Water Collaborative will hold a webinar on hydraulic fracturing on June 6. The presentations are supposed to be archived on GWPC's website.
- The Harrisburg Area Geological Society is sponsoring a lecture on stray gas migration and the environmental footprint of shale gas on June 14 at 7:00 p.m. in the headquarters building of the PA Department of Environmental Protection. Contact Pat or Rose-Anna Behr (PA Geological Survey; 717-702-2035) for more information.

West Virginia – B. Toomey

Bill provided a handout showing the number of well permits in the state over time.

C. Murray asked the Partnership to consider drafting a statement on fracturing since many members are often asked to comment on the issue. This would likely have to come separately from the utilities.

***Uranium*** - G. Prelewicz

Virginia is holding its first interagency working group meeting on June 18. There will be other meetings throughout the state. The group will consider the National Academy's report and Fairfax Water's study, among others.

***Washington Aqueduct Future Treatment Alternatives Study*** – Anne Spiesman, Washington Aqueduct  
Anne provided a [handout](#) summarizing the study's progress. Steps 1 through 6 have been completed.

## Information Session

[Landscape analysis for determining endocrine disruptors from land-use activities in the Potomac and Shenandoah River watersheds](#) – John Young, USGS Leetown Science Center

***Next quarterly meeting:***  
*August 30, 2012*