CHESAPEAKE BAY AND WATER RESOURCES POLICY COMMITTEE

Priorities and Activities

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Montgomery County Council and CBPC Chairman

COG Board April 13, 2016



Chesapeake Bay and Water Resources Policy Committee Overview

- Chesapeake Bay Policy Committee established by the COG Board in 1998 as the Chesapeake Bay program policy advisor
- In 2006, name was changed to Chesapeake Bay and Water Resources Policy Committee to better reflect its mission
 - Address wide breadth of water quality issues, holistically
- Water is fundamental to our region's quality of life and economy





CBPC Priorities

- Chesapeake Bay Program
 - Bay TMDL 2025 deadline
 - COG voice in Bay Program
- Stormwater management approaches
- Water infrastructure investment & jobs
- Manage growth/retain flexibility
- Resiliency
 - Climate, water and energy supply
- Coordination with COG's Water Security Work Group



Stormwater

- One of greatest water quality challenges for local streams and the Chesapeake Bay
- Challenges meeting stringent MS4 permits
- Innovation
 - DC Water's Clean Rivers Project
 - Prince George's County public-private partnership
 - Intelligent sensor technology



Wastewater

- Plant upgrades have made marked improvements to Potomac River water quality
- Region Forward Target
 - By 2025, achieve 100% of Chesapeake Bay Program's Water Quality Implementation Goals
- State-of-the-Art All wastewater treatment plants in the region already have or are upgrading nitrogen removal capacity
 - Required large investments
 - To be complete by 2018 In advance of the 2025 Bay Program deadline
- Plant upgrades will ensure the capacity to treat future growth in the region



Drinking Water

- Primary Areas
 - Drought planning and response
 - Water security
- COG collaborates with the Interstate Commission on the Potomac River Basin
 - Water supply forecast
 - Potomac Basin flow model
 - Source water protection partnership
- Community Engagement Campaign
 - Wise Water Use
 - Taplt
 - Protect Your Pipes
- One Message, Many Voices



Workforce Development

Water Skill Set

- Local jobs
- Transferrable skills

Tools
Ethics
Electrical
Landscaping
Maintenance
Mechanics
Plumbing
Computer
Communications
Customer service
Instrumentation/
controls
Project mgmt.
Budgeting
Public Service

- DC Water
 Green
 Infrastructure
 Worker
 Certification
- Communities
 That Work
 Initiative
- Alexandria Renew Internship



CBPC Advocacy

- Ensure a local voice in the Chesapeake Bay Program
 - Protect implementation flexibility for local governments
- Advocacy Workgroup advises on state legislation/promotes local policies that support water
- Educate about the importance of water quality, infrastructure, & jobs
 - National Water Policy Forum, April 11-13
 - National Drinking Water Week, May 1-7
 - National Infrastructure Week, May 16-23
 - Chesapeake Bay Awareness Week, second week in June
 - Drinking Water and Wastewater Professionals Day, June 30
 - www.valueofwater.org
 - www.freetapwater.org
 - www.protectyourpipes.org



Lead in Drinking Water

- Lead recognized as a serious health threat
- Flint water crisis Lead in drinking water back in the spotlight
 - Community health
 - Lead levels in water
 - Lead service lines
 - Lead in buildings
- DC WASA/DC Water lead exceedance & follow-up, 2001-2008
- Continued concern & awareness prompted regional drinking water utilities to review actions and communications



Regional System Status & Actions

- All systems implement corrosion control
- Water systems continuously monitor corrosion parameters to maintain good water quality
- Customer Testing
 - DC Water will test customers' water
 - Other systems assist customers with testing by a certified lab
- DC Water and Alexandria are the only systems with lead service lines & are working to replace them
- Communication & Collaboration
 - Customer health & safety focus
 - Shared responsibility utility & customer
 - Health Officials & School Districts



Regional System Status & Actions

All regional water utilities are in compliance with the Safe Drinking Water Act Lead and Copper Rule

- Lead service lines audited
- Source water & treatment remain consistent
- Sampling protocols & guidance followed

2013 EPA National Public Water System Compliance Report			
	Туре	Violations	(n) PWS
District of Columbia	None	0	0
Maryland			
COG Jurisdictions	None	0	0
State	Treatment	19	19
	Monitoring	130	128
Virginia			
COG Jurisdictions	None	0	0
State	Treatment	5	5
	Monitoring	115	82



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Follow up questions to:

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