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| COG WATER RESOURCES PROGRAM UPDATES(As of 3/2/18)

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| **General Water Resources:**  | Updates on work supported by COG’s RWQM Work Program and other water-related activities supported by COG’s Department of Environmental Programs |

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| Water Quality  | COG Contact |
| Chlorides/Salt ImpactsCOG is working with COG’s members and various parties to coordinate on this water quality issue as research and strategies are being developed across the region to address winter storm sodium chloride applications. As this is a multi-media issue, this coordination includes water quality, drinking water, stormwater and potentially wastewater implications. Chlorides Research PapersVA DEQ is convening a stakeholder advisory committee to develop a northern Virginia Salt Management Strategy, and in Maryland, the State Highway Administration already has a salt management plan, and they are monitoring its effectiveness. All share the goal of meeting public safety needs balanced with winter weather road and sidewalk treatments, but being more protective of water quality in local streams, and protecting drinking water supplies, and water and wastewater infrastructure. In efforts to share broadly ongoing research and findings, here are links to two recent papers on chlorides* [ICPRB’ Report -](http://www.deq.virginia.gov/Portals/0/DEQ/Water/TMDL/SaMS/SaMS_IP_ImpactsReport.pdf?ver=2018-01-16-175819-093) *[Salt Management Strategy: Environmental Impacts and Potential Economic Costs and Benefits of Improved Management in Northern Virginia](http://www.deq.virginia.gov/Portals/0/DEQ/Water/TMDL/SaMS/SaMS_IP_ImpactsReport.pdf?ver=2018-01-16-175819-093),* completed for VA DEQ.
* Paper by Dr. Kaushal (UMD) – Work funded by the National Science Foundation, which documents findings about changes in sodium chloride loadings, salinity and pH, in freshwater streams nationally.

<https://cmns.umd.edu/news-events/features/4059>MDE Issues Draft 2018 Integrated Report (IR) of Surface Water QualityThe Maryland Department of the Environment MDE’s has issued its Draft 2018 Integrated Report (IR) of Surface Water Quality, which includes the identification of new impaired waters for TMDL development, as well as changes to its water quality categories. Comments are due by March 19, 2018<http://mde.maryland.gov/programs/Water/TMDL/Integrated303dReports/Pages/2018IR.aspx>. | Heidi Bonnaffon(202) 962-3216hbonnaffon@mwcog.orgKarl Berger(202) 962-3350kberger@mwcog.org |
| Wastewater |  |
| Wastewater Flow ProjectionsCOG staff continue to utilize the data from COG’s Cooperative Forecast process (i.e., locally-derived demographic projections) to develop wastewater projections for the Blue Plains Service Area (BPSA)/Blue Plains, as well as for the region’s major wastewater plants. This information is also used to support COG’s Region Forward efforts and to provide an external check on Chesapeake Bay Program (CBP) assumptions.Chesapeake Bay Program Projections for WastewaterCOG staff continue to monitor CBP/states estimates of what wastewater flows might be in the Year 2025 as part of the Bay TMDL effort and work to protect the financial investments made in the region to handle future growth. Please refer to the CBP Updates document for additional information regarding these matters.Use of COG Cooperative Forecast Data The COG Board is expected to officially approve the Round 9.1 Cooperative Forecast data in October 2018. COG DEP staff will utilize the official Round 9.1 data in the Regional Flow Forecast Model to generate wastewater flow projections for the COG region. In the meantime, the current Round 9.0 data will be used to evaluate estimates being generated by the CBP. BPSA Wastewater Flow Projection Methodology WorkAs part of its support to the IMA Parties, COG is working with the BPSA operating agencies (DC Water, WSSC, & Fairfax) to review current wastewater flow projection methodologies, the impacts of water conservation efforts, changes in inflow/infiltration patterns, and other factors that affect how future wastewater flows are projected. As part of this effort, COG staff will also reach out to other jurisdictions/agencies for their methodologies; and then will use all of that information to generate a scope of work for a consultant to conduct more detailed analysis. COG anticipates having a contract for the BPSA methodology update work in place by the summer of 2018. The results of this work are expected to update the ‘regional method’ used for the BPSA as well as for the rest of the COG region. | Nasser Ameen(202) 962-3394ameen@mwcog.orgNasser Ameen(202) 962-3394ameen@mwcog.org  |

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| Stormwater |  |
| Metro Area Stormwater ForumIn partnership with the Northern Virginia Regional Commission and the Chesapeake Stormwater Network, COG sponsored a stormwater forum on February 15th to provide an opportunity for the private and public sector to engage state and federal regulators on how to integrate the new Bay protocols for BMP efficiencies, inspection and verification into their permit compliance programs. About 60 participants from the region attended. COG’s Stormwater Procurement Website COG has launched a new Stormwater Procurement SharePoint website. All members are strongly encouraged to review the database for contracts and RFPs and to post those from your jurisdictions This SharePoint site is a regional tool for sharing bids for contracts, contract language, and rideable contracts, by allowing stormwater and procurement staff around metropolitan Washington, and surrounding jurisdictions, to share procurement documents. For login information, contact Heidi Bonnaffon

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DC’s Stormwater Retention Credit Trading Program FeaturedThe District of Columbia’s Stormwater Retention Credit Trading Program was featured in a recent MOST (Municipal Online Stormwater Training) Center video interview with DOEE’s Brian Van Wye.<https://mostcenter.org/videos/localleaders> | Karl Berger(202) 962-3350kberger@mwcog.orgHeidi Bonnaffon(202) 962-3216hbonnaffon@mwcog.org Heidi Bonnaffon(202) 962-3216hbonnaffon@mwcog.org  |
| Drinking Water |  |
| Drug Take Back Day is April 28thCOG’s Community Engagement Campaign, via [Protect Your Pipes](http://www.protectyourpipes.org), will be publicizing Drug Take Back Day to keep unwanted medications from being flushed, protecting source water. To find drop off locations and for more information visit:<https://www.deadiversion.usdoj.gov/drug_disposal/takeback/>Drought MonitoringThe latest U.S. Drought monitor indicates that the COG region is improving from recent dry conditions. Earlier this winter, moderate and severe drought existed throughout the COG region due to the cumulative lack of precipitation. Groundwater levels were extremely low in many areas, especially in Northern Virginia. The Potomac River Basin received an above average amount of rainfall the past two weeks, and the extended forecast looks promising.For additional information, please visit COG’s Water Supply and Drought website at <https://www.mwcog.org/drought> | Heidi Bonnaffon(202) 962-3216hbonnaffon@mwcog.org Christine Howard(202) 962 3366cdhoward@mwcog.org  |
| Climate, Energy, and Sustainability – Water Related | **COG Contact** |
| Regional Greenhouse Gas InventoryThe regional greenhouse gas inventory is being finalized for 2005, 2012 and 2015. The inventory includes the relatively small emissions contributions from wastewater derived from the regional flow forecast model. COG is participating in a grant project to analyze the drivers that account for emissions changes between inventories.  | Tanya Spano (202) 962-3776 tspano@mwcog.orgMaia Davis(202) 962-3227mdavis@mwcog.org  |
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 Upcoming Meetings and Events

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| March 16th – CBPC MeetingMarch 19th – Drought Workshop at Loudoun WaterMay 11th (early, date TBD) –WRTC MeetingMay 18th – CBPC MeetingJuly 13th – WRTC MeetingJuly 20th – CBPC Meeting |

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