

# COG WATER RESOURCES PROGRAM GENERAL WATER RESOURCES UPDATES (as of 7/10/18)

Updates on work supported by COG's RWQM Work Program and other water-related activities supported by COG's Department of Environmental Programs.

#### Water Quality COG Contact

#### Update from DOEE on PAHs in Sealants

In March, the District Department of the Environment DOEE presented its concerns over PAH concentrations in pavement sealants and presented potential technical and legislative solutions to the newfound sources of PAHs, seeking opportunities for regional collaboration. Please see separate handout that details DOEE's progress updates on this issue.

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#### **Integrating Monitoring and Modeling Data for WIP Development**

COG, in concert with the Northern Virginia Regional Commission, hosted a June 18th workshop to present some of the latest findings from Bay Program monitoring and modeling efforts, particularly in the Potomac watershed. Speakers from the U.S. Geological Survey, the University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science and the EPA Chesapeake Bay Program office, noted trends in nutrient and sediment loading from the watershed, discussed water quality trends in the Potomac estuary and zeroed in on several watersheds in the COG region with detailed monitoring and modeling information to tell a story about progress to date and opportunities for further improvement. The presentations and other information about the workshop are available at <a href="https://www.mwcog.org/events/2018/6/18/modeling-and-monitoring-workshop-urban-watershed-storylines/">https://www.mwcog.org/events/2018/6/18/modeling-and-monitoring-workshop-urban-watershed-storylines/</a>

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#### States' Efforts to Address Salt Impacts to Water Quality

COG staff has been participating in the VA DEQ Salt Management Strategy Stakeholder Advisory Committee. Please see separate handout that recaps where Virginia and Maryland's salt management efforts stand to-date, and provides possible options for COG to facilitate salts information exchange between the District of Columbia, Maryland and Virginia.

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#### Wastewater COG Contact

#### VA Drinking Water and Wastewater Professional's Day - June 30th

The Commonwealth of Virginia and the City of Alexandria issued a proclamation declaring June 30 as Drinking Water and Wastewater Professionals Appreciation Day. Click and view the video below, which features Allison Silberberg, the Mayor of Alexandria, along with other

Nasser Ameen (202) 962-3394 ameen@mwcog.org water professionals, discuss the importance of protecting and providing clean water throughout the region.

Video: <a href="https://youtu.be/68byrew0Mvo">https://youtu.be/68byrew0Mvo</a>

#### Stormwater COG Contact

#### **Pursuing Pooled Monitoring for Stormwater BMPs**

COG staff moderated a session to gather feedback on the future direction of the Maryland Pooled Monitoring Program at a June 29<sup>th</sup> workshop on the program's restoration research projects. The program, which is administered by the Chesapeake Bay Trust, funds research into the effectiveness of stormwater management BMPs. Current funds are primarily from the Trust itself and the Maryland Department of Natural Resources, but, under the proposed new MS4 stormwater permit for Maryland's Phase I jurisdictions, permittees will be able to provide funds to the pool rather than do their own monitoring. COG staff will continue to work with Maryland Phase I permittees to coordinate their participation in the pool and will explore opportunities for expanding the pool to other local stormwater programs in the region.

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#### Drinking Water

#### Regional Drought and Water Supply Status - July 2018

- The current U.S. Drought monitor indicates that the COG region is drought free.
- Potomac streamflow levels are above normal and local reservoirs are full.
- Many groundwater wells are reporting normal levels and precipitation are above normal.
- In Maryland-MDE, all regions are under a normal status.
- In <u>Virginia-VADEQ</u>, the drought watch advisory t for the Northern Virginia drought evaluation region has been lifted.
- For additional information regarding regional water supply and drought conditions, please visit COG's website at: https://www.mwcog.org/drought

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**COG Contact** 

#### Climate, Energy, and Sustainability - Water Related

#### Fleets for the Future (F4F)

**F4F** is a U.S. Department of Energy-funded effort to develop and implement procurement processes that will coordinate and consolidate bulk orders of advanced fueled vehicles, alternative fuels, and refueling and charging infrastructure for public sector fleets. As part of this effort, COG, in partnership with the National Association of Regional Councils (NARC) and four other regional councils, worked towards reducing incremental costs of commercially available alternative fuel vehicles and infrastructure. COG awarded contracts to three vendors for bulk purchases of 16 types of alternative vehicles, including all electric and plug-in hybrid electric vehicles. COG will issue an award for

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**COG Contact** 

aggregate infrastructure by early August 2018. For more details, including information on how additional COG members can participate, go to <a href="http://www.fleetsforthefuture.org/metropolitan-washington/">http://www.fleetsforthefuture.org/metropolitan-washington/</a>.

## Special Project: What We Can Do to Improve Air Quality in the Washington Region?

MWAQC Chair Hans Riemer, working with the Air & Climate Public Advisory Committee, initiated a project to analyze measures that could be implemented or expanded in the region, especially local actions, to improve air quality and reach a goal of no unhealthy air days. Many of the actions identified, such as green infrastructure, reducing urban heat island, energy efficiency, and renewable energy, also provide water quality benefits and other societal benefits. The list of measures and associated cost and benefits estimates were presented at the May 23, 2018 MWAQC meeting and are summarized in a draft report entitled "What We Can Do to Improve Air Quality in the Washington Region". The initial report is posted <a href="here">here</a>. A final report will be published later in 2018.

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#### <u>COG Issues RFP for Greenhouse Gas and Climate Change Adaptation</u> <u>Services</u>

The Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments is seeking the services of an expert consultant team to assist COG's Department of Environmental Programs, as well as support COG member governments and other regional stakeholders in responding to the challenges of addressing emissions of greenhouse gases and climate change.

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Jeff King jking@mwcog.org

Questions about this RFP must be directed in writing via email to Alieu Turay at <a href="mailto:aturay@mwcog.org">aturay@mwcog.org</a> with a cc: to Jeff King at <a href="mailto:jking@mwcog.org">jking@mwcog.org</a> no later than 2:00 PM, Thursday, June 28, 2018. The Request for Proposals is posted here.

#### **Green Building Financing Toolkit**

On June 8, the Mid-Atlantic PACE Alliance (MAPA) released the regional Commercial Property Assessed Clean Energy (C-PACE) Toolkit. MAPA is a regional partnership to advance C-PACE financing solutions. C-PACE is a financing mechanism designed to promote energy and water efficiency improvements, and installation of renewable energy systems, for commercial, industrial, agricultural, non-profit and multifamily buildings with 5 or more dwelling units. The toolkit shares best practices, fosters growth and increases program harmonization in Virginia, Maryland and the District of Columbia. The toolkit includes an explanation of C-PACE, how the toolkit can be used and key benefits to communities and local economies. MAPA partner organizations include: Virginia Department of Mines, Minerals and Energy, District of Columbia Department of Energy and Environment, Maryland Clean Energy Center, Clean Energy Solutions, Inc., PACE Financial Servicing, Urban Ingenuity, Virginia Energy Efficiency Council, and MWCOG. MAPA is supported by a grant from the U.S. Department of Energy.

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#### Kennedy Center to add a Green Roof by 2019

The Kennedy Center plans to construct a new 130,000 square foot

"green roof" that will include gardens, walking paths and a 35-tree gingko grove. For additional information:

 $\frac{https://www.wabe.org/kennedy-center-unveils-progress-on-new-extension-for-artistic-projects/}{}$ 

### **Upcoming Meetings and Events**

July 13 – WRTC Meeting

July 27<sup>th</sup> – CBPC Meeting

Sept. 14<sup>th</sup> – WRTC Meeting

Sept. 21<sup>st</sup> - CBPC 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Bay & Water Quality Forum w/EPA & States

Nov. 9<sup>th</sup> – WRTC Meeting

Nov. 16<sup>th</sup> – CBPC Meeting

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