

STATE AND FEDERAL LEGISLATION RECAP

Heidi Bonnaffon
Environmental Planner

CBPC
March 16, 2018



Maryland GA Highlights

- HB 538/SB 651 – *Polystyrene Prohibition on Sale and Use*
 - Would have made MD 1st state to ban polystyrene
 - Status: Unlikely to pass
 - HB 766/SB 610 – *Forest Conservation Act*
 - Amended version lessened original concern over “unfunded” burden on local governments and got MML/MACo support.
 - Status: In hearing.
 - HB 400 – *Mosquito Control Notification to Municipalities*
 - Status: Passed in the House/Senate hearing 3/20
-
- Bill that would raise standard tax deduction for State of MD, to counter increased tax burden from federal tax reform.
 - Status: Passed Senate; awaiting House.



Virginia GA Highlights

- HB 1004—*Regulation of stormwater; airports*
 - Concern: precedent setting stormwater fee exemption bill; didn't apply to this region's airports
 - Status: Didn't pass in House
- HB 801—*Stormwater Regulation; no stricter than federal law*
 - Concern: Limited SWCB from setting SW requirements stricter than federal law without Gen. Assembly approval.
 - Status: Didn't pass in the House
- HB 1150—*Pavement sealants containing coal tar prohibited*
 - Concern: Bill does not go far enough, per DOEE's findings.
 - Status: Didn't pass in the House



Federal Legislation Pertaining to Water

Infrastructure funding proposal

- Proposal will generate \$1.5 trillion in new infrastructure investments, of which only \$200 billion will be from federal funding sources.
- The remaining \$1.3 billion will be funded from state, local and private sources.
- National water organizations (e.g., NACWA, WEF) are arguing for more federal dollars for water.

Water Resources Development Act (WRDA)

- Reauthorization every two years for U.S. Army Corps of Engineers projects.
- Has included water policy and infrastructure funding the last couple of reauthorizations—it's a door for water.

