

Briefing On Endocrine Disrupting Compounds In The Potomac River

COG Board of Directors
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Chronology

- **USGS Studies:** White Paper (2002), Report (2006)
- **Washington Post articles** (Sept. 3, 6, & 26, 2006)
 - ‘Intersex fish’ & EDCs in Potomac River
- **House Govt. Reform Committee Hearing** on ‘Intersex fish’ (Oct. 4, 2006)
- **COG Board Briefing** on ‘Intersex fish’ (Oct. 11, 2006)
 - Adopted Resolution R46-06
- **Associated Press report** (April 2008)
 - Various Washington Post & other newspaper articles - citing AP report
- **Technical Workshops** involving COG Staff
 - 2006: Nov; 2007: March, May; 2008: March, April, May
- **Senate Env. & Public Works Hearing:** April 15, 2008

Today's Speakers

- **Vicki Blazer – USGS** (*Lead investigator*)
 - What are endocrine disrupting compounds?
 - Where are they found?
 - Focus on the Potomac River
- **Dr. Tee Guidotti – George Washington University**
(*Director of the Center for Risk Science & Public Health, and Chair of the Dept. of Environmental and Occupational Health*)
 - Are there health risks?
 - How to effectively communicate risk?
- **Tom Jacobus – Washington Aqueduct**
(*General Manager*)
 - Overview of Potomac River Basin Drinking Water Source Protection Partnership.
 - Water utility perspective

“Emerging Contaminants”

- Defined as synthetic or naturally occurring chemicals that are not commonly monitored in the environment, but have the potential to enter the environment and cause adverse effects.
- Many end up in human sewage, wastewater, agricultural wastes and ultimately the aquatic environment, so aquatic organisms may be constantly exposed

Examples of “Emerging Contaminants”

- Pharmaceuticals
 - Synthetic Hormones – birth control, hormone replacement therapy
 - Antibiotics
 - Viagra to Prozac
- Personal care products
 - Antimicrobials – soap, detergent, toothpaste
 - Fragrances
 - Organic UV filters (e.g., sunblock)
 - DEET (e.g., insect repellent)
- Animal manure and litter
 - Natural and synthetic hormones
 - Antibiotics/antimicrobials
 - Feed additives
- Pesticides and herbicides

Source: Vicki Blazer, U.S. Geological Survey

Resolution R19-08

- Requests the Chesapeake Bay and Water Resources Policy Committee (CBPC) and regional partners to prepare recommendations for:
 - Enhancing public awareness
 - Tracking and reporting on federal and professional association initiatives
 - Supporting information exchange workshops;
 - Assisting in obtaining additional federal funding for research and monitoring.
- The CBPC shall present its recommendations to the Board in June, 2008.