



GENERAL UPDATES & UPCOMING EVENTS

CHESAPEAKE BAY

Chesapeake Bay Watershed Model Development Update to WRTC

On April 28, Karl Berger presented the development status of the Phase 6 Watershed Model by the Bay Program, highlighting recent decisions regarding land use and loading targets. He will identify several issues that will impact how urban loads are determined in the new model, and note policy implications for the upcoming Bay TMDL mid-point assessment process. The WRTC supported looking into getting technical consultant support for the model, and in particular the Global Target setting.

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Chesapeake Bay Management Strategies

The new [Bay Agreement](#) (June 2014) identified five major themes and ten goals, and committed the partnership to develop Management Strategies to address those goals. The formal public comment period ended on April 30, and COG submitted comments, based upon input received by CBPC and WRTC members.

Links:

[COG Comments](#)

<http://www.chesapeakebay.net/managementstrategies>.

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Gov. McAuliffe - New Chair of Chesapeake Executive Council

Virginia Gov. Terry McAuliffe has been selected to chair the Chesapeake Executive Council (EC) in 2015, succeeding the outgoing Maryland Gov. Martin O'Malley. The EC is the overall policy making entity for the Chesapeake Bay Program. It consists of the governors of the six Bay partner states, the mayor of the District of Columbia, the Chesapeake Bay Commission chair and the administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency.

STORMWATER

Innovative Stormwater Infrastructure Act

The Innovative [Stormwater Infrastructure Act](#) encourages new outside-the-box strategies to help prevent and manage storm water pollution. In addition to reducing pollution and flooding, the bill would create jobs and strengthen local infrastructure. Sen. Tom Udall (D-N.M.) and Rep. Donna F. Edwards (D-Md.) introduced the bill as international, state and local water and wastewater professionals visit Washington,

D.C., for Water Week 2015 to highlight the importance of clean water and pollution control.

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Maryland Stormwater Bill SB 863

The Maryland General Assembly has taken final action on legislation (SB 863) to repeal the requirement that all the local governments with Phase I MS4 stormwater permits establish stormwater utility fees. The House of Delegates amended the Senate version of the bill; this House-amended version that was approved by the Senate on April 13 and it is now awaiting the signature of Governor Hogan.

Link:

<http://mgaleg.maryland.gov/webmga/frmMain.aspx?pid=billpage&stab=02&id=sb0863&tab=subject3&ys=2015RS>

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CLIMATE

Multi-Sector Working Group

COG's Multi-Sector Working Group, with consultant support, will examine implementable local, regional, and state greenhouse gas reduction strategies in four sectors - Energy, Transportation, Land Use, and Built Environment. The workgroup will quantify benefits, costs, and potential implementation timeframes for greenhouse gas reduction actions and consider exploration of greenhouse gas reduction goals for all sectors. WRTC and CBPC members will have additional opportunity for input on future stages of the project. An interim report is expected September 30, 2015 and final report expected January 2016.

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Air and Climate Public Advisory Committee (ACPAC)

ACPAC is planning another round of Climate & Energy Leadership Awards for the region this year. ACPAC is submitting comments to MWAQC regarding EPA's proposed new Ozone standard.

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OTHER NEWS AND EVENTS

Drinking Water Week

COG's [Community Engagement Campaign](#) organized events to highlight our region's water and wastewater infrastructure and success stories throughout the week of May 4th. It included a [TapIt](#) water bar offering refillable bottles and information on the value of tap water on the Mall for the Smithsonian Garden Fest on May 8.

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EPA Cybersecurity Workshop

COG hosted an EPA cybersecurity workshop for water and wastewater utilities on April 30th. The workshop provided water and wastewater utilities with information about the cyber threat, ways to manage the threat, and tools (such as AWWA's cybersecurity tool) available to help utilities. This event also included a facilitated response exercise using a realistic cyber threat scenario, allowing all participants to talk through the actions they would take in response to the threat. The goal was to identify general planning or procedural gaps in cybersecurity practices that can then be corrected.

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Regional Source Water Assessment with Corona Environmental Consulting

Over the next year, COG will be working with water utilities in the region and Corona Environmental Consulting to conduct a regional source water assessment and develop a related data system. We will also be working on the development of regional decontamination/flushing protocols for drinking water systems. An important outcome will be the development of an information system that will facilitate the organization, maintenance, and delivery of essential information about storage of chemicals in the critical zone near drinking water intakes and produce a detailed methodology of how this information can be located, extracted, quality controlled, and maintained. The dual focus on improved data stewardship and tool development will help all stakeholders meet pressing immediate needs and will contribute to meeting longer term needs by turning data into knowledge. This work is being done in conjunction with two Water Research Foundation (WRF) projects:

- a. Project 4572: "Flushing Guidance for Consumer Premise Plumbing and Service Lines to Avoid or Address a Drinking Water Advisory."
- b. Project 4581: "GIS to Identify and Catalog Potential Contaminants Stored in Tanks Upstream of Drinking Water Intakes".

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USGS Press Release - April 13, 2015:

Two USGS studies of the toxicity of runoff from coal-tar-based seal coated pavement and effects of that runoff on DNA have just been published in the scientific journals *Environmental Science and Technology* and *Science of the Total Environment*. The studies were done to address the concern that rainfall runoff occurring within hours

or days of coal-tar-based sealant application might be toxic to fish and other organisms in streams. The two studies collected and tested simulated runoff at various times beginning just hours after coal-tar-sealant application. Coal-tar sealants have significantly higher levels of PAHs and related compounds compared to asphalt-based pavement sealants and other urban sources, including vehicle emissions, used motor oil, and tire particles. To learn more, visit the USGS website on [PAHs and sealcoat](#).

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Upcoming Meetings & Events

July 17 - CBPC Meeting