

**WATER RESOURCES TECHNICAL COMMITTEE (WRTC) &
Regional Water Quality Monitoring Subcommittee (RWQMSc)
JOINT MEETING**

Thursday, November 8, 2012

10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Rooms #4 & 5, First Floor

Webinar Link: <http://connect.mwcog.org/wrtc/>

Enter as a Guest, and type your name.

Conference Call Number: (866) 269-8950 Pass code: 3347

NOTE: *There are new security procedures in place at the COG Building. When you arrive you will be asked to scan in your driver's license or other form of identification into a security portal on the wall as you enter the building lobby. This will print out a one-day pass enabling you to enter the meeting space area. If you park in the garage, you will need to get off the elevator at the lobby level and get your pass. Building lobby guards will verify your pass and assist if you have any questions.*

AGENDA

I. **Welcome, & Roll Call/Introductions - Mohsin Siddique (WRTC Chair)**
(10:00 - 10:10 a.m.)

II. **Technical Session - Sponsored by the WRTC's RWQM Subcommittee**

Potomac River Water Quality: A New Method to Quantify Loads & Long-term Nutrient & Sediment Trends - Joel Blomquist, USGS Hydrologist
(10:10 - 11:10 a.m.)

As reported at the last WRTC meeting, COG staff will be working with the Occoquan Watershed Monitoring Laboratory (OWML) and the RWQM Subcommittee over the next few months to analyze water quality trends in the Potomac River. Our objective is to produce a technical report for members as well as a corresponding factsheet for a non-technical audience on water quality trends in the Potomac River. This technical session, sponsored by the RWQM Subcommittee, is aimed at briefing the WRTC on current trends, and is part of a technical series to help guide the content of this report.

Mr. Blomquist will provide a brief overview of a draft USGS report that quantifies loads and long-term trends in concentrations of nutrients and suspended sediment that enter the tidal part of the Chesapeake Bay Basin from nine major tributaries - focusing on the Potomac River fall line at Chain Bridge. He will also review a new load and trend technique WRTDS (Weighted Regressions on Time Discharge and Season) used to analyze this comprehensive data set.

Feedback: WRTC & RWQMSc members will be asked to provide feedback on the draft USGS report as well as the new load and trend technique (WRTDS); and note any issues that should be considered during COG's analysis of Potomac water quality data.

General WRTC Meeting

III. **COG's Proposed Nutrient Trading Policy** - Karl Berger (11:10 - 11:20 a.m.)

The CBPC had a presentation on the Chesapeake Bay Commission's nutrient trading report at their Sept. 21st meeting. That presentation outlined the potential economic benefits of trading to achieve Bay TMDL goals. The CBPC directed COG staff to develop a draft COG policy position on nutrient trading for consideration at the CBPC's November 16th meeting.

Mr. Berger will present staff's strawman trading policy document.

Feedback: WRTC members will be asked to provide their input on the draft policy position on trading to transmit to the CBPC.

IV. **Water Resources Infrastructure: Challenges & Opportunities** - Tanya Spano (11:20 - 11:35 a.m.)

There will be a panel discussion regarding water resource infrastructure issues at the November 16th CBPC meeting. This is part of COG's ongoing efforts to raise the level of understanding and importance of critical water resource and specifically infrastructure issues in the region. The proposal is to organize a webinar for the COG Board in early 2013 to help raise awareness of these issues.

Ms. Spano will briefly review efforts to-date to quantify and highlight regional infrastructure issues, and note some of the key issues that have been identified.

Feedback: WRTC members will be asked to identify the critical issues and perspectives that they believe should be addressed by the panel and raised to the CBPC.

V. **Chesapeake Bay Program Updates** - Tanya Spano & Karl Berger (11:35 - 11:55 a.m.)

Ms. Spano and Mr. Berger will brief members on several recent Bay Program meetings, including: the Bay Partners' meeting on October 22nd and 23rd to plan the Bay TMDL Mid-point Assessment process; and COG's Bay TMDL modeling workshop held on October 4th.

Feedback: WRTC members will be asked to provide input on the preliminary plans for the Mid-point Assessment, and proposed follow-up on the modeling workshop.

VI. WRTC Meeting Schedule for 2013 - Tanya Spano
(11:55 a.m. - 12:00 noon)

Ms. Spano will discuss the need to adjust some of our bi-monthly meetings in 2013 to avoid conflicts with the AWSC meetings for a few of our members.

Proposed 2013 WRTC Meeting Schedule

- January 10th (Thursday)
- March 7th (Thursday)
- May 3rd (Friday) - Approximately one week earlier than normal
- July 9th (Thursday)
- September 6th (Friday) - Approximately one week earlier than normal
- November 7th (Thursday)

Feedback: WRTC members will be asked to agree on the proposed schedule and note any major scheduling conflicts.

VII. Adjourn/Lunch

Upcoming WRTC & CBPC Meetings & Events

- November 16th - CBPC Meeting (Board Room, 10 am - 12:30 pm)