

COG staff recommended prioritiesMajor Priorities

- 1. Educate government officials and the public about the Bay TMDL and the challenges that local governments face in meeting regulatory requirements for wastewater and stormwater**
 - Review of new and updated COG wastewater fact sheet(s) – including ratepayer costs (2nd quarter)
 - Review of new COG stormwater fact sheet – including ratepayer costs (2nd quarter)
 - Combined committee tour/meeting with state, EPA officials to focus on cost, accomplishments, future technology (e.g. water reuse) – potentially Noman Cole WWTP (2nd quarter)
 - Other outreach opportunities

- 2. Advocate for Federal and State policies that recognize the roles and constraints of local government in meeting the Chesapeake Bay restoration goals and that strive to create a true partnership among all levels of government.**
 - Comment on states' draft Phase II WIPs (1st quarter)
 - Comment on states' FY12-13 milestones (1st quarter)
 - Comment on revisions to EPA's Bay TMDL (2nd quarter – if appropriate)

- 3. Advocate for Federal and State cost-share funding to assist local governments in meeting their wastewater and urban stormwater source reduction responsibilities under the Bay TMDL**
 - Work with WRTC to document costs of ENR funding for WWTPs, urban stormwater retrofits (input into wastewater, stormwater fact sheets); note funding gaps
 - Work with MACO, MML, VACO, VML to share this information with other local governments in the watershed
 - Provide comment, as appropriate, on federal and state legislation that would provide funds to local governments (see next task)

- 4. Track and comment upon federal and state legislative and regulatory initiatives regarding Bay restoration.**
 - Maryland Bay Restoration Fund proposals (1st quarter)
 - Virginia WQIF funding efforts (1st quarter)
 - Chesapeake Bay provisions of National Stormwater Rule (3rd quarter)
 - Chesapeake Bay TMDL cost/benefit studies (4th quarter)

Other Priorities**Coordinate with other COG committees on environmental initiatives**

- Monitor progress toward water quality-related goals, targets and indicators under the Region Forward initiative

- Work with Climate, Energy and Environmental Policy Committee to integrate water quality and climate change initiatives (e.g. tree canopy preservation, bag legislation)
- Coordinate with Anacostia restoration committees on outreach and education, stormwater progress and other initiatives

Advocate for adequate funding for water/wastewater/stormwater infrastructure

- Work with utilities, PIOs to craft regional message on water quality infrastructure
- Support appropriate federal and state legislative initiatives

Actions to Support Priorities

- **COG Board issue briefs, presentations as appropriate**
- **Committee meetings** (6 per year)
- **Committee tour** (details to be determined)
- **State legislation** (COG advocacy events in Annapolis and Richmond)
- **Individual presentations/appearances by members**