



## COG WATER RESOURCES PROGRAM GENERAL WATER RESOURCES UPDATES (as of 10/29/18)

Updates on work supported by COG’s RWQM Work Program and other water-related activities supported by COG’s Department of Environmental Programs.

Outreach	COG Contact
<p><b><u>Third Annual Festival del Río Anacostia a Success</u></b>                      The 3<sup>rd</sup> Festival del Rio Anacostia was held at Bladensburg Waterfront Park, Maryland on October 13th. Approximately five hundred participates enjoyed bilingual cultural activities, thirty-three environmental-related interactive exhibit tables by the Anacostia jurisdictions, NGOs, and others. Activities included fishing, fish preparation/consumption information, boat rides, and nature walks, and a trash cleanup. The coordinating committee specifically engaged local school groups and others to volunteer to help translated at each exhibit. In addition to working with the Festival Planning Committee, coordinating funding, exhibitors and the venue, COG hosted a table with live fish from the Anacostia. <b>See the Festival photos here:</b> <a href="https://photos.app.goo.gl/mjAnxfoYdFjr1xb36">https://photos.app.goo.gl/mjAnxfoYdFjr1xb36</a></p>	<p>Heidi Bonnaffon (202) 962-3216 <a href="mailto:hbonnaffon@mwkog.org">hbonnaffon@mwkog.org</a></p>
Water Quality Misc.	COG Contact
<p><b><u>President Passed America’s Water Infrastructure Act (S. 3021)</u></b>                      On October 23<sup>rd</sup>, the President signed the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA). This bill received wide bi-partisan support and provides numerous supports for water infrastructure, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A two-year extension to the EPA’s Water Infrastructure and Finance Act (WIFIA), and it authorizes EPA to receive \$50 million each year for its loan program (expected to stimulate at least \$5 billion in water infrastructure projects)</li> <li>• Drinking water infrastructure funding, including reauthorization of the Drinking Water SRF for \$4.4 billion.</li> <li>• Creation of a stormwater financing federal taskforce to study public and private funding sources for stormwater infrastructure.</li> <li>• Provision of grants to states and municipal agencies for stormwater infrastructure, SSO, and CSO projects</li> <li>• Grants of \$1 million per year in 2019 and 2020, for water workforce job training</li> </ul> <p>For more details visit:  <a href="https://www.epw.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/addressing-americas-infrastructure-needs">https://www.epw.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/addressing-americas-infrastructure-needs</a>  <a href="https://www.wef.org/advocacy/legislative-and-regulatory-affairs/TWIW/TWIW-articles/2018/congress-passes-americas-water-infrastructure-act/">https://www.wef.org/advocacy/legislative-and-regulatory-affairs/TWIW/TWIW-articles/2018/congress-passes-americas-water-infrastructure-act/</a></p>	<p>Heidi Bonnaffon (202) 962-3216 <a href="mailto:hbonnaffon@mwkog.org">hbonnaffon@mwkog.org</a></p>
<p><b><u>New Report. Breaking Barriers: Priority Actions for Advancing Water Quality Trading</u></b>                      The National Network on Water Quality Trading just released its October 2018 report which assesses barriers to creating new water quality trading programs and to trading within existing markets. Some of barriers they identified include lack of</p>	<p>Heidi Bonnaffon (202) 962-3216 <a href="mailto:hbonnaffon@mwkog.org">hbonnaffon@mwkog.org</a></p>

empirical data about existing programs; high transaction costs; and a regulatory environment that penalizes non-compliance, creating risk adverse buyers.

The report lays out a 7-point plan to address these barriers:

1. Simplify water quality trading program design and application.
2. Ensure state regulatory agencies have adequate capacity and resources to engage on water quality trading.
3. Clarify each administration's and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's position on water quality trading.
4. Actively address real and perceived risks for buyers.
5. Identify and address risks of litigation.
6. Create guidance on trading for stormwater.
7. Build stakeholder relationships and trust.

Visit the "National Network" website to access and download the free report:  
<http://nnwqt.org/action/>

## Wastewater

## COG Contact

### **BPSA/RWFFM Wastewater Flow Projection Methodology Assessment**

COG staff is continuing its work with AECOM for updating its BPSA/RWFFM Flow Projection Methodology Assessment. A scope of work for this project is currently being refined, and the study is estimated to completed be in March of 2019.

### **RWFFM Round 9.1 Flow Projections**

The COG Board recently approved Round 9.1 projections on October 10<sup>th</sup>. Round 9.1, like its previous Round 9.0 data, continues with the 2045 planning horizon and reflects demographic updates from certain COG members. The results of the Round 9.1 data were presented to the Blue Plains Technical Subcommittee members at the October 25<sup>th</sup> meeting.

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## Stormwater

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### **City of Alexandria's Stormwater Management Program Receives National Recognition**

The City of Alexandria's Phase II Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) and Stormwater Management program was recently recognized by the Water Environment Federation's (WEF) [National Municipal Stormwater and Green Infrastructure Awards Program](#) as winner of the "Overall Highest Score" and "Innovation" for Phase II MS4 permittees for the 2018 awards. The City's program was also recognized as a "Gold Level in Program Management."

This awards program is led by WEF through a cooperative agreement with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to recognize high-performing MS4 programs that seek innovative ways to meet and exceed regulatory requirements through

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technically effective and financially efficient approaches. The City was recognized for this achievement at the WEF Stormwater Congress Luncheon held in New Orleans, LA.

Visit the Water Environment Federation's [website](#) to learn more about the National Municipal Stormwater and Green Infrastructure Awards Program. For more information about the City's Stormwater Management Program, visit the City's [Stormwater Management](#) page.

**Drinking Water**

**Water Chemical Procurement**

COG opened proposals received for Request for Proposal (RFP) #18-008 (Water and Wastewater Treatment Chemicals) on Friday, July 20, 2018. COG received offers for 57 of the 69 chemicals for which COG solicited. An award announcement went out on September 14<sup>th</sup>. The total potential spend, based on the bid documents, is ~\$24M.

**Preparing for Emerging Cyber Weapons**

On October 3<sup>rd</sup>, COG co-hosted a seminar and webinar that was attended by more than 300 people about the emerging threat of cyberweapons to industrial networks and other systems. The Stuxnet attack in 2010 and other attacks since have demonstrated a shift in cyberattacks toward weapons that are capable, by design or intent, of causing physical injury to people or objects – not just disrupting networks. Case studies were used to provide examples of specific tactics, techniques, and procedures that are being used to threaten industrial networks and control systems.

**2018 Potomac Spill Functional Exercise**

On October 4<sup>th</sup>, there was a regional Potomac River Spill Functional Exercise (FE) at Loudoun Water that was sponsored by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) – Region 3 and developed through a partnership with the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE), Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (MWCOC), CSX, as well as National Capital Region drinking water utilities and response partners. The purpose of the exercise was to test emergency response capabilities, specifically, but not limited to: communications, resource management, documentation and mutual aid and assistance during an incident affecting the water sector, focusing on public water systems that utilize the Potomac River. Players included U.S. EPA Region 3, MDE, Virginia Department of Health (VDH), state, county and local emergency management agencies, public water systems, as well as other water sector stakeholders and response partners.

**Potomac River Basin Drinking Water Source Protection Partnership Annual Meeting**

On November 7<sup>th</sup>, regional drinking water partners will participate in the DWSPSPP annual meeting, which will feature a presentation on endocrine disrupting chemicals by Erik Rosenfeldt of Hazen and Sawyer and a

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presentation on PFAS by Rick Rogers of EPA Region 3. Following the presentations, there will be a field trip to Maple Dell Farm in Woodbine, MD, where WSSC staff will give a tour of a stream restoration project.

**Northern Virginia Hospital Alliance (NVHA) Tabletop Exercise**

On Tuesday, November 13, COG staff will join regional partners in a tabletop exercise focusing on the effect of water disruption on End Stage Renal Disease (ESRD) facilities, commonly known as dialysis facilities. For individuals with kidney failure, dialysis must be performed three to four times per week for four hours at a time in order to keep the body functioning. The exercise will provide an opportunity to apply a systematic focus on ongoing chronic care needs during a water outage or other disaster.

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**Climate, Energy, and Sustainability – Water Related**

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**Northern Virginia Regional Commission – coordinated activities**

The Northern Virginia Regional Commission Climate Resiliency Team is launching a study in coordination with George Mason as part of the Thriving Earth Exchange program to examine the impacts of future precipitation patterns on stormwater in northern Virginia. To serve on the coordinating committee or for more information, contact Corey Miles [cmiles@novaregion.org](mailto:cmiles@novaregion.org).

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NVRC held a webinar on September 21 that included a presentation from George Mason scientist Jim Kinton on the latest climate change findings in Virginia, and a sneak preview of the new climate data portal that NOAA Mid-Atlantic Regional Integrated Sciences Assessment (MARISA) team developed. Stakeholders will be invited to comment on the portal when it is published this fall. Presentations were sent to Resiliency Team members, but are available on request – contact Amanda Campbell [acampbell@mwkog.org](mailto:acampbell@mwkog.org).

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This year's regional Climate & Energy Leadership Awards winners were announced at the October COG Board meeting. Winners were : Government category: Prince George's County; NGO category: GRID Alternatives; Educational category: Georgetown Climate Center. Videos and project details are available at [This Link](#).

**COG WATER RESOURCES PROGRAM  
GENERAL WATER RESOURCES UPDATES (11/09/18)**

Nov. 9<sup>th</sup> – WRTC Meeting  
Nov 14<sup>th</sup> – CBPC Chair Annual Briefing to COG Board  
Nov. 16<sup>th</sup> – CBPC Meeting  
Jan. 11<sup>th</sup> – WRTC Meeting  
Jan. 18<sup>th</sup> – CBPC Meeting  
Feb. 8<sup>th</sup> – CBPC Briefing for New Members  
March 11<sup>th</sup> – CBPC Meeting

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