

WRTC Meeting (1/12/12)

REGIONAL WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT FY 2012 PROGRAM AREA UPDATES

WASTEWATER & BIOSOLIDS

Sustainable Wastewater Practices Workshop

COG staff is working with wastewater experts in the region to organize a workshop on sustainable wastewater practices. The workshop is sponsored by the Chesapeake Bay Program's Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee (STAC), and it titled "*Real World Examples: Cost- Effective and Sustainable Wastewater Treatment Practices and Other Options to Address Nutrient Reduction Requirements.*" The workshop will be held on **Wednesday, May 16, 2012**, at the Westin Hotel in Richmond, Virginia. The workshop will be integrated with and follow the VWEA education conference scheduled for the following day (May 17th) at the same location.

COG staff contact: Tanya Spano (202) 962-3776 / tspano@mwkog.org

STORMWATER

EPA has yet to issue its proposed National Stormwater Rule for public comment. The rule is likely to contain specific conditions for the Chesapeake Bay watershed. The agency has indicated that it wants to finalize a new rule by November 2012.

COG staff contact: Karl Berger (202) 962-3350 / kberger@mwkog.org

WATER RESOURCES GENERAL

Climate Change - Water Sector

COG has a new climate change adaptation webpage that has the presentations from the NOAA adaptation workshop and the water sector stakeholder meeting, and will be updated periodically with additional information.

<http://www.mwkog.org/environment/climate/adaptation.asp>

Also, the draft EPA Climate Adaptation Guidebook has been released and EPA anticipates the final will be out in February, at which point there will be another comment period.

COG staff contact: Maia Davis (202) 962-3227 / mdavis@mwkog.org

Water Quality

Chesapeake Bay Trust Grant Opportunities

The Chesapeake Bay Trust announces four grant opportunities with due dates in February and March 2012. Please visit www.cbtrust.org and click on grants for additional information and the full

Requests for Proposals, and visit www.cbtrustgrants.org to apply.

Pioneer Grant Program: The Trust seeks projects to advance innovative ideas to improve water quality in the Chesapeake Bay. Ideas in all areas - agriculture, stormwater, septic, and more - will be considered. Projects can focus on development of new ideas, evaluation of best management practices, demonstration-scale evaluation of new ideas, economic analysis of new ideas, or delivery of new ideas to users. Applicants must submit proposals using our Online Grants System by 5:00pm on **March 16, 2012**. Awards will generally be less than \$100,000.

Living Shoreline Grant Program: Applicants must submit pre-proposals using our Online Grants System by 5:00pm on **February 17, 2012**. Proposals will be accepted for Maryland, Virginia, and Washington D.C. projects. Both design and implementation requests will be considered. Projects will generally be less than \$100,000.

Watershed Assistance Grant Program: Applicants must submit proposals using our Online Grants System by 5:00pm on **March 9, 2012**. Projects will generally be less than \$35,000.

Green Streets Green Jobs Grant Program: Applicants must submit proposals using our Online Grants System by 5:00pm on **March 9, 2012**. Proposals will be accepted for projects in the MD, VA, PA, DE, and DC portions of the Chesapeake Bay watershed.

Contact for more information: Jana Davis (410) 974-2941 x101/ jdavis@cbtrust.org

State Draft Phase II WIPs

The states submitted their draft Phase II WIPs to EPA on December 15th. To access the state draft Phase II WIPs, and links to the local plans on the Maryland side, please visit the following webpage: <http://www.epa.gov/reg3wapd/tmdl/ChesapeakeBay/>

LEGISLATIVE UPDATES

Highlights of Preliminary Legislative Investigations Include:

Maryland

Expect legislation on proposals to increase current Bay Restoration Fund and possibly Bay Trust Fund to close gap in funding for ENR upgrades and potentially to provide cost share funding for stormwater retrofits. Expect return of legislation on requiring local government to establish a stormwater utility.

The Montgomery County Bag Bill, similar to the District of Columbia's, went into effect on January 1, 2012. It is a tool to meet the County's MS4 permit requirements concerning litter in the Anacostia and Potomac Rivers, and the revenue will go into the Water Quality Protection Charge fund. For more information: <http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/bag>

Virginia

Expect legislation to add \$300 million in bond revenue to the WQIF to make up for ENR shortfalls. Expect legislation (HB 176, SB 77) to revise the state's Nutrient Credit Exchange Program to allow expanded trading opportunities among wastewater, stormwater, agricultural and septic sectors.

COG staff contact: Karl Berger 202/962-3350 / kberger@mwkog.org

UPCOMING LOCAL EVENTS

January 20, 2012 - Chesapeake Bay Policy Committee Meeting

March 8, 2012 - WRTC Meeting & Work Sessions

March 9, 2012 - Chesapeake Bay Policy Committee Meeting (date to be confirmed)