



GENERAL UPDATES & UPCOMING EVENTS

CHESAPEAKE BAY PROGRAM

The Chesapeake Bay Program is incorporating both local land use information and data from high resolution imagery in order to update the land use for the Phase 6 Watershed Model - which is currently under development. Local governments in the watershed will have the opportunity to review how the Bay Program has used this data beginning this fall. COG staff will be working with our members as part of that review process as part of the ongoing Bay TMDL 2017 Mid-Point Assessment work.

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

WATER RESOURCES

In support of the COG Board and CBPC's 2015 priorities, COG staff are working to address various aspects of workforce development for the region's water resource sector. For wastewater and drinking water functions the primary focus is expected to be on developing a pilot program to address core jobs skills, including potentially working with other public utility sectors on common skills/training opportunities. And the primary focus for stormwater functions will be to help develop accreditation to support local stormwater/green infrastructure initiatives.

COG staff expects to be working with the CBPC, COG's members, as well as other organizations over the next few years to address these critical water sector needs. COG's support for stormwater initiatives will also be supported by work being done via the Aspen Institute partnership (see below).

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

STORMWATER

Aspen Institute - Communities That Work Partnership

The week of September 14, the core staff involved in the Aspen Institute's "Communities That Work Partnership" will have had their first training session. Here is the link to a [two-page work plan](#) for the program.

COG Contact: Sophie Mintier (202) 962-3753 / smintier@mwkog.org

Stormwater Contracting Workshop

COG will host a stormwater contracting workshop on September 21st for local government stormwater staff to explore how jurisdictions can expand their delivery of capital projects to meet permit requirements. The interactive workshop will focus on both internal staff structure/contract management approaches, as well as arrangements and policies for hiring consultants and other contractors.

COG Contact: Karl Berger (202) 962-3350 / kberger@mwcoq.org

DRINKING WATER

Water Supply and Drought Report

The Regional Drought and Water Supply Status and Outlook for September 2015 is now available to download at your convenience - click [HERE](#) for a PDF version of the report.

A few highlights from the report are noted below:

- On August 31, 2015 Potomac River flow at the USGS Streamflow gage at Point of Rocks dropped below the low-flow threshold of 2,000 cfs. When this occurs, the [CO-OP](#) begins conducting daily monitoring and reporting of Potomac flows and withdrawals. Daily monitoring continues as of September 9th - the estimated flow at Point of Rocks was 1,580 cfs.
- The [U.S. Drought Monitor](#) released on September 3, 2015 indicates that the Potomac River Basin is experiencing abnormal dryness (D0) in Maryland and Northern Virginia
- There is a below [normal probability of releases](#) from the Washington Metropolitan area's back-up water supply reservoirs for the 2015 summer and fall seasons
- Stream flows measured at [Point of Rocks](#) and [Little Falls](#) are below median levels (as of September 9, 2015)
- Most of the [groundwater monitoring wells](#) in the region report normal levels although low levels appear in the western portion
- [Precipitation levels](#) in the Potomac River Basin were below normal in August by 1.9 inches

Please visit [COG's Water Supply and Drought website](#) for additional information.

COG Contact: Christine Howard (202) 962-3366 / choward@mwcoq.org

ICPRB Water Supply Reliability Report

The Interstate Commission on the Potomac River Basin (ICPRB) released findings from the 2015 Washington Metropolitan Area Water Supply Reliability Study: Demand and Resource Availability Forecast for the Year 2040. The study predicts that water supply demands for Metropolitan Washington will likely be met through the year 2035. The

report notes potential stress on the region's water supply by the year 2040. Mitigation strategies, some of which are already being planned and developed, include developing additional water supply resources. The current findings are comparable to those in the 2010 study.

The Water Supply Reliability Study is performed every 5 years by ICPRB's Section for Water Supply Operations on the Potomac River, also known as CO-OP. The ICPRB CO-OP works with water suppliers in the area to improve resiliency and coordinate during drought conditions. Note that COG's Cooperative Forecast data is utilized in developing ICPRB's projections, similar to what is done by COG to develop regional wastewater flow projections for the COG region.

Additional information and the full report can be found on ICPRB's [website](#).

COG Contact: Lisa Ragain (202) 962-3357 / lragain@mwcoq.org

WATER QUALITY

Environmentally Friendly Road Salts

Last week, COG awarded a Contract for the Environmentally and Pet-Friendly De-icing product through COG's Cooperative Purchasing program. And on September 15th, COG staff participated in the Metropolitan Area Transportation Operations Coordination (MATOC) Severe Weather Coordination Working Group Meeting. At the meeting, COG staff provided updates on the de-icing contract and noted the impact of road salts on water quality and aquatic habitat.

COG staff plans to explore the use of environmentally friendly road salt products and ways to reduce the amount of road salts to improve local water quality.

COG Contacts: Jalene Duressa 202-962-3241/ jduressa@mwcoq.org (contract questions)
Lana Sindler 202-962-3347/ lsindler@mwcoq.org (water quality)

CLIMATE & ENERGY

Chesapeake Bay Program Climate Resiliency Workgroup

COG staff is participating in the Chesapeake Bay Program Climate Adaptation Workgroup. Meetings were held in December, January, May and June. The 2014 Chesapeake Bay Agreement identified climate resiliency as a new goal. The workgroup is tasked with identifying how climate changes may influence the ability of various management strategies to restore the Chesapeake Bay. COG is participating in the development of the biennial work plan which will be available for public comment in October.

COG Contacts: Tanya Spano (202) 962-3776 / tspano@mwcoq.org

Amanda Campbell (202) 962-3324 / acampbell@mwcoq.org

Multi-Sector Working Group

The working group, with consultant support, is examining implementable local, regional, and state greenhouse gas reduction strategies in four sectors - Energy, Transportation, Land Use, and Built Environment. Energy consumption derived from water use is addressed under 'Built Environment'. COG policy committees are being briefed on the results of the greenhouse gas analysis this fall. The August Draft Technical Report (still undergoing revisions) is available [here](#), and most recent project Presentation is available [here](#). A final report is expected in January, 2016. An Action Plan will be developed in 2016. COG's Multi-Sector Working Group will meet on October 27 to explore how to apply the analysis going forward.

COG Contacts: Steve Walz (202) 962-3205 / swalz@mwcoq.org
Amanda Campbell (202) 962-3324 / acampbell@mwcoq.org

Air and Climate Public Advisory Committee (ACPAC)

ACPAC served as the judging panel for the 2015 Climate and Energy Leadership Awards. Winners will be announced at COG's October 14, 2015 Board meeting. ACPAC is hosting an Environmental Justice roundtable at the September 21, 2015 meeting.

COG Contact: Maia Davis (202) 962-3227 / mdavis@mwcoq.org

District of Columbia Climate Projections and Scenario Development

The District of Columbia issued a report that identifies the likely impacts of climate change on the District. It is the first step in a multi-phase project led by the District of Columbia Department of Energy & Environment (formerly DDOE) to develop a citywide climate adaptation and preparedness plan for the District. The report is found here: <http://doee.dc.gov/node/1110407>

UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS

October 5th [Clean Tech Leadership Forum](#) MWCOG
October 27th - Multi-Sector Working Group Meeting
October 28th - CEEPC Meeting
October 29th - WRTC Meeting (to be confirmed)