

METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
777 N. Capitol St., N.E.
Washington, DC 20002

PRINCIPLES FOR REGIONAL WATER QUALITY POLICIES AND PROGRAMS

Holistic Requirements – Programs and policies to restore and protect the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries, whether regulatory or not, shall reflect a holistic, multi-sector analysis of environmental benefits and costs, as well as technical feasibility, before being established.

Equitable Responsibility – Programs and policies to restore and protect the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries shall strive for equity and cost-effectiveness in allocating responsibilities among regions, counties and municipalities and among the different sources of pollution.

Sound Science – Programs and policies to restore and protect the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries shall rely on a sound scientific foundation and shall be revised as needed, reflecting advances in that foundation.

Communication and Voice – Programs and policies to restore and protect the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries, whether regulatory or not, should be developed through a cooperative process among stakeholders including local governments and wastewater utilities. Given their implementation responsibilities, local governments and wastewater utilities shall be engaged at the earliest stages of these development processes.

Implementation Flexibility and Innovation – Programs and policies to restore and protect the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries, whether regulatory or not, should be structured so that local governments, wastewater utilities, and other organizations have the flexibility to use a wide range of technologies, practices and innovative implementation approaches to meet environmental objectives.