



COG WATER RESOURCES PROGRAM UPDATES

General Water Resources:

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

Water Quality

COG Hosts Workshop on Using Monitoring Results in TMDL Development

COG hosted a workshop on Nov. 16 for local government and utility staff to explore with state regulatory agency staff how new monitoring approaches could lead to more effective new or revised TMDLs for local waters.

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Potomac River Oil Spill Exercise

Colonial Pipeline Company partnered with EPA and COG to sponsor a Potomac River oil spill tabletop exercise on June 3rd. This exercise provided an opportunity for local, state, and federal agencies to explore a coordinated response to a pipeline failure scenario that would result in a release of diesel fuel into the Potomac River above the water intakes for the COG region. The exercise was designed to build relationships between responding and coordinating agencies, and to provide a forum to discuss the integration of plans that guide environmental response and recovery operations. Exercise objectives focused on operational coordination, situational assessment, environmental response/health and safety, on-scene security and protection, critical transportation, water quality monitoring, public messaging, and building a common operating picture for all involved entities.

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Water Infrastructure

Water Infrastructure Survey

COG staff will be transmitting surveys to COG's local governments and water utilities to help update and expand on the region's water infrastructure database. This data will be used to help ensure that accurate and up-to-date data for the region's wastewater, drinking water and stormwater systems and facilities is available to support various COG factsheets, reports and in some cases to ensure that CBP modeling data for the region is accurate.

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National Infrastructure Advisory Council (NIAC) Water Resilience Study

The NIAC is conducting a study of the U.S. Water and Wastewater Systems Sector to identify important resilience issues and opportunities to address them. This study seeks to identify how the Water Sector can become more resilient and recommend steps the federal government can take to help the Water Sector accomplish its resilience goals. COG, along with Loudoun Water and DC Water, are participating as members of the Study Group.

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The counsel has asked the Working Group to accomplish a series of tasks, which include implementing best practices, addressing pivotal water sector resilience issues and gaps, and proposing how the Federal Govt can assist towards resiliency goals. The Study Group will deliver a summary report—targeting delivery in March 2016—to the NIAC Working Group.

National Capital Region (NCR) Electric Power and Water Dependency Analysis

COG and our regional water utilities have partnered with the Department of Homeland Security, Office of Cyber and Infrastructure Analysis to investigate electric power contingencies with the largest impact on water delivery (i.e., potable water system supply, treatment and distribution). The approach uses a variety of modeling tools along with interviews of subject matter experts to look at electric power generation and transmission, potential substation outages, load shedding, and potential impacts on water treatment facilities, pipelines, valves, reservoirs,

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<p>tanks, and pumps. An initial assessment has been completed for DC Water; with additional assessments as resources allow.</p>	
Wastewater	
<p><u>RWFFM & WWTP Data</u> COG is working to update the Regional Wastewater Flow Forecast Model (RWFFM) to generate new flow projections for COG’s WWTPs, based on the COG’s recently approved Round 8.4 demographic data trends. COG is working to send out a survey to update/verify the historical wastewater data for the region. This will not only help provide accurate and up-to-date data for various COG factsheets and other water infrastructure summaries; but the data will also ensure that the inputs to the CBP’s models is accurate. This wastewater data also aided into gathering the water-related emissions and other findings for COG’s GHG inventory project.</p>	<p>Tanya Spano (202) 962-3776 tspano@mwkog.org</p> <p>Nasser Ameen (202) 962-3394 nameen@mwkog.org</p>
Stormwater	
<p><u>Stormwater Contracting Workshop</u> COG hosted a stormwater contracting workshop on Sept. 21st for local government stormwater staff to explore how jurisdictions can expand their delivery of capital projects to meet permit requirements. Participants expressed interest in pursuing several ideas for cooperative stormwater-related procurement through COG. COG staff is currently canvassing members to gauge their interest in this area.</p>	<p>Karl Berger (202) 962-3350 kberger@mwkog.org</p>
Water & Energy	
<p><u>Multi-Sector Working Group</u> Previously, the working group, with consultant support, analyzed greenhouse gas reduction strategies in four sectors – Energy, Transportation, Land Use, and Built Environment (strategies addressing water/wastewater treatment and infrastructure were included under the ‘Built Environment’ sector). At its October meeting, the COG Board asked COG to form a policy-level workgroup to form a list of the ‘consensus’ strategies that can be recommended for region-wide implementation. These consensus recommendations will be included in the final report, expected in January, 2016. An Action Plan will be developed in 2016. The Interim Summary Report and other materials are posted here: http://www.mwkog.org/committee/committee/documents.asp?COMMITTEE_ID=285</p> <p><u>Climate & Energy Progress Report</u> This years’ Climate & Energy Progress Report focuses on case studies of progress throughout the region in reducing greenhouse gas emissions, increasing renewable energy, net zero energy, waste, and vehicles, and in clean technology and community engagement. The final report is found here: http://www.mwkog.org/uploads/committee-documents/aVxfWFhb20151104091043.pdf</p>	<p>Steve Walz (202) 962-3205 swalz@mwkog.org</p> <p>Amanda Campbell (202) 962 3324 acampbell@mwkog.org</p> <p>Maia Davis (202) 962 3227 mdavis@mwkog.org</p>
Water & Climate	
<p><u>DC Climate Projections and Scenario Development</u> 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</p>	<p>Amanda Campbell (202) 962 3324 acampbell@mwkog.org</p> <p>Amanda Campbell (202) 962 3324</p>

COG Region Greenhouse Gas Inventory - Key Findings

COG staff conducted regional greenhouse gas inventories for 2005 and 2012 to determine the region's baseline emissions and whether it was able to meet the first emissions target to reduce emissions by 10% below baseline projections by 2012. The results indicated that the region was able to achieve its first emissions target, as well as reduce per capita and overall emissions despite population growth. Wastewater processes only accounted for 0.1% of total emissions; however, this number does not include the emissions from electricity and fuel use associated with wastewater treatment or pumping. Quantifying those contributions and reduction efforts, as well as those of drinking water facilities and systems will be worked on over the coming year.

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Drinking Water

Water Supply and Drought Report

The Regional Drought and Water Supply Status and Outlook for October 2015 is available to download at your convenience – click [HERE](#) for a PDF version of the report. Please note that this is the last report for the year (unless conditions change and drought enters our region). Our next Regional Drought and Water Supply Status and Outlook will be issued in April 2016.

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

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 the COG region 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.

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

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.

Potomac River Watershed Source Water Assessment and Data System Tool

COG and our regional water utilities have contracted with Corona Environmental Consulting to conduct a vulnerability assessment for the NCR drinking water utilities. This assessment will identify potential sources of contamination (PSCs) that could pose an acute risk to drinking water quality if the contaminants at a site were released into a nearby water body. Available GIS data are being integrated into an online, open-source GIS tool (WaterSuite) and will be available by May 2016 for the entire upstream Potomac River drainage area. When completed, utilities in the COG region will have an online decision support system that combines data from federal, state, local and private sources with web-based tools for data visualization, analysis, and reporting.

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Additional Items

Congratulations to Rockville for their Sustainable Maryland Certification

The University of Maryland Environmental Finance Center recertified Rockville as one of twelve localities to receive a Sustainable Maryland Certification for their suite of sustainability efforts. To learn more about the program and to see their profile, [click here](#).

Upcoming Meetings and Events

Fall (date TBD) – PCBs & Permitting Issues Work Session (proposed)

January 15th – CBPC Meeting

Winter (date TBD) – WRTC Technical Work Session (proposed)