**General updates – SUPPLemental**

(as of 7/11/12)

**DRINKING WATER/ DRAFT MANAGEMENT**

The Regional Drought and Water Supply Status and Outlook was issued in July 2012.   Here are the key points:

* The U.S. Drought Monitor released on July 5th  indicates the Potomac River Basin is either abnormally (D0) or moderately (D1) dry
* There is  an estimated 24% chance of releases from the Washington Metropolitan area’s back-up water supply reservoirs for the 2012 summer and fall seasons
* Approximately 95% of Metropolitan Washington residents obtain their water from the Potomac River system.  The rest of the region obtains its water from smaller reservoirs or groundwater sources.
* Even though it has been hot and dry lately, there currently is an adequate supply of water in the Potomac River and back-up reservoirs:
  1. Water utilities in the region all report normal operations.
  2. Reservoirs are full or nearly full.
  3. Water supply will be adequate throughout this year.
* Streamflows measured at Point of Rocks and Little Falls are below median levels and have been steadily declining
* Most of the groundwater monitoring wells report normal to low levels
* Precipitation levels in the Basin were below normal in June by 0.7 inches

Note that COG staff will continue to monitor conditions throughout the month and to coordinate a regional message on actions during the summer. Please visit  [COG’s water supply and drought monitoring](http://www.mwcog.org/environment/water/watersupply1.asp) website for updates.

**COG staff contact:** Christine Howard (202) 962-3366 / [choward@mwcog.org](mailto:choward@mwcog.org)

**WATER RESOURCES GENERAL**

**Community Engagement Campaign Updates**

1. By the end of August, COG is discontinuing the lawn & garden blog, in order to focus the budget on priorities of tap water promotion and Do Not Flush messaging.
2. We will be focusing this year’s campaign on three elements:
3. Wise Water Use-continuation of making materials such as Wayne Water Drop, and the Landscaping Guide available to members for education and outreach about water conservation and source water protection. Drought messaging as needed.
4. TapIt –a program that promotes tap water by recruiting business partners who will allow the public to fill up their water bottles in their establishments. Ads will be timed around summer County fairs and festivals, and events such as marathons and Bike to Work Day.
5. Do Not Flush-FOG, rags, and pharmaceuticals. Ads will be timed around the holidays for FOG and around DEA take backs for the pharmaceuticals.

The exact format of ads is to-be-determined, but COG staff is expecting to do a combination of movie theatre ads, ads on the sides of buses/Metro system ads, cable TV, and perhaps some banner and YouTube ads, using content already produced by members and affiliates (AWWA, EPA, WEF, etc.).

**COG staff contact:** Heidi Bonnaffon 202/962-3216/ [hbonnaffon@mwcog.org](mailto:hbonnaffon@mwcog.org)