

**Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments  
Regional Monitoring Subcommittee Meeting**

Monday, June 8, 2009, 10:00 am - 2:00 pm

Place: COG, 1st Floor, Training Center

**10:00 – 10:10**

**Introductions**

**Tom Broderick, Chair**

Loudoun Water

**10:10 – 10:45**

**'Rebalancing' the Chesapeake Bay Monitoring Program**

**Carlton Haywood, Director of Program Operations**

**Interstate Commission of the Potomac River Basin**

Regional experts are in the process of reviewing the Chesapeake Bay Monitoring Program and as a result the focus may lead to increased monitoring in the upper Potomac Basin. Carlton will discuss these changes and the Executive Order issued by President Obama to clean up the Chesapeake Bay.

Action: Discuss how these changes could impact local monitoring programs in our region.

**10:45 – 11:45**

**Assessing the Consequences in Land Use Changes in the Upper Potomac**

**Dr. Robert Gardner, Director of the Appalachian Laboratory**

**University of Maryland Center of Environmental Science**

The effects of unrestricted landscape development within the Potomac River Basin have resulted in rapidly increasing nutrient loads, the paving of headwater streams which hold and process nutrients and sediments, and an increase in hydrologic rates. These simultaneous changes produce threshold effects characterized by sudden releases of sediment and nutrients to the Potomac and its estuary. Dr. Gardner will discuss how effective monitoring, management and restoration require a broad-scale, interdisciplinary framework that can track landscape change and associated alteration in ecological fluxes in water, energy and materials.

Action: Discuss how unrestricted landscape development is affecting our region, and the role of monitoring.

**11:45 – 12:15**

**Lunch** Lunch will be provided for all members and their alternates.

**12:15 – 1:15**

**Green Infrastructure – What is it and how can we determine how good it really is?**

**Dr. David Sample, Associate Professor**

**Department of Biological Systems Engineering, Virginia Tech**

Green infrastructure is the interconnected network of open spaces and natural areas, such as greenways, wetlands, parks, forest preserves and native plant vegetation, that naturally manages stormwater, reduces flooding risk and improves water quality. Green infrastructure usually costs less to install and maintain when compared to traditional forms of infrastructure. Dr. Sample will discuss his current research in stormwater management and the methods used to determine the effectiveness.

Action: Discuss how local programs utilize green infrastructure in our region and the role monitoring can play in its promotion.

**1:15 – 1:30**

**Stream Water Quality as a GW2050 Metric**

**Ted Graham, COG Staff - Water Resources Program Director**

COG's Greater Washington 2050 Initiative includes a variety of indicators to reflect quality of life. For water resources, the focus will be on healthy local watersheds and the degree to which the region has met its nutrient and sediment reductions in support of the restoration of the Chesapeake Bay. Mrs. Spano will discuss the feasibility of using some variation of biologically-based measure of stream quality as a fundamental GW2050 metric.

Action: Discuss how local monitoring programs can support this measure and the feasibility of altering current monitoring programs accordingly.

**1:30 – 1:55**

**Monitoring Program Highlights**

**RMS members**

This is an opportunity for monitoring program coordinators to brief the subcommittee regarding any significant changes to their monitoring programs. Please email or bring along copies of updated reports, fact sheets, and web sites to share with the committee.

Action: Discuss these activities and provide an opportunity for members to share information and data.

**1:55– 2:00**

**Closing Remarks**

**Tom Broderick, Chair**