

CHESAPEAKE BAY AND WATER RESOURCES POLICY COMMITTEE

Meeting Summary - **DRAFT**

March 20th, 2026

LINK TO ALL MEETING PRESENTATIONS AND MATERIALS:

<https://www.mwcog.org/events/2026/3/20/chesapeake-bay-and-water-resources-policy-committee/>

1. WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS

Chair Pompei welcomed members and asked them to introduce themselves.

2. MEETING SUMMARY APPROVAL

The CBPC approved the draft summary for the January 2026 CBPC meeting.

3. 2026 LEGISLATIVE PREVIEW - FEDERAL

Wendi Wilkes, Current Strategies

Ms. Wilkes went over upcoming developments and potential legislation at the federal level in 2026, starting with updates on the Congressional Appropriations process and relevant deadlines. Next, she covered the President's Budget Request and potential cuts to EPA and water funding, WRDA, and USACE. The Potomac Interceptor was discussed, and the need for more infrastructure funding to address regional water supply. Finally, Ms. Wilkes touched on the Farm Bill and asked members to stay engaged on all of these issues as we head into a busy electoral and legislative season.

4. POTOMAC INTERCEPTOR BRIEFING

DC Water Staff

Matthew Brown, DC Water, presented on the response to the Potomac Interceptor leak in January and ongoing actions. Mr. Brown covered background on the Potomac Interceptor, the timeline of the leak, actions taken by DC Water to fix the leak, and a timeline for rehabilitation and remediation of the area. Discussion and questions following the presentation covered the influence of wipes and ways to lessen their impact, MWCOGs work on communications through the COG CEC, DC Water's communication and outreach efforts, and funding opportunities.

5. 2026 LEGISLATIVE PREVIEW - STATE

Lisa Ochsenhirt, AquaLaw

Ms. Ochsenhirt went over developments and currently proposed legislation at the state level in 2026, covering topics such as for Virginia, the WQIF and budget, wastewater, PFAS and Biosolids, PFAS monitoring, the SLAF, RGGI, a bill on trees, and legislation addressing data centers. For Maryland, Ms. Ochsenhirt covered bills on PFAS and Biosolids, PFAS phaseout, WWTPs, Stormwater and EJ, stream restoration, stormwater grates (Mason's Law), and drinking water (legionella). Discussion centered around Mason's Law and tracking/reporting requirements as applied to individual municipalities versus counties.

6. MEMBER & STAFF UPDATES

CBPC members and COG staff

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- Mr. Gupta went over the FY27 Regional Water Quality Management Work Program and Budget, which was approved by Members, the FY26 Stormwater Tax and Fee Table, and the general updates for March.
- Ms. Bolton informed members about the upcoming Boat Tour of the Potomac, and provided information on COG's Data Center Forums

7. ADJOURNMENT

The next CBPC meeting will be [Friday, May 15th, 2026](#)

PARTICIPANTS:

Jenni Pompi (**Chair**), City of Greenbelt
Amanda Zander, CTR
Andrea Lewis, Fairfax County
Brian Nolte, Fairfax County
Hal Metzler, City of Hyattsville
Jacinta Green, City of Alexandria
Jay Meashey, City of Laurel
Jessica Landman, City of Takoma Park
John Sheridan, Prince George's County
Jolene Ivey, Prince George's County Council
Kalisha Dixon, City of Bladensburg
Kishia Powell, WSSC Water
Laura Downs, City of Falls Church
Lisa Ochsenhirt, AquaLaw
M.C. Keegan-Ayer, Frederick County
Mae Stevens, Current Strategies
Maria Mackie, City of College Park
Maria Mackie, City of College Park
Matthew Brown, DC Water
Samuel Moki, Prince George's County
Schannette Grant, DC Water
Seth Charde, DC Water
Shannon Moore, Frederick County
Susan Cunningham, Arlington County
Tiffany Wright, City of Bowie

COG Staff:

Caitlin Bolton
Sushanth Gupta
Steve Bieber
Ladonna Smith
Christine Howard
Lisa Ragain
Katie Dyer