

Montgomery County - Water Quality Advisory Group Meeting

<http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/DEP/water/water-quality-advisory-group.html>

November 18, 2019 (7:00 - 8:30 pm) – DRAFT Minutes

DEP Conference Room, 255 Rockville Pike, #120, Rockville

Member and affiliation	Present		Others in attendance and affiliation
	Yes	No	
Kate Bennett, DEP	X		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ken Bawer, Watts Branch Watershed Alliance • Drew Budelis, Versar
Bob Buglass, WSSC Water	X		
Keith Brooks, Public-at-Large	X		
Philip Browne, Public-at-Large		X	
Crystal Calarusse, Public-at-Large		X	
Michael Carmel, Public-at-Large		X	
Michael McAvey, Public-at-Large	X		
Pamela Rathbone, Co-Chair, Public-at-Large		X	
Tracy Rouleau, Co-Chair, Academic/Scientific	X		
Monika Shepard, Public-at-Large		X	
Linda Silversmith, Public-at-Large	X		
Tim Stemann, Business	X		
Amy Stevens, DEP	X		
Mark Symborski, MNCPPC	X		
Allison Wright, Environmental		X	
Agenda Item			
		Major Points	
I. Introductions	The meeting was called to order at 7:10 PM.		
II. Reading and approval of the minutes.	Minutes for October were discussed, but with less than a quorum present, they were not able to be approved. Minutes will be available on the WQAG webpage.		
III. New Business	a. Update of Montgomery County General Plan – “Thrive Montgomery 2050” (Mark Symborski, Maryland - National Capital Park and Planning Commission (MNCPPC))		

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Thrive Montgomery 2050 is an update of the General Plan of Montgomery County. Thrive Montgomery 2050 is a long-range policy document. The General Plan guides policy and decisions for the county in the coming decades. It is continually revised with amendments and through local master plans, sector plans and county-wide functional plans.• The General Plan originated in 1964 with a Wedges and Corridor Plan. In 1993, there was a General Plan refinement. The last comprehensive Plan update was in 1969.• The pillars of the plan are (1) economic health, (2) community equity and (3) environmental resiliency.• Major issues include: forest loss, impervious cover, stream quality, water quality impairments, TMDLs, extreme weather, climate change, environmental justice, human health, and how to plan for a healthier county in the future.• Draft Plan is due on 9/17/20; County Council public hearing is scheduled for 6/3/21<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Public input is welcome to MNCPPC.• Discussion included members of the WQAG asking about scheduled updates of the plan and what type of quantitative analysis of plans will be included. <p>b. Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring (Bob Buglass, WSSC Water)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Under the Safe Drinking Water Act, water suppliers are required to monitor unregulated contaminants and submit the data to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). This is in addition to current regulations for more than 90 contaminants. WSSC Water is participating in the fourth round of the Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR4). The EPA determines the occurrence of these contaminants in drinking water and whether or not they need to be regulated for protection of public health.• The first round was in 2001. WSSC Water has monitored the unregulated contaminants and submitted the data to EPA. In Rounds 1 and 2, WSSC Water had no detection of the contaminants. In Rounds 3 and 4, certain contaminants were detected, but below the health reference levels.<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Unregulated contaminants include: strontium, vanadium, chromium, chlorate, and molybdenum.• In its Tap Water Database, the Environmental Working Group (EWG) found that WSSC from April 2016 to March 2019 complied with federal health-based drinking water standards for all contaminants. EWG detected the following contaminants
--	---

	<p>exceeding its guidelines in WSSC water for chromium, nitrate, nitrite and trihalomethanes.</p> <p>c. H2O Summit November 2, 2019 (Amy Stevens, Montgomery County DEP)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amy Stevens gave an overview of the H2O Summit. Issues addressed were salt applications and impacts on the environment; climate change; storm water facilities, organic lawn care and anti-litter programs. • Tracy Rouleau, Co-Chair of the WQAG received the Community Volunteer Award at the Summit from DEP Director Adam Ortiz. 	
IV. Reports of Officers, Boards, Standing Committees	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None at this time 	
V. Reports of Special Committees	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None at this time 	
VI. Special Orders	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None at this time 	
VII. Unfinished Business and General Orders.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Vacancies</u>: Linda Silversmith and Keith Brooks staying on – will be required to obtain a waiver to serve past their 2-term limit • Still a need for more members 	
VIII. Adjournment.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The meeting was adjourned at about 8:30 pm. • The <u>next meeting</u> is set for December 9. • Tracy Rouleau agreed to take notes for the December meeting. • <u>Anticipated speaker</u> for the December meeting is Adrianna Hochberg to discuss climate change. 	
Action Item Registry		
List of Priority Topics		
Rank	Subject Area	Topic
1	Stormwater	Expert panel on water quality benefits on stream restorations (Tom Schueler &/or Pamela Parker)
2	Stormwater	Chesapeake Bay TMDL, nutrient trading, and growth offsets
3	Other	Elrich and new administration priorities for water quality
4	Other	Mont. Co. Sustainability Committee report & water related issues
5	Wastewater	WSSC discharges from Potomac Filtration Plant and the ensuing litigation
6	Wastewater	Blue Plains and Seneca Treatment Plants Tours

7	Stormwater	Quantitative approaches to stormwater management (MS4, BMPs)
8	Other	Educational Outreach – Other Organizations
9	Stormwater	RainScapes Update
10	Stormwater	Local water quality. How does it fit in to the new strategies articulated last year and moving forward? All the projects that were cancelled-- what is the new strategy in those neighborhoods?
11	Parks	Lakes. Needwood, Clopper, etc. Can someone explain the water quality issues? Are the cyanobacteria issues entirely related to structure or are there pollution concerns that could be addressed to improve quality?
12	Other	Community gardening
13	Other	Continue discussions on communicating the benefits of improved water quality
14	Parks	Geese and deer management (Potential speakers from DNR)
15	Other	One DEP--what is it and how does it work?
16	Wastewater	Replacing all public urinals in Montgomery county with waterless urinals
17	Parks	MNCPPC topics
18	Stormwater	Meeting on trash
19	Stormwater	ESC plan transparency
List of Completed Topics		
Date	Subject Area	Topic
5/13/19	Wastewater	10-Year Water and Sewer Plan (Winter 2018)
10/21/19, 11/18/19	Wastewater	WSSC drinking water testing for EPA unregulated contaminants