

Montgomery County - Water Quality Advisory Group Meeting
<http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/DEP/water/water-quality-advisory-group.html>

December 14 2020 (7:00 - 8:30 pm) – DRAFT Minutes

Microsoft Teams Meeting

Staff Liaison Miranda Reid, DEP (miranda.reid@montgomerycountymd.gov)

Member and affiliation	Present		Others in attendance and affiliation
	Yes	No	
Keith Brooks, Public-at-Large	x		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cindy Pena • Ken Bawer
Bob Buglass, Public Agency, WSSC	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		
Miranda Reid, DEP	X		
Tracy Rouleau, Co-Chair, Academic/Scientific	X		
Linda Silversmith, Public-at-Large	X		
Tim Stemann, Business	X		
Amy Stevens, Public Agency, DEP	X		
Mark Symborski, Public Agency, MNCPPC	X		
Allison Wright, Environmental	X		

Agenda Item	Major Points
I. Introductions	The meeting was called to order at 7:05 PM by Pamela Rathbone.
II. Reading and approval of the minutes.	Minutes for November were approved as written.
III. New Business.	<p>1. Overview of Cyanobacteria in Montgomery County Matt Harper Natural Resources Manager with Montgomery Co. Parks discusses Cyanobacteria in Montgomery County.</p> <p>His power point is available at https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/water/advisory-group.html</p> <p>Blooms of blue green algae in recreational bodies of water. (Lakes Needwood and Frank) First discovered 2009 in Needwood.</p> <p>What causes this? Warm water, lots of sun and excess nitrogen. Blooms don't necessarily cause toxins but when they do they can be serious. MoCo tests collecting samples from heaviest algae locations. Blooms can change toxicity. Toxicity cannot be identified without lab analysis, which MoCo does via DEP.</p> <p>Remedy best option now used is to try to control the run off from the development around the lakes. These blooms are natural and not a high priority right now. (These bodies of water don't permit swimming and people don't often drink out of them. Signage is currently enough.)</p> <p>No projection this could/will affect drinking water. Wssc can kill the bacteria with the free chlorine (already) applied at the H2O treatment plant.</p> <p>Upcoming 2021 meeting calendar is approved</p>

	<p>MS4 update: Comments now accepted through Jan 21st 2021. Permit should be issued late spring early summer.</p> <p>Update on new members: Nominations to be submitted to county council soon and February is the date hopefully new members will be in attendance.</p> <p>Priority topics. Agreed: Taking out geese and deer management. Modified #1 to Global warming and H2O quality. Revote on order, everyone will vote on top three in no particular order.</p>
<p>IV. Reports of Officers, Boards, Standing Committees.</p>	<p>None at this time.</p>
<p>V. Reports of Special Committees.</p>	<p>None at this time.</p>
<p>VI. Special Orders.</p>	<p>None at this time</p>
<p>VII. Unfinished Business and General Orders.</p>	<p>Thrive 2050 MOCO update: Comments should be in by first week Jan so comments to Tracy by Wednesday (2 days). She will seek permission for us to comment as a group under board advocacy rules if there is time given holidays. We can submit as group to County Council as well as previously planned.</p>
<p>VIII. Adjournment.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm. • The next meeting is scheduled for January 11, 2020. • Mike McAvey agreed to take minutes at the January meeting. • Discussion topics for next month:

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Stormwater partners will update WQAG at next meeting regarding stream restoration topic. ○ Over Use of Salt possible bill
Action Item Registry		
List of Priority Topics		
Rank	Subject Area	Topic
1	Other	Elrich and new administration priorities for water quality
2	Other	Mont. Co. Sustainability Committee report & water related issues
3	Wastewater	WSSC discharges from Potomac Filtration Plant and the ensuing litigation
4	Wastewater	Blue Plains and Seneca Treatment Plants Tours
5	Stormwater	Quantitative approaches to stormwater management (MS4, BMPs)
6	Other	Educational Outreach – Other Organizations
7	Stormwater	RainScapes Update
8	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?
9	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?
10	Other	Community gardening
11	Other	Continue discussions on communicating the benefits of improved water quality
12	Parks	Geese and deer management (Potential speakers from DNR)
13	Other	One DEP--what is it and how does it work?

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14	Wastewater	Replacing all public urinals in Montgomery county with waterless urinals
15	Parks	MNCPPC topics
16	Stormwater	Meeting on trash
17	Stormwater	Erosion and Sediment Control (ESC) plan transparency

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