

## Montgomery County - Water Quality Advisory Group Meeting

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

Monday, January 12, 2015 DEP Conference Room, 255 Rockville Pike, #120, Rockville

### MINUTES

#### 1. Call to Order by Paul Hlavinka

#### 2. Committee Business

- a. Minutes of the December meeting approved with minor corrections.
- b. January agenda approved.
- c. Mary Campbell approved to prepare meeting minutes for January.

#### 3. Grass Root Responses to Pesticide Use

Julie Taddeo spoke about Safe Grow Montgomery. The group formed in Takoma Park around water quality issues, with a special concern for how the use of pesticides affects water quality. Safe Grow worked with the Takoma Park City Council to pass a bill regulating use of pesticides in the city. (Safe Grow uses the EPA definition of pesticide which includes herbicides, fungicides, and insecticides.)

Safe Grow has expanded to include groups in several areas of Montgomery County. Alex Stavitsky-Zeineddin, who lives in the Kentlands area of Gaithersburg, started Go Green as an interest group under the umbrella of the Kentlands Community Foundation. Go Green's mission was to reduce the use of pesticides in the Kentlands Community by educating about alternatives such as organic fertilizers, aeration, and tea composting. Stavitsky-Zeineddin was also active with the Muddy Branch Alliance, but she is now devoting her efforts to Safe Grow Montgomery. Safe Grow would welcome working with local watershed groups.

Ling Tan became involved with Safe Grow because of concerns about her daughter's pesticide-worsened asthma. Tan stressed that pesticides do not stay where they are applied, but affect air and water of others. She said that even if pesticide levels in the Potomac are lower than the levels thought to affect humans, they do no good to the biosphere including wildlife, pollinators, and children. Tan mentioned that the province of Ontario has limited the use of pesticides and found the levels in urban streams decreased significantly.

Safe Grow is currently promoting legislation to regulate pesticide use in all of Montgomery County. Safe Lawn Care Bill 52-14 is co-sponsored by County Council members Elrich, Floreen, Navarro, and Riemer. The bill bans dangerous pesticides from use by both lawn care companies and individuals. However, the bill has exemptions for dealing with weeds, invasive species, agriculture, and golf courses. There are public hearings on the bill scheduled for January 15 and February 12. Slots for speakers in favor of the legislation are full, but letters are also useful. The Turf Grow council has signed up 6 of the 200 landscapers in the county to testify against the bill. The bill has a sunset clause—it expires in 2019—which Safe Grow would like to see deleted.

Chris Meaney asked if it's known how much pesticide is used in MoCo. No. Linda suggested that the WQAG ask that DEP evaluate pesticide levels in streams before and after implementation. Since the second hearing will be held after our February meeting, we tabled discussion of WQAG recommendations and actions until then so as not to delay the evening's second presentation.

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### 4. Department of Environmental Protection Storm Water Budget

Steve Shofar, Division Chief Watershed Management Division, DEP

Shofar provided some background for the DEP FY2015 Budget. It was a fast-paced power point presentation which was to have been posted on the WQAG website.

The DEP has four main divisions. **Steve is the Chief of the Watershed Management Division, which is responsible for storm water management facility maintenance and inspection, watershed outreach and the watershed restoration program, all of which are required by the MS4 Permit.** Permit required programs are funded by the water quality protection charge--a tax based on how much impervious surface a business or homeowner has. Credits against this tax are given for treating one's own storm water.

The DEP has an Operating Budget and a Capital Improvements Program (CIP) Budget. One of the biggest priorities for DEP is implementing watershed restoration required by the permit. Steve does not expect DEP budget priorities to change for FY16. One major challenge is getting the watershed restoration projects funded under the CIP budget up and running. The DEP does not have the resources to manage the planning and permitting that would be necessary to spend their capital improvement budget. DEP has hired Program Management and Water resources engineering consultants to ramp up the implementation rate. Since their CIP budget comes from the water quality protection charge, it is immune to budget cuts.

The DEP has in the past treated some uncontrolled storm water runoff by constructing either new storm water management ponds or retrofitting existing ponds to provide more control. Finding real estate to build new ponds is very difficult. The DEP is now stressing environmental site design—treating storm water as close to source as possible.

Dan asked about restoring streams that have been paved. Shofar says this is not yet to the top of the priority list.

Dan asked that Steve provide a list of streams scheduled for restoration and their relative priority.

### 5. Updates & Announcements

- a. Status of 2014 Annual Report – Andy Garfinkel has completed a first draft. We devoted half an hour to editing for meaning and inclusiveness. Dan moved that we approve the draft pending edits, as our representatives will be presenting it to the County Executive on January 29, 2015.
- b. Our letter advocating better State use of the County's water quality monitoring data was sent January 4, 2015

### 6. Confirm Next WQAG Meetings and Future Topics

- a. Monday, February 9 – minutes volunteer Dan Dozier
  - i. Climate Change-- Tanya Spano is arranging a speaker from COG
  - ii. Sustainability-- Stan Edwards, chief of office of sustainability
  - iii. We will evaluate our position on the pesticide bill pending before the county council.
- b. Monday, March 9
  - i. *unconfirmed* Bethesda Eco-District – Tina Schneider, MNCPPC

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- ii. Emerging Contaminants in Drinking Water Sources – Korkud Egrican

### 7. Adjourn

#### **Proposed Topics for Future WQAG Meetings:**

- Impact of climate change on water resources – Tanya, Feb
- Mont. Co. Sustainability Committee report & water related issues, Feb
- New Smart Growth stormwater laws allowing nutrient trading - spring public review period
- Emerging Contaminants
- Expert panel on water quality benefits on stream restorations (Tom Schueler &/or Pam Parker)
- Carbon sequestration - Scott
- Community gardening – Paul H.
- E&S plan transparency – Dan [Hold for now]
- Fracking – Mark
- Special Protection Areas
- Biological Condition Gradient – Mark [TBD late 2014]
- [TBD]
- WSSC discharges from Potomac Filtration Plant and the ensuing litigation [TBD]
- May get a rep from the county boards and advisory group oversight to talk about limits to our sending letters.

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	Yes	No	
Keith Brooks, public-at-large	X		Stan Edwards, DEP
Mary Campbell, public-at-large	X		
Dan Dozier, public-at-large		X	
Korkud Egrican, public-at-large		X	
Nate Engle, academic/scientific	X		
Beth Forbes, co-chair, public-at-large	X		
Andy Garfinkel, business	X		
Philip Kibak, public-at-large	X		
Paul Hlavinka, co-chair, public-at-large	X		
Christopher Meaney, academic/scientific	X		
Annette Rosenblum, academic/scientific	X		
Scott Roser, business	X		
Linda Silversmith, public-at-large	X		
Phil Wagner, business		X	
Patrick Walsh, environmental		X	
Paul Billingsley, WSSC		X	
Pam Parker, DEP	X		
Mark Symborski, MNCPPC	X		
<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>Major Points</b>		
Meeting convened: 7:00 pm Meeting adjourned: 9:00 pm			
Business items	<p>Agenda approved</p> <p>Minutes of January 12, 2015, meeting approved</p> <p>Four WQAG members are nearing the end of their terms and can request another term.</p>		
Stan Edwards, Chief, Division of Policy and Compliance, DEP	<p>Mr. Edwards's division both enforces the County's environmental laws and promotes sustainability. Two new positions will be added soon: one involved with the Tree Canopy Law and the other involved with commercial energy use. The staff is small, yet passionate. They educate citizens on environmental laws first, then issue violations and citations only for repeat offenders.</p> <p>Another office, the Energy &amp; Sustainability Office, is tasked with improvements to County government.</p> <p>If adopted, the Pesticide Bill would be enforced by Mr. Edwards's division. Expected to be controversial, the legislation is a value issue: What is a good lawn? Lab tests for pesticides are expensive as are pre- and post-ban studies of pesticide levels in streams.</p>		

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	<p>Municipalities would be able to choose to adopt any pesticide ban the County adopts. The office does not enforce the USDA's pesticide applicator regulations or the state fertilizer law.</p> <p>The Tree Canopy Law covers areas of the County that aren't covered by the Forest Conservation Law.</p> <p>GreenFest will replace the H<sub>2</sub>O Summit this year with a broader environmental focus. It will be held at the Takoma Park Campus of Montgomery College on March 28.</p> <p>The 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Energy Summit will be held in Rockville on February 18 concerning commercial energy use.</p> <p>The division is preparing the annual update to the Climate Protection report; the update is expected on March 1. Progress on each item will be reported.</p> <p>Most water-related issues are handled by other divisions (e.g., Watershed Mgmt.) and agencies (DCWASA, WSSC). The Council of Governments does the identification of much of the adaption work. Dept. of Permitting Services would have lead on some adaption (e.g., changing floodplain regulations).</p>
Pesticide Bill	<p>Discussion on the impacts of pesticides to humans, macroinvertebrates, and water quality. The health impacts are complex. Products with acute responses are removed from the market by EPA, yet many persist in the environment. Scientifically proven impacts to water quality should be a part of the County's decision to adopt the Pesticide Bill.</p>
Updates & announcements	<p>Paul Hlavinka reported about the WQAG co-chairs' meeting with the County Executive, the DEP Director Lisa Feldt and Stan Edwards.</p> <p>DEP's Storm Drain Art program is sponsoring a design contest with the assistance of the Rock Creek Conservancy. Painting is scheduled for Earth Day, April 22.</p>
Upcoming meeting topics	<p>March 9 – Presentation by COG on climate change, discussion of Pesticide Bill, minutes by Dan Dozier.</p> <p>April 13 – Presentation by MNCPPC's Tina Schneider on Bethesda's Eco District, possible presentation by Korkud Egrican on emerging contaminants, minutes by Nate Engle.</p>

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<p>Action Items</p>	<p>Beth Forbes to ask Paul Billingsley to check to see if WSSC tests for pesticides in the drinking water supply.</p> <p>Pam Parker to check the WQAG website to see if the limitation on advisory letters is corrected stated.</p> <p>Pam Parker to check to see if any location(s) have been chosen for the winner(s) of the storm drain art contest.</p> <p>Chris Meaney to draft letter for Pesticide Bill for the March meeting.</p> <p>Pam Parker to see if the WQAG website can be altered to accept public comments.</p> <p>Pam Parker to send link to Pesticide Bill information packets.</p>
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	Yes	No	
Keith Brooks, public-at-large	X		Tanya Spano, Metro Washington Council of Governments Meo Curtis, DEP, for Pam Parker
Mary Campbell, public-at-large	X		
Dan Dozier, public-at-large	X		
Korkud Egrican, public-at-large	X		
Nate Engle, academic/scientific		X	
Beth Forbes, co-chair, public-at-large	X		
Andy Garfinkel, business		X	
Philip Kibak, public-at-large	X		
Paul Hlavinka, co-chair, public-at-large	X		
Christopher Meaney, academic/scientific		X	
Annette Rosenblum, academic/scientific	X		
Scott Roser, business	X		
Linda Silversmith, public-at-large	X		
Phil Wagner, business	X		
Patrick Walsh, environmental		X	
Paul Billingsley, WSSC	X		
Pam Parker		X	
Mark Symborski, MNCPPC	X		
<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>Major Points</b>		
Meeting convened: 7:00 pm Meeting adjourned: 8:30 pm			
Business items			Minutes of February 9, 2015, meeting approved Agenda for March 9, 2015 meeting approved Four WQAG members are nearing the end of their terms and can request another term. Also discussion about co-chairs beginning in July. Dan Dozier volunteered to prepare the March minutes
<b>Climate Change and Its Impact to Water Resources</b> – Tanya Spano, Chief of the Water Resources Section of the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG) and former WQAG co-chair.			The COG National Capitol Region – from Charles County on the South to Frederick County on the North. COG has produced a National Capitol Region Climate and Energy Progress Report in Oct. 2014. Ms. Spano reported on what COG is seeing now in climate trends – not the variations in day-to-day weather. Changes in climate suggest that COG cannot use only historical data to develop trend lines. COG has observed increased temperature and is also seeing increased sea levels, from both reduced subsidence of the land, especially the southern end of the Chesapeake Bay, and rising sea level.

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	<p>COG has projected climate change effects as virtually certain (&gt;99%) including higher CO2 (acidification) and higher sea levels in the DC area and elsewhere in the Chesapeake Bay. Low-lying areas are more likely to flood. This includes important infrastructure such as Blue Plains, National Airport and areas near downtown DC and Georgetown. Since waste-water treatment plants are generally built down-stream in low-lying areas, these facilities are at risk from increased sea levels as is the electrical supply for those facilities.</p> <p>As all are aware, the Chesapeake Bay is a major driver of COG and regional water quality concerns. Cleaning up the Bay in a warmer world will become more difficult and aquatic life, for example oysters, are harmed with increasing water temperatures and low levels of Dissolved Oxygen (DO).</p> <p>The New Chesapeake Bay Program Agreement has two climate related goals: Monitoring and Assessment and Climate Adaptation.</p> <p>COG has significant challenges with regard to: Climate Change; Regular Weather; Increased Development and Aging Infrastructure.</p>
<p><b>Mark Symborski on the Letter on the Pesticide Bill #52-14</b></p>	<p>Discussion on the draft letter to the County Executive and Council Chair about the Pesticide Bill #52-14, and in particular, the impact of pesticides used in the County on water quality. The Bill is controversial. The WQAG is concerned about pesticide application and its impacts on Water Quality. In particular, WQAG is interested in better understanding the potential impact on human and animal health of legacy pesticides that have been already banned versus the synthetic and organic pesticides that are currently in use and whether pesticides are present in the County's groundwater, stormwater and drinking water.</p> <p>The WQAG letter requests that experts and data be considered by the Council to consider the science associated with the impact of pesticides on water quality and aquatic ecosystems.</p>
<p>Updates &amp; announcements</p>	<p>Meo Curtis reported about the DEP meeting with the County Council's Transportation, Infrastructure, Energy and Environment (T&amp;E) committee about that committee's request for an update on the MS4 permit and stormwater management. The County has</p>

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	<p>submitted an application for 4<sup>th</sup> MS4 permit. Many of the requirements of the 3<sup>rd</sup> permit have been achieved – but DEP has not fully implemented control of 20% of the County’s uncontrolled impervious area, and has not yet developed a program to inspect small, difficult to access stormwater management structures. DEP has implemented many programs to construct green infrastructure projects on public and private property, but has not met the target for green infrastructure implementation established in the County’s Implementation Strategy. DEP has established a very robust tracking and management process. MDE actions on the MS4 4<sup>th</sup> round permits are likely to be slowed due to the current litigation about water quality standards.</p> <p>The County is experimenting with a stream restoration program and is doing intensive monitoring of the stream restoration at Breewood Creek.</p> <p>Local environmental groups have suggested that green infrastructure can be effective in meeting MS4 goals.</p>
Upcoming meeting topics	<p>April 13 – Presentation by MNCPPC’s Tina Schneider on Bethesda’s Eco District, possible other topics possible topics include Outreach and <i>What is Going on in your Watershed</i>. Minutes to be taken by Nate Engle</p> <p>May 11 -- Presentation by Korkud Egrican on emerging contaminants and by WSSC about trends in drinking water treatment, treatment of pesticides and other emerging issues. Paul Billingsley will invite someone from WSSC who will discuss actions WSSC is taking and considering with regard to pesticides in drinking water and generally about trends in drinking water treatment, treatment of pesticides and other emerging issues.</p> <p>The GreenFest will be at Blair Park at Montgomery College in Takoma Park on March 28 from 11 AM to 4 PM. Much information and activities about environmental and water issues in our area.</p> <p>A movie, <i>Growing Legacy</i>, about the County Ag Reserve at 7:30 PM will be shown on March 10 at 607 Tegner Way.</p>
Action Items	<p>Meo Curtis will send us links with a summary of the County’s stream restoration program.</p> <p>Mark Symborski will finalize the edits to the draft</p>

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	<p>pesticide letter and send it to Paul Hlavinka.</p> <p>Paul Billingsley will obtain a speaker from WSSC to appear at the WQAG meeting in May to discuss trends in drinking water treatment, treatment of pesticides and other emerging issues.</p>
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Member and affiliation	Present		Others in attendance and affiliation
	Yes	No	
Keith Brooks, public-at-large	X		Victor Jones
Mary Campbell, public-at-large	X		
Dan Dozier, public-at-large	X		
Korkud Egrican, public-at-large		X	
Nate Engle, academic/scientific	X		
Beth Forbes, co-chair, public-at-large	X		
Andy Garfinkel, business		X	
Philip Kibak, public-at-large	X		
Paul Hlavinka, co-chair, public-at-large	X		
Christopher Meaney, academic/scientific		X	
Annette Rosenblum, academic/scientific	X		
Scott Roser, business	X		
Linda Silversmith, public-at-large	X		
Phil Wagner, business		X	
Patrick Walsh, environmental		X	
Paul Billingsley, WSSC	X		
Pam Parker, DEP	X		
Mark Symborski, MNCPPC	X		

Agenda Item	Major Points
7:03 PM Meeting Convened by Beth Forbes	Beth convened the meeting and then introduced the guest speaker, Tina Schneider, from MNCPPC.
7:04 PM Sustainable Development and Performance Criteria – Bethesda Central Business District; Tina Schneider, MNCPPC	Tina presented some of the water and sustainability related elements of the Bethesda sector plan, and expressed interest in hearing comments from the WQAG on some of these issues. There are six performance areas: equity; access and mobility; habitat and health; community identity; water; and energy and materials. She first evaluated “EcoDistricts”, but then decided to look at the performance measures one-by-one. For habitat, they will be making many more bicycle lanes, which will include canopy corridors and green roofs. For the Planning Department, the green roofs would only apply to new development. For water quality, they want to integrate storm water management within the right-of-way, where feasible, and integrate visible environmental site design, where possible. Other water quality measures include increasing pervious pavement and rainwater harvesting, but not at the expense of green roof promotion. For energy, they want to contribute to carbon emissions reductions goals (80% of 2005 emission levels by 2050). Tina’s idea is to implement “high performance districts” to accelerate sustainability and exceed present day minimums (i.e., to exceed the LEED platinum level to “net zero”; a step above the platinum level). The performance district is most of Bethesda, minus the residential areas. The incentive is that the MNCPPC will give the height they want if they agree to build to this level on the “net zero” score. Right now, Montgomery County requires ASHRAE 52 level (or 48% better than they

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	<p>were in 2003). They are looking to get to 48 (or 4 points better). This is mainly with respect to energy usage (supply and demand), not materials and construction. The question was raised about why MNCPPC doesn't pursue this in other areas outside of Bethesda. Tina is interested in piloting it here and might face resistance. There is a lot of pressure on the County for losing residents or potential residents and businesses to the District, because of their rapid push to "green" the city and make more livable communities. MNCPPC will take the sector plan to the Board in May/June. The Group agreed with many of Tina's arguments for pursuing this initiative and provided some recommendations for other potential arguments (mainly around the multiple benefits that this initiative would bring) that she can make to the Board when this issue is discussed. Tina also mentioned that she is drafting a white paper on the economics of sustainability and will share it with the Group when it is ready. WQAG agreed to follow the issue and decide whether it is appropriate to make a recommendation to the Executive and Council on the water related issues.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">8:25 PM Committee Business</p>	<p>Meeting minutes from March. Linda suggested correcting Paul Billingsley's name. Minutes accepted, pending Pam's edit to the name.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">8:20 PM Updates &amp; Announcements</p>	<p>MS4 remanded to MDE. Pam updated the Group that the current permit is null and void, and the previous permit is in effect. MDE needs to negotiate a new permit with Montgomery County now. The Group discussed one of the major issues in the ruling – measurable goals. We will consider the issue as an agenda item (for an update) sometime in the next year.</p> <p>Pesticide bill. Nothing really to discuss at this point.</p> <p>Nominations/selection of new members and new co-chair; 2015-2016. They have not yet advertised for the three open positions within the Group. Linda and Keith volunteered to join Pam on the interview panel. Nobody volunteered to co-chair so the issue will be revisited next meeting.</p> <p>Ethics training, April 30 (Executive Office Building). The training may be required – Pam will look into this and report back to the Group. It might be that it is required only for the Chair(s). Annette and Paul will attend.</p> <p>Greenfest Report. It was cold. Paul recommended that the next year will include a complementary event that focuses more on the technical issues.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">8:53 PM What's Going on in Your</p>	<p>Muddy Branch Alliance grant via Chesapeake Trust. Received \$10,000 grant to develop the Watershed Steward Academy for the County. The Alliance will be partnering with eight different groups to contribute to this initiative. It will help train people on challenges and solutions in</p>

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Watershed – Roundtable Discussion	<p>becoming watershed stewards. It includes a capstone project for all participants.</p> <p>Alice Ferguson Foundation. Dan highlighted that last weekend there were many watershed groups cleaning up trash in the various watersheds throughout the County. There were still some plastic bags.</p>
9:00 PM Confirm Next Meeting and Future Meetings	<p>Upcoming Meetings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• May 11. Emerging contaminants in drinking water sources – Korkud Egrican. Pam will not be at the May meeting. Dan will do meeting minutes if nobody else volunteers.</li> <li>• June 8. Pesticide testing of drinking water – WSSC staff (arranged by Paul Billingsly)</li> </ul> <p>Proposed Topics for Future Meetings</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MS4 permit update (when appropriate sometime in 2015/2016)</li> <li>• Expert panel on water quality benefits on stream restorations (Tom Schueler and/or Pam Parker)</li> <li>• Carbon sequestration (Scott)</li> <li>• Community gardening (Paul H.)</li> <li>• E&amp;S plan transparency (Dan, hold for now)</li> <li>• New Smart Growth stormwater laws allowing nutrient trading – spring public review period</li> <li>• Fracking (Mark)</li> <li>• Special Protection Areas</li> <li>• Biological Condition Gradient (Mark, TBD)</li> <li>• Mont. Co. Sustainability Committee report and water related issues (TBD)</li> <li>• WSSC discharges from Potomac Filtration Plant and the ensuing litigation (TBD)</li> <li>• Limitations on advisory letters (BAC Coordinator)</li> <li>• Water Quality Protection Charge Credits and Exemption, Bill 2-15</li> </ul>
9:02 PM Meeting Adjourned	

**Action Items (in addition to members looking into items for future meetings):**

- Nate – Send meeting minutes to Paul and Beth for review and circulation
- Pam – Updated March minutes to accurately reflect Paul Billingsley’s name

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Member and affiliation	Present		Others in attendance and affiliation
	Yes	No	
Keith Brooks, public-at-large	X		Leslie Wilcox -- DEP
Mary Campbell, public-at-large	X		
Dan Dozier, public-at-large	X		
Korkud Egrican, public-at-large		X	
Nate Engle, academic/scientific	X		
Beth Forbes, co-chair, public-at-large		X	
Andy Garfinkel, business		X	
Philip Kibak, public-at-large	X		
Paul Hlavinka, co-chair, public-at-large	X		
Christopher Meaney, academic/scientific	X		
Annette Rosenblum, academic/scientific	X		
Scott Roser, business	X		
Linda Silversmith, public-at-large	X		
Phil Wagner, business	X		
Paul Billingsley, WSSC	X		
Pam Parker, DEP		X	
Mark Symborski, MNCPPC	X		
<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>Major Points</b>		

7:03 PM Meeting Convened by Paul Hlavinka,	Paul convened the meeting and introduced the guest speaker, Leslie Wilcox, from DEP
7.08 PM  Committee Business	Meeting minutes from April were approved as written.  Paul Hlavinka and Dan Dozier were nominated to serve as Co-Chairs of the WQAG for 2015-2016. There was no opposition and they were approved.
7.10 PM  Leslie Wilcox about the County's Trash and Anti- Litter Program.	Leslie Wilcox spoke about the DEP anti-litter program as conducted in the Anacostia River watershed. The County has been tracking progress in the watershed since 2011 – 2013 to set a base TMDL for trash in the river. Currently the goal is to reduce trash by about 602 pounds of trash per day. Trash is defined as organic material and inorganic material is not counted toward the goal. Biodegradable is counted as trash. There are about 15 stations in the County portion of the Anacostia watershed which are surveyed about 2 times per year; the County tries to correct for weather and conditions. One specific area, near White Oak, has been highlighted as having the highest levels of trash in the watershed. This is an urban area with large number of non-English speaking people, large apartments, shopping centers and bus stations.  In July 2013 DEP began additional field observations and surveys in the White Oak area to document the type and extent of litter. Three types of observational surveys were performed monthly. Impressions from the data, which will be complete this summer, are that a bus transfer station seems to be a large source of trash. One possibility for the large volume

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	<p>of trash is the “trash begets trash.” The survey will address this. DEP has worked with the White Oak neighborhood to see what can be done to engage the community to reduce the sources of trash. There are no active watershed group in this area.</p> <p>One assumption has been that some of the large volume of trash in the White Oak area is because of individual behavior, although trash is obviously from a variety of sources. DEP believes that anti-littering ordinances are enforced. It is also possible that a source of trash is co-mingled trash set out for collection in the blue boxes. The co-mingled trash can be blown and spilled from the blue bins, which do not have covers. One member asked if we could encourage watershed and environmental groups to construct lids for the blue bins. WQAG members asked about the use and value of covered bins. While cost is an issue, DEP has tried a pilot project with covered bins, but the effort was not successful.</p> <p>Leslie spoke of surveys taken of multi-family properties and commercial properties. A copy of the PowerPoint summarizing the presentation and the survey results is attached.</p> <p>DEP is designing a targeted litter reduction pilot project in White Oak. The program may include more education and installing recycling receptacles and other disposal options in this area.</p> <p>Members of the WQAG agreed to email the Solid Waste Advisory Committee chair to ask SWAC to consider requesting DEP to make a presentation about the problem of solid waste litter. It appears that both SWAC and WQAG have a common interest in reducing litter and the resultant costs associated with trash cleanup. WQAG Members suggested that DEP solid waste and water offices should be encouraged to work together to reduce litter.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">8:15 PM</p> <p>Environmental Site Design</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Scott Roser</p>	<p>SWA Goal. Stormwater Management to manage and control stormwater management. Environmental Site Design (ESD) is often a response to the need for Stormwater management. ESD, also known as Low Impact Development (LID).</p> <p>ESD should be designed to capture runoff up to 2.6 inches to the Maximum Extent Practicable. ESD is used until treatment practices are exhausted and only when necessary a non ESD practice can be used.</p> <p>The difficulty with this type of stormwater management in residential development is that it tends to reduce site density and increase overall impervious area. See attached PowerPoint.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">9:00 PM</p> <p>Confirm Next Meeting and Future Meetings</p>	<p>Upcoming Meetings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• June 8. Pesticide testing of drinking water – WSSC staff (arranged by Paul Billingsly)</li> <li>• Minutes: Linda Silversmith June 8; Philip Wagner July 13</li> </ul>

Montgomery County Water Quality Advisory Group  
Meeting Minutes for May 11, 2015

	<p>Proposed Topics for Future Meetings</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• MS4 permit update (when appropriate sometime in 2015/2016)</li><li>• Expert panel on water quality benefits on stream restorations and report on County plans (Tom Schueler and/or Pam Parker)</li><li>• WSSC work under the consent decree in environmentally sensitive areas</li><li>• Carbon sequestration (Scott)</li><li>• Community gardening (Paul H.)</li><li>• E&amp;S plan transparency (Dan, hold for now)</li><li>• New Smart Growth stormwater laws allowing nutrient trading – spring public review period</li><li>• Fracking (Mark)</li><li>• Special Protection Areas</li><li>• Biological Condition Gradient (Mark, TBD)</li><li>• Mont. Co. Sustainability Committee report and water related issues (TBD)</li><li>• WSSC discharges from Potomac Filtration Plant and the ensuing litigation (TBD)</li><li>• Limitations on advisory letters (BAC Coordinator)</li><li>• Water Quality Protection Charge Credits and Exemption, Bill 2-15</li></ul>
9:02 PM  Meeting Adjourned	