



## 2019 Stormwater Work Plan

### **Goal: Strengthen policies and permits to stop polluted runoff in urbanized areas.**

Objective: Identify and engage in opportunities at the federal level, including programs, policies and permits delegated to the states, to reduce or eliminate polluted runoff in urbanized areas in the Chesapeake watershed.

- Encourage utilization of the Coalition's model MS4 permit to strengthen future permits.
- Engage with EPA, the states, local governments, other advocates, and students to ensure MS4 permit renewals are consistent with state blueprints and address impacts from development
- Support and enhance Coalition members' initiatives at the state and regional level to ensure that ongoing and upcoming renewals of MS4 permits are:
  - Strong;
  - Enforceable;
  - Protective of local and downstream water quality and stream health;
  - Implementing the state's clean water blueprints; and
  - As stormwater pollution is the fastest growing source of nutrients and sediment to the Bay, it is essential to address this source in the states' Phase III WIPs.
  - Helping to meet the overall 2025 restoration deadlines.
- Track enforcement of MS4 permit implementation and violations throughout the Chesapeake Bay watershed.
- Track and participate in the implementation of the District of Columbia MS4 permit to ensure that plans, analyses, and projects are rigorous, effective, and comply with all permit requirements.
- Work with EPA, the states and local governments to ensure that all stormwater pollution practices are monitored and tracked to ensure they function properly and achieve the results outlined in MS4 permits and state blueprints.
- Work with EPA and the states to ensure that smart growth, responsible land use and protecting and restoring forested areas, including riparian buffers, is linked to stormwater management.
- Support full transparency and accountability in public-private partnerships, contracting and outsourcing, and similar proposals by local and state stormwater authorities.
- Work with the new leadership in EPA Region 3 to ensure that protective policies are continued.

Objective: Support the work of Coalition members at the state and local level to champion effective policies, regulations and laws, including state delegated stormwater permitting programs. Provide expertise from the Workgroup and its members to help Coalition groups in other jurisdictions.

- When needed, work with the Coalition’s Communications Workgroup to develop coordinated and targeted communications strategies around stormwater issues, policies, and/or regulations.

Objective: Ensure that climate change is acknowledged in state and federal permits and regulatory decisions.

Objective: Look for opportunities to protect or expand funding for localities to implement stormwater practices, including new and innovative funding sources, and defending against attempts to weaken existing mechanisms for funding.

- Support local government efforts to generate funding for projects to reduce polluted runoff. Provide resources, including communications support, to jurisdictions that are developing and working to pass a stormwater utility. Provide opportunities for local jurisdictions to share experiences, best practices, materials, and information on stormwater utility programs.
  - Work with the Local Government Advisory Committee of the Chesapeake Bay Program to determine the needs of local governments in the region.
- Communicate about “best practices” model for stormwater utilities to assist local governments throughout the Chesapeake Bay watershed using the Workgroup’s white paper report *Paying for Stormwater Management in Chesapeake Bay Communities: Policy Recommendations*.
- Use *Pollution Solutions* (e.g., local success stories) to champion policies and funding for stormwater programs.
- Tracking and commenting on innovative financing efforts, such as efforts in the District of Columbia, proposals in Maryland, and proposals by the Environmental Finance Center;
- Continue to maintain and update the Stormwater Utility Clearinghouse database in the Chesapeake Bay watershed.