

Ozone Season Starts Now!

MDE Environment

Maryland Department of the Environment

May 1999

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Deisel Emissions Test Program on the Road to Cleaner Air

by Bob Maddox

Legislation to control diesel vehicle emissions was passed by Maryland's General Assembly and is expected to be signed into law by Governor Glendening. Senate Bill 509 (SB 509) will require the department's of Environment and Transportation and the Maryland State Police to jointly establish by July 1, 2000 a Diesel Vehicle Emissions Control Program. Diesel trucks and buses that currently are exempt from the emissions tests required for gasoline vehicles will now be tested.

Co-sponsored by Senators Jennie M. Forehand (D-Montgomery) and Walter M. Baker (D-District 36), the legislation calls for random testing of diesel vehicles emitting black smoke. The program will establish emissions standards, emissions tests, test equipment and procedures, and circumstances under which a test may be per-



Pictured left to right: MDE Mobile Sources representatives Tim Shepherd and Ron Lipinski, Governor Parris N. Glendening, Secretary Jane T. Nishida, Air and Radiation Director Merrylin Zaw-Mon at the recent deisel emissions press conference.

formed. The testing will be performed at existing weigh and inspection stations and along roadsides at safe locations.

Owners of all diesel vehicles over 10,000 pounds traveling on

Maryland's roadways will be subject to testing. Maryland vehicles that do not pass the emissions test will have to make repairs and have their vehicles

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Anacostia Watershed Summit May 10

by Steve Bieber

An Anacostia Watershed Summit planned for May 10 will include the signing of a revised plan to restore the Anacostia, an effort that Governor Glendening has made an important Maryland environmental priority. The Maryland Department of the Environment's recent commitment of \$447,500 to fund stormwater management and stream restoration projects in the Anacostia watershed and an additional \$150,000 commitment from the State's FFY'99 section 319 grant to fund stream restoration will enable progress in this important restoration effort.

District of Columbia Mayor Tony Williams, in cooperation with the Anacostia Watershed Restoration Committee, has planned the May 10 watershed summit to coincide with an annual river festival that is held at Anacostia Park and will include interactive learning activities, tree plantings, water activities and a "Discovery Trail."

Formal efforts to restore the Anacostia watershed began nearly two decades ago and formal cooperation between government agencies came with the 1987 signing of the Anacostia Watershed Agreement and the forma

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Take the Clean Commute Week Challenge

by Bob Maddox and Susan Stephenson, BMC

The Clean Commute Week Partnership is promoting Clean Commute Week May 17-21 and has a great agenda of activities to encourage people to try alternatives to driving alone and to educate them about why it is important to change commuting habits.

Why a Clean Commute Week? A majority of Baltimore-area workers commute to work alone in their cars

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MDEnvironment is a monthly newspaper published by the Maryland Department of the Environment. Information contained within this publication is not intended to fulfill any legal or regulatory community information requirement.

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General Assembly Establishes Diesel Vehicle Emissions Control Program

re-tested within 30 days. Owners of out-of-state vehicles that fail the test will have to send proof of repairs to the police agency that issued the violation. In both cases, if repairs are not made, vehicle owners could face fines up to \$1,000.

Known for his commitment to a better environment, Governor Parris N. Glendening expressed strong support for this legislation and noted that reducing diesel emissions will benefit Maryland's citizens, especially for the elderly, the very young and the 600,000 citizens suffering from respiratory problems.

"For far too long large diesel vehicles have not had their emissions tested like most passenger cars in Maryland," said Governor Glendening. "This is a health issue, an equity issue and an issue that has received widespread support from the trucking industry."

Diesel vehicles contribute significantly to fine particulate matter in the atmosphere, especially in metropolitan areas. Diesel particulates carry toxic compounds resulting from incomplete combustion of the fuel. The particles are small enough to penetrate into the lungs and cause respiratory problems.

Over the past several years, MDE has received numerous complaints about smoking diesel trucks and buses. Citizens also have questioned the fairness of having to get their automobiles tested, while leaving diesel trucks and buses exempt from testing especially since diesel emissions are highly visible.

In 1993, the Maryland Department of the Environment conducted Phase I of a pilot program to test diesel vehicle emissions. Over 40 percent of the vehicles tested had excessive smoke emissions. This pilot program tested both Maryland and out-of-state vehicles. Testing was performed on trucks and buses on a voluntary basis when the vehicle operators consented to the tests. The department is now conducting Phase II of the pilot program to determine the relative effectiveness of different types of diesel engine maintenance procedures in reducing smoke emissions.

"In order to be good corporate citizens, the trucking and transportation industries must share in the responsibility to clean the air," said Senator Forehand, who has spon-

sored diesel testing legislation before in an effort to reduce emissions and believes the issue of equity in maintaining clean air had to be addressed. "This bill was heavily supported by legislators, the Governor, the public, environmentalists, AAA, and the regulated industry," said Ron Lipinski, Manager of the Department's Mobile Source Control Program.

"To perform emissions testing on a random basis is a fair way to conduct this program," said Mr. Walt Thompson, President of the Maryland Motor Truck Association. "When a diesel vehicle is out of compliance with the manufacturer's specifications, it will emit visible smoke. Only vehicles emitting visible smoke will be tested."

"This is a terrific bill that will clean the air for everyone," said Delegate Daniel Morhaim (D-Baltimore County), who sponsored similar legislation (HB590) in the Maryland House of Delegates. "Thanks to the support and efforts from the members of the General Assembly, health and environmental groups and the trucking industry, this bill will safeguard our citizens from the ill-effects of excessive diesel smoke."

Walk it, Bike it, Bus it or Share it During Clean Commute Week May 17-21

each day. These commuting practices, although convenient, are unhealthy for human health and the environment. Each year, the Baltimore region exceeds the Environmental Protection Agency's health-based standard for ground-level ozone. Over one-third of ozone-forming pollutants — nitrogen oxides (NOx)

and volatile organic compounds (VOCs) — come from mobile sources that include cars, trucks and buses. Ground-level ozone causes eye and throat irritation, coughing and chest pain. Ozone may also worsen the condition of people with bronchitis, heart disease, emphysema and asthma.

Fill out the Clean Commute Week Challenge card below and pledge to do your share for cleaner air May 17-21! Mail the card to BMC/Susan Stephenson, 601 North Howard Street, Baltimore MD 21201 or fax to (410) 333-0160. Download more information at www.baltometro.org or email sstephenson@baltometro.org.

Take the Clean Commute Week Challenge!

Name: _____
 Address: _____
 Phone: _____
 Bus _____ Bike _____ Walk _____ Carpool/Rideshare Share _____ Metro _____
 Telecommute _____ Other: _____
 Commute Distance(one way): _____

Clip and mail to BMC/Susan Stephenson, 601 North Howard Street, Baltimore MD 21201 or fax to (410) 333-0160. Download more information at www.baltometro.org or email sstephenson@baltometro.org.





MDEnvironment Reader's Survey

As a customer of the Maryland Department of the Environment, your opinion and ideas are important to us. Please take a moment to fill out this readers survey. Include an optional name and address and MDE will send you a small thank you for your time and effort. All responses are confidential and will be used for the sole purpose of improving this publication's content and design. Fax completed survey to (410) 631-3936 or fill it out on-line at www.mde.state.md.us or mail to: OC/MDE, 2500 Broening Highway, Baltimore MD 21224.

Name _____
Organization _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Check Here for Address Change

Label currently reads (place label here, if available)

How Well Do You Know MDE?

From the list below, decide which of the following environmental issues are under the purview of the Maryland Department of the Environment and which are not.

Creating Wetlands	MDE	Not MDE
Controlling Growth	MDE	Not MDE
Protecting Drinking Water	MDE	Not MDE
Planting Streamside Trees	MDE	Not MDE
Protecting Shellfish Waters	MDE	Not MDE
Preventing Pollution	MDE	Not MDE
Commercial/Recreational Fishing Regulations	MDE	Not MDE
Cleaning Up Hazardous Material Spills	MDE	Not MDE
Protecting Water Quality in Maryland's rivers	MDE	Not MDE
Controlling Radiation Sources	MDE	Not MDE
Protecting Maryland's Deer Population	MDE	Not MDE
Protecting Wetlands	MDE	Not MDE
Controlling Air Pollution from Vehicles	MDE	Not MDE
Controlling Air Pollution from Industry	MDE	Not MDE
Protecting the Chesapeake Bay's Oyster Population	MDE	Not MDE
Oversee Maryland State Parks	MDE	Not MDE
Oversee Environmental Impact of Dredging	MDE	Not MDE
Ensure Water is Clean for Harvesting Fish	MDE	Not MDE
Helping Businesses to Reduce Environmental Impact	MDE	Not MDE
Regulating Lead Poisoning Hazards	MDE	Not MDE
Controlling Farm Produce	MDE	Not MDE
Environmental Justice	MDE	Not MDE
Regulating Zoning	MDE	Not MDE
Identifying Brownfields	MDE	Not MDE

Are We Making the Grade?

Using a scale of one to five, one being strongly agree and five being strongly disagree, answer the following questions.

Strongly Agree	Agree	No Opinion	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
1	2	3	4	5

Within the MDEnvironment,

- _____ The Meetings and Hearings Calendar is timely and useful.
- _____ The For the Record Section's permit listings are complete.
- _____ The For the Record Section's permit listings are accurate.
- _____ The For the Record Section's permit listings are well-organized.
- _____ The Enforcement and Compliance Notes help my business understand environmental compliance standards.
- _____ The Enforcement and Compliance Notes are well-organized.
- _____ Overall, articles in the MDEnvironment are easy to understand.
- _____ Overall, articles in the MDEnvironment are timely.
- _____ Overall, articles in the MDEnvironment are newsworthy.
- _____ Overall, articles in the MDEnvironment reflect the goals of the department.
- _____ Overall, I find the MDEnvironment to be informative.
- _____ The MDEnvironment has helped me to understand Maryland's environmental regulatory requirements.
- _____ The MDEnvironment has helped me to understand Maryland's key environmental issues.
- _____ The MDEnvironment has helped me to understand Maryland's environment.
- _____ I find the MDEnvironment to be well-organized
- _____ The What's Inside Index on the front page is useful.
- _____ The What's Inside Index urges me to read more inside.
- _____ The MDEnvironment uses understandable charts and graphs to support its articles.
- _____ The MDEnvironment uses photos appropriately.
- _____ The graphic design and layout of the MDEnvironment is pleasing to the eye.

- I have contacted the Maryland Department of the Environment by telephone, email, fax or mail _____ times to receive more information about an MDEnvironment article.
- I have attended _____ (number) public meetings or hearings on regulatory issues advertised in the MDEnvironment.
- We would appreciate any additional comments or suggestions. Use the space below or additional sheets if necessary.

Enforcement and Compliance Notes

Waste Management Administration March 16 - April 13 For more information call (410) 631-3535

Lead Program Enforcement - From March 1-March 31, 1999 a total of \$63,300 in fines were assessed for lead paint violations, lead paint defects and failure to register properties throughout the state. These properties are located in Princess Anne, Salisbury, Cambridge, Cumberland, Federalsburg and Baltimore City.

1998 Underground Storage Tank Deadline Consent Agreements - Twelve (12) additional consent agreements have been entered into across the State regarding continued operation of non-compliant underground storage systems. The tank owners did not achieve compliance with the upgrade deadline of December 22, 1998. This makes for a total of 34 consent agreements entered into to date.

Air and Radiation Management March 16 - April 14 For more information call (410) 631-4806

ABS Abatement, Inc. - Baltimore - On March 3, 1999, ABS Abatement, an asbestos removal firm, entered into an agreement with MDE to settle an appeal of a licensing removal and administrative penalty action taken by MDE for the violations of state regulations governing the removal of asbestos. Under the terms of the agreement ABS will lose its license to remove asbestos and may not apply for a new license for five years. ABS also agrees to pay MDE \$2,500 as full and final settlement of all claims made by MDE in the administrative penalty action.

Status: Settled. (Reference # 98-MDE-ARMA-008-280)

Multi-Specialty Health Care Group - Harford County - On March 22, 1999, Multi-Specialty Health Care Group, a general practice medical facility, entered into an agreement with MDE to settle an appeal of an enforcement action taken by MDE for the company's past failure to adhere to regulatory requirements regarding the installation of x-ray machines. The company is currently in compliance with such requirements.

Under the terms of the agreement, Multi-Specialty agrees to pay \$9,000 to MDE as full and final settlement of all claims made by MDE in the enforcement action.

Status: Settled. (Reference # 98-MDE-ARMA-048-294)

Sunday's Lane Convenience Mart - Frederick County - On March 25, 1999, MDE issued a Corrective Order to this convenience store for failure to install Stage II Vapor Recovery equipment on its gas pumps.

Status: The Company has ten days to appeal the Corrective Order. (Reference #99-01-01)

F. O. Day - Montgomery County -

On April 1, 1999 MDE issued an Administrative Penalty in the amount of \$9,000 to this asphalt plant for permit condition, visible emission, and odor nuisance violations. In response to a previously issued Corrective Order, the Company is now in compliance with its permit conditions, and has instituted improvements to address the odor and visible emissions.

Status: The Company has 30 days to appeal or pay the penalty. (Reference # ACP98-15A)

Expert House Movers - Wicomico

County - On April 1, 1999, MDE issued an Administrative Penalty to this company in the amount of \$2,500 for violations of open burning requirements. The Company burned a storage shed which had chemicals in it. The fire created noxious fumes in the air.

Firefighters were called to put out the fire and several reported ill effects from the fumes. The open burning requirements were violated by failure to obtain a permit and for creating unacceptable off-site impacts from the burning.

Status: The Company has 30 days to pay or appeal the penalty. (Reference # ACP98-14A)

Bethlehem Steel Corporation - Baltimore County -

On April 9, 1999, MDE

issued a penalty notification letter to Bethlehem Steel Corporation (BSC) for visible emission (VE) violations at the Basic Oxygen Furnace. The readings demonstrated violation of the visible emissions standards contained in the Department's Multimedia Consent Order with BSC. In accordance with the stipulated penalty provision of the Multimedia Consent Order, MDE has proceeded to notify BSC that \$9,000 in stipulated penalties are due.

Status: BSC has 30 days to pay the penalty. (Reference # BSC 99-01)

Water Management Administration March 10 - April 12, 1999 For more information call (410) 631-3532

Cloveinvest Limited Liability Corp./ Greenvest Limited Liability Corp. - Montgomery County - On March 23, 1999, MDE executed an administrative consent order with Cloveinvest and Greenvest Limited Liability Corporations in settlement of alleged water pollution, sediment and erosion control violations at the Hampshire Greens development

construction site. Under the terms of the consent order, the respondents have agreed to pay an administrative penalty of \$27,000 to the MDE Sediment Control Fund.

Status: Settled. (Reference # CO-99-0080).

Queen Anne's County Sanitary District & Board of County Commissioners - Queen Anne's County - On March 23, 1999, MDE issued an amended administrative consent order to Queen Anne's County extending the compliance schedule set forth in Consent Order CO-98-0018 for completing connection of the Prospect Bay wastewater treatment plant to the sanitary sewer system. The new compliance date is April 30, 1999.

Status: Settled. (Reference # ACO-99-0067).

City of Taneytown - Carroll County - On March 18, 1999, MDE issued an amendment to Consent Order #CO-97-0002, issued to the City of Taneytown on October 24, 1996, extending the compliance schedule for completing the expansion and upgrade to the Taneytown wastewater treatment plant. The compliance date for completing construction of the new plant has been extended to January 30, 2000.

Status: Settled. (Reference # ACO-99-0081).

Public Information Notice Water Quality Finance Administration

Water Quality Revolving Loan Fund

The Department intends to amend its existing FFY 1999 Water Quality State Revolving Loan Fund (WQSRF) Project Priority List to include the following list of water quality projects for refinancing. The proposed projects may subsequently be amended into existing WQSRF Intended Use Plans for financial assistance.

<u>Applicant</u>	<u>Project Title</u>	<u>Anticipated MDE Loan</u>	<u>Rank/Pts</u>
WSSC	WWTP Upgrades	\$54,700,000	43/138
Harford County	Winters Run Pump Station and Parallel	\$6,522,000	54/114
Harford County	Tollgate Landfill Closure	\$4,364,461	54/114
Harford County	Bush Creek Pumping Station	\$3,314,032	63/107
Harford County	Sewer Pump Station SCADA System	\$1,025,000	63/107
Harford County	Bynum Run Parallel	\$3,770,000	68/89
Prince George's	Anacostia Restoration and Envr. Protection Program	\$6,722,572	33/174
Prince George's	Modoc Lane and Stream Restoration Program	\$360,559	43/138
Prince George's	Brown Station Road Landfill Leachate Collection	\$3,443,367	67/126
Prince George's	Tinkers Creek and Water Quality Control Facilities	\$1,233,701	49/94
Prince George's	Hensen Creek Regional Stormwater Management	\$2,420,862	72/69

Drinking Water State Revolving Loan Fund

The Department intends to amend its existing FFY 1999 Drinking Water State Revolving Loan Fund (DWSRF) Project Priority List to include the following project. The proposed project may subsequently be amended into an existing DWSRF Intended Use Plan for financial assistance.

<u>Applicant</u>	<u>Project Title</u>	<u>Anticipated MDE Loan</u>	<u>Rank/Pts</u>
Independence Village Water Coop.	Ind. Village Water System	\$23,000	07/60

Any comments or requests for additional information on the above projects should be forwarded by May 31, 1999 to:

Ms. Virginia Kearney, Program Administrator
Water Quality Infrastructure Program, Maryland Department of the Environment
2500 Broening Highway, Baltimore, MD 21224
Phone: (410) 631-3574 Fax: (410) 631-3517
E-Mail: vkearney@mde.state.md.us

Anacostia Watershed Summit

tion of the Anacostia Watershed Restoration Committee (AWRC)

The AWRC coordinates these efforts and other restoration projects throughout the watershed. The Committee accomplishes this work within an ecologically based framework in the form of a Six Point Action Plan. The Plan is used to guide restoration efforts in the Anacostia,

and environmental indicators are being used to track restoration progress.

The AWRC, whose members include the District of Columbia and DC/WASA, Montgomery and Prince George's counties, the State of Maryland, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, has also taken steps to strengthen its ties to the

residents of the watershed by forming the Anacostia Watershed Citizens Advisory Committee. The main purpose of the committee is to increase awareness of and improve communication between the AWRC and the community. While federal and State programs can help produce clean watersheds, the commitment and involvement of local governments,

communities, and citizens are key to cleaning up and maintaining rivers and streams on a watershed basis.

More information about the Anacostia Summit and other activities occurring in the watershed is available on the Internet at www.chesapeakebay.net/anacostia/ or by calling the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments at (202) 962-3357.



May Meetings and Hearings Calendar

**May 4
1:30 p.m.**

Carter State Office Building
Second Floor Hearing Room
23110 Leonard Hall Drive,
Leonardtown

Public informational hearing for Tidal Wetlands Permit Application #97-WL-1431 by Circle C Oyster Ranchers Association, Inc. for an oyster aquaculture project in St. Jerome Creek

Philip Mohler, (410) 414-3400

**May 6
1:00 p.m.**

LaPlata Library, 2 Garrett Avenue,
LaPlata

Public information hearing for surface mine

Molly Gary, (410) 631-8055

**May 6
2:00 p.m.**

Montgomery County Public Library,
Kensington Branch,
4201 Knowles Avenue, Kensington

Public informational hearing for Water Appropriation Permit Application #MO68S003/04 by the town of Leesburg, VA to withdraw water from the Potomac River to be used for a municipal supply for the Town of Leesburg

Mark Filar, (410) 631-3591

**May 10
7:00 p.m.**

George Howard Building, Ellicott
Room, 3430 Courthouse Drive,
Ellicott City

Public hearing regarding State Discharge Permit Application #98-DP-3262 for Howard County Department of Public Works to discharge treated water to an unnamed tributary to the Patapsco River

Ed Stone, (410) 631-3323

**May 11
9:30 a.m.**

State Office Building Auditorium,
300 W. Preston Street, Baltimore

Public hearing on proposed amendments to COMAR 26.15.01 and COMAR 26.15.03 – Disposal of Controlled Hazardous Substances – Radioactive Hazardous Substances

Gail Castleman, (410) 631-3441

**May 13
9:00 a.m.**

Maryland Department
of the Environment
2500 Broening Highway,
Chesapeake Conference Room
Baltimore

Meeting of the Controlled Hazardous Substances Advisory Council

Gerry Gietka, (410) 631-3441

**May 13
7:00 p.m.**

Edgewood High School Auditorium
Willoughby Beach Road
Edgewood

Public meeting of the Lauderick Creek Chemical Warfare Material Removal Action

John Fairbank, (410) 631-3440

Earth Day 1999 - Patterson Park in Baltimore City

Highlandtown Middle School students worked side-by-side with MDE employees to revitalize Patterson Park in Baltimore City.

Many Thanks to the Department of Natural Resources, Baltimore City government, B102.7, Canton Safeway, the South Ellwood Community Association and Home Depot for helping out!



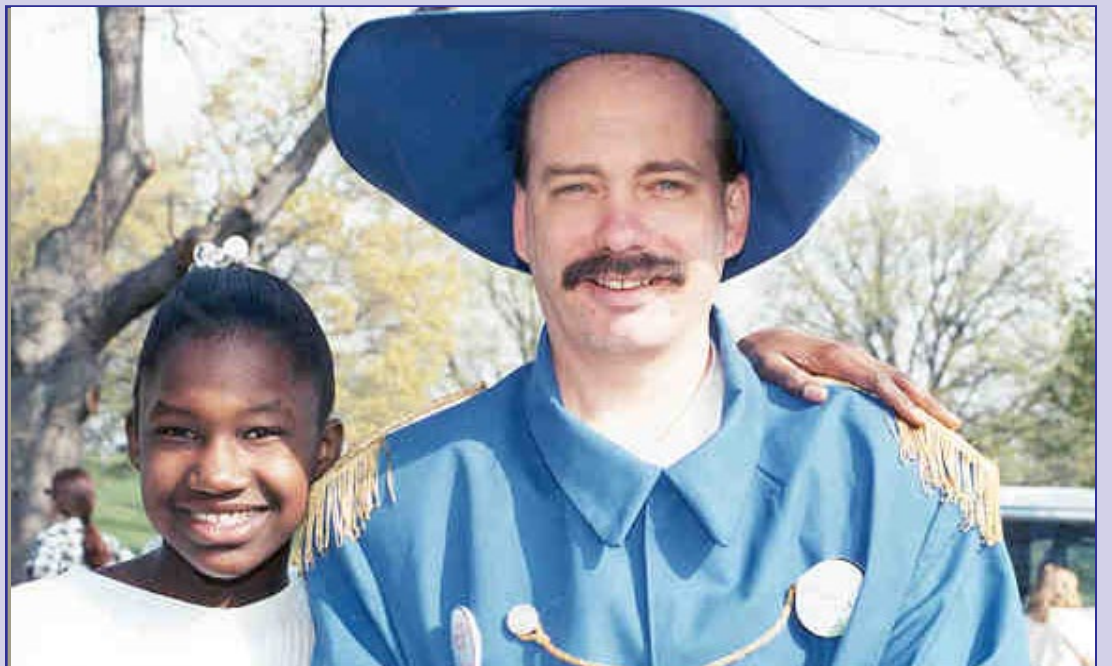
MDE's Lyn Poorman demonstrates how groundwater flows through the earth carrying sediment and pollution.



Highlandtown Middle School students and MDE employees planted saplings and learned the value of trees to the environment.



Teamwork!



MDE's newest employee, Captain Cleanup, made friends and helped spread the message "Together We Can Clean Up!"



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