

## **Phase 2 Watershed Implementation Plan (WIP): Carroll County DRAFT 2013 Milestones & Narrative**

---

### **Local WIP Team**

Carroll County, its municipalities, and other source sector representatives worked collaboratively to develop one unified Phase II WIP for Carroll County. The Carroll County Water Resources Coordination Council (WRCC) serves as the local WIP team. The WRCC consists of representatives from each of the municipalities, the County, and the Health Department.

- Carroll County
- Hampstead
- Manchester
- Mount Airy
- New Windsor
- Sykesville
- Taneytown
- Union Bridge
- Westminster
- Health Department (Carroll County)
- Local Conservation Partnership (MDA, NRCS, SCD)

The WRCC meetings were open to the public, with agendas published on the County website. The group met at least monthly during the process to discuss issues related to the Phase II WIP development. Staff held internal meetings and worked on documents and analysis based on guidance from the team.

The Center for Watershed Protection (CWP) assisted the team with the Maryland Assessment and Scenario Tool (MAST). The CWP also evaluated completed and planned projects to help determine the County and municipalities' collective ability to reach the targets. They provided cost information for various BMPs and general guidance on the process and credits.

The team completed a current capacity analysis to determine the programs, activities, and other measures already taken or in place. This current capacity information, as of September 12, 2011, was submitted to MDE on September 20, 2011.

The local team completed an initial evaluation of the progress that could be made with existing and currently planned projects. However, cost information from the study "Costs of Stormwater Management Practices in Maryland Counties" was not available until last October. Therefore, insufficient time was available to analyze the most cost-effective combination of BMPs and programs.

In addition, the local team received notice on November 1 of changes to the MAST model underlying assumptions and indicating that all previous scenarios were invalid. With these changes to the model and resulting changes to projected progress with current and planned projects, the local team lacks confidence in the ability of MAST to accurately reflect the progress

that could be made toward meeting the reduction goals until the glitches can be worked out and the model sufficiently validated and verified. The team also still questions many of the underlying assumptions and data. Additional time is needed to thoroughly evaluate options and develop a combination of strategies that are cost-effective, fiscally responsible, and approvable by local elected officials.

### **Maryland Assessment and Scenario Tool (MAST)**

The local team received notice on November 1 of changes to the MAST model underlying assumptions and indicating that all previous scenarios were invalid. With these changes to the model and resulting changes to projected progress with current and planned projects, the local team lacks confidence in the ability of MAST to accurately reflect the progress that could be made toward meeting the reduction goals until the glitches can be worked out and the model sufficiently verified. Additional time is needed to thoroughly evaluate options and develop a combination of strategies that are cost-effective, fiscally responsible, and approvable by local elected officials.

### **Two-Year Milestones: 2012-2013**

#### **Wastewater**

##### ***Implementation Milestones***

- ! Pending availability of funds and approval by elected officials, continue to support the State schedule for Enhanced Nutrient Removal (ENR) upgrades and coordinate with the State on implementation as funding becomes available.

#### **Urban Runoff**

##### ***Implementation Milestones***

- ! Pending availability of funds and approval by elected officials, proceed with programmed stormwater retrofits identified in the approved capital improvement program to maintain NPDES compliance.

##### ***Program Enhancement Milestones***

- ! Pending availability of funds and approval by elected officials, continue the current stormwater retrofits program until additional cost-benefit analyses can be completed, possible alternatives evaluated, and budgeted items reaffirmed or approved.
- ! Continue to work cooperatively as a Water Resources Coordination Council (WRCC) on program development and implementation.

#### **Septic**

##### ***Implementation Milestones***

- ! Continue to track septic system upgrades through the local Health Department.

- ! Continue to track the number of septic systems that are eliminated due to conversion/connection to public sewer systems.
- ! Evaluate any proposed septic legislation in the 2012 Session of the General Assembly to determine if current questionable premises or trade-offs have been resolved.

***Program Enhancement Milestones***

- ! Assess options for mitigating septic loads, and evaluate these options to determine the most cost effective program, assuming funds were available and approval by elected officials.

draft