MANAGEMENT STRATEGY
Toxic Contaminants Policy and Prevention

GOAL: Toxic Contaminants

OUTCOME

Continually improve practices and controls that reduce and prevent the effects of toxic contaminants below levels that harm aquatic systems and humans. Build on existing programs to reduce the amount and effects of PCBs in the Bay and watershed. Use research findings to evaluate the implementation of additional policies, programs and practices for other contaminants that need to be further reduced or eliminated.

CURRENT EFFORTS

- General PCB TMDLs in MD, VA, DC, PA and WV under the framework of the Clean Water Act to address PCB impairments in those jurisdictions.
- Other Regulatory Efforts—Toxic Substance Control Act and the Resource Conservation and Recover Act Corrective Action program.
- Limited watershed monitoring using high resolution congener based methods.
- TMDL implementation for NDPES-regulated and unregulated stormwater and wastewater when assigned.
- The Safe Drinking Water Act, which allows for inspections of shallow injection wells for PCBs.
- PCB TMDL development and implementation.
- Contaminated site clean ups and corrective actions under RCRA and CERCLA.
- Pollution minimization plans to reduce PCB loadings through adaptive implementation.
- Efforts to reduce the frequency of combined sewer overflows.
- Collection and management of data on public water supplies.
- Clean Air Act, which lists PCBs as a threat to public health in urban areas.
- Voluntary clean up programs
- Increased frequency of limits and monitoring require-

GAPS

The gaps have been organized by PCB loading mechanism:

- Stormwater - limited PCB monitoring for unregulated and NPDES-regulated stormwater; regulatory gaps in operational PCB-containing transformers; programmatic gaps in TMDL implementation; and research gaps related to PCBs in biosolids, construction activity, stormwater BMP dredged material, and atmospheric deposition.
- Wastewater - tools to support trackdown studies; coordination among CERCLA, RCRA, TSCA, and CWA targets; and inadvertent production of PCBs.
- Groundwater: availability of high resolution-low detection data on groundwater PCB concentrations.
- Atmospheric - monitoring gaps related to consistency in detection methods and monitoring of fuel oil burning facilities; research gaps related to integration of method 1668; and lack of air depositional data.
- In-stream sediment—identifying the source of anthropogenic contamination into waterway sediment.
- Contaminated sites - limited PCB monitoring data for regulated contaminated sites using high resolution congener based methods of detection.

MANAGEMENT APPROACHES

- Continue jurisdictional monitoring programs
- Support TMDL implementation
- Provide organizational and technical assistance
- Develop guidance on integration of various programs
- Continue to evaluate sites to identify industries or processes that used PCBs.
- Ensure NPDES permits are consistent with TMDLs
- Continue to ensure compliance with PCB TSC regs
- Develop PMP guidance for the control and reduction of PCBs in NPDES regulated stormwater and wastewater
- Coordinate education workshops for local governments, regulated stormwater facilities and the general public
- Coordinate a voluntary program to reduce transformers and other PCB containing equipment
- Work with local non-profits to explore the use of volunteers to support the work of PCBs source-tracking
- Investigate whether land application of dredged material and biosolids in commercial and agricultural practices is a pathway for PCBs.
- Support research on cost-effective tools for track-down studies
- Review the 2011 NATA report to determine the need for further investigation of atmospheric sources of PCBs
- Determine the relative amount of PCB reduction that might occur across the range of BMPs implemented for the Chesapeake Bay nutrient and sediment TMDL
- Encourage use of the high-sensitivity congener-based methods to analyze PCBs
- Explore opportunities to reduce the inadvertent manufacture of PCBs

Chesapeake Bay Program
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