

# ICPRB Water Resources Challenges/EPA

## Protecting Source Waters

- Potomac Drinking Water Source Water Protection Partnership (DWSPP)
  - EPA lead – algae, HAB workgroup
  - Support for regional source water partnerships (Monocacy-Catoctin, Romney, WV)
  - Algae ID workshops for states, local water utilities
  - EPA chairing DWSPP in 2018
- GIS based tools – WaterSuite, DWMAPS, WRR
- EPA guidance documents
  - algal risk assessment/management strategic plan
  - Potential funding sources for cyano HABs
  - Drinking Water Action Plan (e.g., Strengthen Source Water protection/DW resilience)

## Enhancing resilience in water supply

- EPA support for water utility training for COOP, incident management, emergency response, public notification, etc.

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## Managing nutrients, sediment, toxics

- Meeting local water quality standards through local TMDLs and their implementation
  - TMDLs for toxics (metals, PCBs) for Rock Creek, and small Potomac tribs were established in Fall, 2016. Anacostia toxics TMDLs are in the works.
  - Kudos to Ross Mandel of ICPRB who did great work with the modelling for these TMDLs.
  - Anacostia Trash TMDL in MD and DC is being implemented through MS4s and local ordinances

## Emerging contaminants

- EPA's Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR)
  - UCMR to collect data for contaminants that are suspected to be present in drinking water and do not have health-based standards set under the SDWA.
  - Occurrence data used to determine whether to regulate particular contaminants
  - EPA to host a public meeting and webinar on April 12, 2017 to provided public water systems, states, laboratories, and other stakeholders with a comprehensive overview of the UCMR program.
- EPA Region 3 leads a “Chemicals of Emerging Concerns/Pharmaceuticals and Personal Care Products” workgroup for interested stakeholders to exchange information.

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Pollution control for sources including road salt, mine drainage, and septic systems

- EPA's nonpoint source program, a source of funding that can be used to install BMPs for AMD, septic, and other NPS of pollution.

Protecting water quality and high quality aquatic habitats

- Through the states water quality standards program:
  - Designated use/attainment
  - Anti-degradation
  - Healthy Watersheds Assessments

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**Managing stormwater** and impervious surfaces/Riparian buffers and other interconnected **green Infrastructure**

- MS4 permit program
- Chesapeake Bay Trust's Green Streets, Green Jobs, Green Towns Partnership (G3) grant program
  - grants to communities to develop and implement plans that reduce stormwater runoff, increase the number and amount of green spaces in urban areas, improve the health of local streams and the Chesapeake Bay
  - Funded by EPA, Chesapeake Bay Trust, and the City of Baltimore Office of Sustainability with support from the Maryland Department of Natural Resources
  - G3 Partnership awarded \$803,490 in 2016 and a total of \$6.3 million over 6 years, to local organizations to integrate green infrastructure (GI) practices in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed.

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## Protecting groundwater recharge areas

- SDWA Wellhead Protection Program - States help communities to:
  - form a local team which will assist with protection of public supply wells in their area;
  - determine the land area which provides water to public supply wells;
  - identify existing and potential sources of contamination;
  - manage potential sources of contamination
  - develop a contingency plan to prepare for an emergency well closing

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## Identifying funding sources

- In 2015, EPA award a \$3.75 million/six year grant to the U.S Endowment for Forestry and Communities to support partner organizations to improve efforts to protect healthy freshwater ecosystems and watersheds across the country.
  - In 2016, \$1.4M in grants was awarded for nine projects to improve land management of hundreds of thousands of acres of watersheds in seven states.
  - In 2017, \$2M will be available courtesy of a new partnership with NRCS. The application deadline closed on February 1 and award announcements should be made at the end of March.
- States can set aside up to 15% of DWSRF funds for source water protection. Small grants or contractor support to DW utilities to develop source water protection plans
- EPA state categorical grants (section 106, 604(b), 319), G3, others are potential sources of funds to help implement the plan.