

Next Steps on Maryland's WIP

Following the Spring 2013 Regional Workshops

Introduction

This document, intended primarily for local government partners, outlines key upcoming activities related to Maryland's Watershed Implementation Plan (WIP). The activities are organized in order of the time line presented below.

Time Line

One-on-One Meetings with Local Partners:	July – Fall, 2013
Local 2013 Milestone Interim Progress Report:	July 31, 2013
Guidance on Model Data Refinements:	July 31, 2013
BMP Progress Reporting:	Sept. 30, 2013
Local 2013 Milestone Final Progress:	January 31, 2014
2015 Milestone Development Deadline:	January 31, 2014

One-on-One Meetings with Local Partners

WIP Team leads will receive an invitation to meet with State staff to discuss WIP issues. If the invitation is accepted, State staff will schedule a meeting sometime this summer or early fall.

Local 2013 Milestone Interim Progress Report

The State is requesting interim progress reports on local 2013 Milestones by July 31, 2013. A simple one-page guide on this was sent by email to local WIP leads on March 22, 2013 in follow-up to the February 26 WIP Webinar. Guide: <http://tinyurl.com/MD-2013-Report-Guide> (Final progress reports are due January 31, 2014).

Guidance on Model Data Refinements

Based in part on feedback from local partners, the EPA Bay Program is accepting refined model input data by the end of 2014. Apart from agricultural data, EPA is accepting land use/cover data, numbers of septic systems and BMP inventories. Each of these is addressed separately below.

Land Use and Land Cover Data and Septic Systems

On February 4, 2013, Tom Thornton sent an email to local WIP Team leads entitled, "Local Land-Use Data Solicitation for CBP Model Update." The email solicited readily available information about land cover, septic systems, zoning and other things by May 31, 2013. The solicitation was designed to help CBP staff understand the kinds of local

information available to them. Local partners will have the opportunity to submit additional data of these kinds by the end of 2014. For more information, Contact: Jeff White at jeff.white@maryland.gov or 410-537-3884.

Historical BMP Cleanup Guidance

Between now and the end of 2014, the EPA Bay Program is soliciting refined data for the Bay watershed model. This is an opportunity to clean up the historical BMP record. To support this, MDE will provide Historical BMP Cleanup Guidance to the local WIP Team leads by July 31, 2013. For more information, Contact: Paul Emmart at paul.emmart@maryland.gov or 410-537-3689.

BMP Progress Reporting

By September 30 of each year, local partners are to submit BMP implementation information to the State covering the prior state fiscal year (July 1 – June 30). This is a long-standing process that predates the Bay TMDL and 2-year Milestones. For more information, Contact: Greg Sandi at gregorio.sandi@maryland.gov or 410-537-3742.

Local 2013 Milestone Final Progress

The State is requesting final progress reports on local 2013 Milestones by January 31, 2014. A simple one-page guide on this was sent by email to local WIP leads on March 22, 2013 in follow-up to the February 26 WIP Webinar. Guide: <http://tinyurl.com/MD-2013-Report-Guide>. These final progress reports will be posted to the State's WIP web page similar to what was done with local Phase II WIP strategies and milestones.

Local 2015 Milestone Development Deadline

The State is requesting that local 2014 - 2015 Milestones be submitted by January 31, 2014. The focus of this request is on programmatic milestone commitments to be achieved during calendar period January 1, 2014 – December 31, 2015. Local partners are also encouraged to submit BMP milestones to be achieved during the state fiscal year period July 1, 2013 – June 30, 2015. It is advised that local leaders be involved in developing the local 2015 Milestone commitments.

Guidance: Local partners are encouraged to review the guidance provided for developing 2013 milestones as part of the Phase II WIP development process. In addition, local partners are encouraged to consider the 2013 Milestones of other jurisdictions, which were part of their Phase II WIP submittals.

More Information

For more information about the WIP in general, or to offer suggestions, please contact Tom Thornton at thomas.thornton@maryland.gov or 410-537-3656.