



Toxic Contaminant Policy and Prevention

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Through the Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement, the Chesapeake Bay Program has committed to...

Relevant Photo

Goal: Toxic Contaminants

Policy and Prevention:

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.

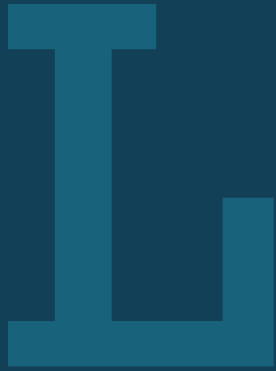


How You Can Help



Substantial work has been completed; however, levels of PCBs in fish are mostly unchanged.

The Toxic Contaminants Workgroup (TCW) recommends continuing within the five existing management approaches.



Learn

What have we learned in the last two years?



Successes and Challenges

- Insert PCB story map

**Policy and Prevention Outcome
Regulatory Programs**



Successes and Challenges

Policy and Prevention Outcome Regulatory Programs

- Leveraging Clean Water Act Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) remains the major strategic approach.
- PCB story map shows widespread impairments and active TMDL programs in the jurisdictions. Some areas listed as impaired for PCBs have no TMDLs active or planned.



Successes and Challenges

Policy and Prevention Outcome Regulatory Programs

- Implementation of management actions under established TMDLs is limited.
- Jurisdictions follow unique paths in designing and implementing PCB TMDLs including modeling tools.
- The jurisdictions continue PCB monitoring including fish tissue. No synthesis of that data is available.



Successes and Challenges

Policy and Prevention Outcome Voluntary Programs

- Report on the feasibility of reducing the amount of PCBs in service across the watershed concluded that a greater mass exists in fluorescent light ballasts (FLBs) than in electrical transformers. Indicates legitimate strategy shift to focus on the controlled removal of FLBs possibly in schools and in collaboration with the sustainable schools outcome.



Successes and Challenges

Policy and Prevention Outcome
Education and Awareness

- Marquis project, the fish consumption infographic, is complete. Roll-out and promotion will continue.

Insert picture of infographic



Successes and Challenges

Policy and Prevention Outcome Science and Research

- Report on the effect on PCB releases following upgrade of wastewater treatment plants concluded that PCBs are reduced through upgrades; however, PCBs are not destroyed but rather partition to the biosolids. Raises questions about the disposal of biosolids and the potential for cycling back into the environment.

**Policy and Prevention Outcome
PCB Consortium**

- Partners requested that analysis of the feasibility of a cooperative inter-jurisdiction PCB consortium be delayed until after WIP III. Subsequently staff time has not allowed this assessment to begin. The Toxic Contaminants Workgroup (TCW) believes this approach has substantial potential benefits and intends to pursue it in the coming planning cycle.



What is our Expected and Actual Progress?

Insert top level indicator



On the Horizon

Policy and Prevention Outcome Fiscal Development

- Fiscal development: settlement of a class-action lawsuit against Bayer (Monsanto) Corp. Some of the settlement funds will be directed to localities in the Chesapeake watershed including Baltimore Back River and DC Potomac/Anacostia.
- Strategic question is how can the CBP partnership leverage the funds and help to ensure that the PCB remediation activities are efficient and informed by the partnership's agencies.



On the Horizon

Policy and Prevention Outcome Fiscal Development

- Opportunity for sharing lessons learned and best practices across the jurisdictions as the remediation activities as well as inter-jurisdiction coordination in shared sub-watersheds such as the Anacostia.
- TCW response is to make workgroup meetings a place for sharing, updates, learning and promoting coordination among jurisdictions. An example of possible work to be tracked and supported by a PCB consortium.

A large, stylized, blue letter 'A' is centered on a dark blue background. The letter has a thick, blocky font with a slight shadow effect. The background is divided into horizontal bands of color: a dark blue band at the top, a medium blue band in the middle, and a light green band at the bottom.

Adapt

How does all of this impact our work?



**Based on what we
learned, we plan to ...**

**Policy and Prevention Outcome
Fiscal Development**

Unlike last cycle when a factor and management approach were added, we do not envision adding new major elements. TCW plans to work within the existing management approaches. All proposed activities for the coming planning cycle fit within existing management approaches.



Help

*How can the Management Board
lead the Program to adapt?*



Help Needed

Policy and Prevention Outcome

- Allocate more staff and financial resources to move PCB TMDLs forward
- Use existing permit controls (MS4, wastewater) to gain more low-detection data
- Find co-benefits N/P/S
- Consider a stronger consortium



Discussion