

**CBP Water Quality Goal Implementation Team
Toxic Contaminants Workgroup
Meeting Minutes**

Date: Wednesday October 9th, 2019

Time: 1:00 - 3:00 PM

Calendar Page: [Link](#).



Agenda Item and Desired Outcome	Time	Background Docs, Notes, and Action Items
<p>1. Introductions and Announcements</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approval of the August meeting minutes – Scott Phillips • Bay Journal Article: <i>Researchers find sunscreen chemicals in Chesapeake oysters.</i> – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Antibiotics, natural and synthetic hormones also detected in water, sediment and bivalve tissue.” • Federal Remediation Technologies Roundtable (FRTR) is scheduled for Wednesday, November 13, 2019. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting topic: Synthesizing Evolving Conceptual Site Models (CSMs) with Applicable Remediation Technologies. • Register here. Registration will close COB November 8th. • Article from the Baltimore Sun: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Baltimore County says Monsanto contaminated its water. A lawsuit could make the company pay for cleanup.” • EPA’s Fish and Shellfish Newsletter: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Michigan Issues ‘Do Not Eat’ Fish Consumption Advisory for All Fish in Beaver Dam Pond and Helmer Creek in Calhoun County Due to PFAS.” • Updates from Pesticide Conference on September 18th – Scott Phillips 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review of minutes and actions from previous meeting.
<p>2. Updates from GIT Scope 7 Review Committee (PAH content in pavement sealants) – Lillian Power, DOEE</p>	1:20	
<p>3. Spatial and temporal variability of toxic contaminants in agriculturally dominated watersheds of the Chesapeake Bay: Implications for management – Kelly Smalling, USGS</p>	1:30	Presentation
<p>4. A. Findings and Recommendations from draft report for STAC Workshop on Toxic Contaminants in Agriculture and Urban Settings; B. Discuss Options for a Fact Sheet for the Report – Scott Phillips, USGS and writing team</p>	2:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Workshop presentations available here. • Draft of report
<p>5. Wrap Up and Adjourn</p>	2: 30	<p>Next meeting: November 13th, 2019 from 1- 3 PM</p>

Summary of Actions and Decisions:

Action: TCW members will send their comments / edits for the draft STAC report on Toxic Contaminants in Agriculture and Urban Settings to Scott Phillips (swphillips@usgs.gov).

Action: Scott Phillips will present the Final STAC report to the TCW at the November meeting.

Meeting Minutes:

1. Introductions and Announcements

- a. Pesticide Conference from September 18th: there were several workgroups that included practitioners and scientists that examine different issues (carbon sequestration in soils, etc.) A really wide range meeting in terms of topics.
- b. CBC PA chair has signaled his intent to file a Firefighting foam ban.

2. Updates from GIT Scope 7 Review Committee (PAH content in pavement sealants) – Lillian Power, DOEE

Background: DC and several counties in MD have had coal tar sealant bans on the books for multiple years to prevent PAH's from entering rivers and other bodies of water. DC expanded the ban to include any product that contains 0.5% PAH by weight. There are other jurisdictions locally and nationally that are interested in passing similar bans. The problem is that in the industry, PAH's are not tested or guarded, so it's hard to know if products contain them. This project has two primary goals: develop a standard operating procedure for testing PAH sealants (types of products, # of products, how do you prepare them for testing, etc.), and once the SOP is finalized create a list of low PAH products that are 0.1% concentration or less. Current status: we are gathering research for this process, working with the contractor to finalize our list of products to test. We are also determining what our strategy will be for engaging industry. We are also looking to add a person to the steering committee that can speak to the industry and has that experience.

Questions:

Marel King, CBC: is this chemical in road repair when they are fixing cracks in pavement? Is it in that sort of product as well? Can you provide examples of other products?

Lillian Power, DOEE: yes, but it's complicated. There are crack fillers that do have a range of PAH concentrations and coal tar in them. These products are a different method to test since they are composed of different materials. Industry does not promote their PAH concentrations so we can't give details but there is probably a range of PAH in these products (crack seal fillers) that we are unaware of.

Evelyn McKnight, EPA: does this deal with roof sealants?

Lillian Power, DOEE: No.

Doug Austin, EPA: during DC hearings for this law, was there any push back from industry?

Lillian Power, DOEE: shockingly no, but in some other counties there was some concerns expressed, but the bans passed.

3. Spatial and temporal variability of toxic contaminants in agriculturally dominated watersheds of the Chesapeake Bay: Implications for Management – Kelly Smalling, USGS

Presentation Description (not published yet, so presentation is not posted to website): This project documented the sources, occurrence and transport of chemicals associated with agricultural settings. It also provided the science to help mitigate contaminants emphasizing co-benefits with nutrient/sediment reductions. Big question: can water quality management actions help minimize EDCs? There are three key management strategies that could help: 1) flow and agricultural land-cover are primary predictor variables in modeling for select number of compounds, 2) flow tends to play a larger roll in the spring months when run-off events are more frequent and agricultural activity increases, 3) BMP's designed to reduce nutrients under run-ff events or high flow conditions could have positive effects on some EDCs as well.

Questions:

Scott Phillips, USGS: LU, especially in the Susquehanna, there wasn't as much agricultural land use but there was a high detection of pesticides.

Kelly Smalling, USGS: Theory: there are more BMP's in the Potomac than the Susquehanna and that may be why there are less pesticides. We don't have enough sites to look at that specifically, but we can look at it quantitatively and make an educated guess. We need to broaden our look across a greater number of sites. We need to determine if estrogenicity is an indicator for landscape predictors.

Doug Austin, EPA: Phytoestrogens that naturally occur in plants- are they good or bad?

Kelly Smalling, USGS: there are tons that are naturally occurring in the environment. The ones we focused on are specific to crops (soybeans, red clover, etc.). From their structure we can understand what type of plant they are coming from. There have been some studies that have indicated that in high doses they can have an endocrine disruption in fish, but that research is still in its infancy.

Scott Phillips, USGS: are there any of the upcoming publications that would be available to share for a presentation in the near future?

Kelly Smalling, USGS: Source modeling paper (Stephany Gordon); Megan Shall, Small Mouth Bass; Pat Phillips, Phytoestrogens (she would need to check in with him first).

4. STAC – Scott Phillips, USGS and writing team

a. Findings and Recommendations from the draft report for STAC workshop on Toxic Contaminants in Agriculture and Urban Settings

Executive Summary (draft): The report is broken into sections: 1) fish consumption advisories and fish health, 2) sources and transport of contaminants of concern, and 3) mitigation and potential interactions with contaminants and nutrient sediment BMPs. In the last section on mitigation we would like some improved understanding and comments so that we can share this with the jurisdictions. Please send your comments to Scott Phillips by the end of the week. At the next meeting we will look at the final report keeping in mind the best way to get this information out to different audiences (ex. USWG, AGWG) to help them get the co-benefits.

b. Discuss Options for a Fact Sheet for the Report:

Summary: some funding has been set aside to turn the findings from this report to a fact sheet. While people review, they should consider what should be highlighted in a fact sheet. One recommendation is to focus on the mitigation section of the report for the fact sheet.

Action: TCW members will send their comments / edits for the draft STAC report on Toxic Contaminants in Agriculture and Urban Settings to Scott Phillips (swphillips@usgs.gov).

Action: Scott Phillips will present the Final STAC report to the TCW at the November meeting.

Call Participants

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