

Potomac Drinking Water Source Protection Partnership

Scope: Regional/Watershed

Location: Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia, and the District of Columbia

CONTACT INFORMATION:

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Website: www.potomacdwspp.org/
Annual Reports: www.potomacdwspp.org/about-us/documents-publications/

Coordinated by the Interstate Commission on the Potomac River Basin:
www.potomacriver.org/

SCOPE:

- Potomac River Basin
- Members: Approximately two dozen water suppliers and government agencies.
- Focus: Protects the drinking water of over 6 million residents who live in the Potomac River Basin (areas of Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia, and the District of Columbia).

COLLABORATIVE FORMATION:

- Founding members were water utilities and agencies serving residents in Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia, and the District of Columbia.
- Founding members formed the organization framework and resolution to form the Partnership on April 13, 2004.

STRUCTURE/FUNDING:

- The Potomac Drinking Water Source Protection Partnership (DWSPP) is jointly funded by fees contributed by the five basin jurisdictions (Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia, and the District of Columbia) and the member water suppliers.
- DWSPP consists of a Government Committee and a Utility Committee. The Partnership Chair alternates annually between the Government Committee Chair and the Utility Committee Chair. The Interstate Commission on the Potomac River Basin (ICPRB), as an independent agency whose charter encompasses the entire basin, provides coordination and administrative support.

MEMBERS:

See list of current members:
<https://www.potomacdwspp.org/about-us/who-we-are/>

Water Suppliers

- Berkeley County Public Service Water District, West Virginia
- City of Frederick, Maryland
- City of Hagerstown, Maryland
- Corporation of Harpers Ferry
- DC Water
- City of Rockville, Maryland

- Fairfax Water
- Frederick County, Maryland
- Loudoun Water
- Town of Leesburg, Virginia
- Town of Romney, West Virginia
- Town of Shepherdstown, West Virginia
- Washington Aqueduct Division of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
- Washington County, Maryland
- WSSC Water

Government Agencies

- District of Columbia Department of Energy & Environment (DOEE)
- Interstate Commission on the Potomac River Basin (ICPRB)
- Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE)
- Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PA DEP)
- United States Environmental Protection Agency, Region 3 (EPA Region 3)
- United States Geological Survey (USGS)
- Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (VADEQ)
- Virginia Department of Health (VDH)
- West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources (WV DHHR)
- West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection (WV DEP)

WATER CONCERNS:

- De-icing materials
- Emerging contaminants
- Hazardous spills
- Pathogens
- Stormwater
- Watershed protection

STRATEGIES:

- Identify regional priorities for source water protection efforts
- Coordinate, where appropriate, source water and drinking water protection efforts to benefit multiple water systems
- Establish and maintain a coordinated dialogue between water suppliers and government agencies involved in drinking water source protection within the Potomac River watershed
- Establish and maintain a coordinated dialogue between the Partnership agencies and other groups working towards watershed protection within the Potomac River watershed
- Promote information sharing among groups working on, and affected by, safe drinking water issues
- Enhance coordinated approaches to water supply protection measures in the Potomac basin, especially for boundary waters and for project planning that impacts waterways
- Develop new initiatives within the drinking water community and with partners what will fill program voids ensuring higher quality drinking water supplies

RESULTS:

- Created a GIS tool to prioritize land parcels for conservation and source water protection.
- Developing collaborative relationships with NRCS to promote source water protection in the Potomac basin.
- Publish a biweekly e-newsletter with news and information about source water protection around the basin and the nation.

Information current as of November 2020. Please check with the Collaborative contacts (or website if available) for the most up to date information. To find other source water collaborati2ves across the U.S. or to add yours to the list, visit the Source Water Collaborative's [How To Collaborate Toolkit](#)