



Drinking Water PFAS Task Force

Minutes

January 16, 2025 - Harford County Water & Sewer Administration Bldg.

Introductions

Present in the room:

- Bill Bettin – Harford County Water & Sewer
- Larry Slattery – Harford County Water & Sewer
- Dan Pazdersky – Harford County Water & Sewer
- Pamela Simper – Harford County Water & Sewer
- Mike Turner – Harford County Water & Sewer
- Bill Smith – Harford County Water & Sewer
- Rich Hanzevack – Harford County Public Schools
- Chris Morton – Harford County Public Schools
- Brian Phipps – Harford County Health Department

Participating via Teams:

- Joe Siemek – Harford County DPW
- Jeff Schoenberger – Bureau of Solid Waste Management
- Hayden Anthony – Harford County Facilities and Ops
- Patti Jo Beard – Harford County Public Schools
- Johnathon Ely – City of Aberdeen DPW
- Catherine Boston - HCC
- Matthew Lapinsky – Maryland Environmental Service
- Ignacio Queirolo – City of Havre de Grace DPW

Review Previous Minutes

Any additional comments or additions? None.

Review the Purpose of this Task Force

- 1) Coordinate to align efforts of PFAS response
- 2) Share knowledge and expertise
- 3) Foster public information
- 4) Identify public funding to help our efforts

This task force is looking to assist the

- (17) Community water systems
- (46) Non-transient non-community water systems – not connected to public water.
- (177) Transient non-community water systems

Updates from Members

- Harford Co. DPW (Bill) – Foster public information. The website has been updated with all of the agendas, minutes, and any additional information that was previously discussed. It is available publicly at the website noted below.
- Harford Co. is a member of MAMWA (Maryland Association of Municipal Wastewater), which is legislative over watch. Report published Jan 9th of what legislation is being proposed, drinking water is a key one, nothing is currently pending; will pass along any information during the legislative over watch. MAMWA is an excellent guide to see what is coming down the legislative pipeline.
- (Dan) – is on the board for MAMWA and can provide additional information for those interested.
- (Larry) – Provided an update to the biosolids testing and application
- (Bill S.) – Success story for Perryman wells; Carbon vessels, breakthrough in GACs, able to produce results within a few days and able to change flow, allowing for early warning and being able to act quickly.
- MDE certification; MDE will now accept applications in April, which will create a three-month delay.
- (Mike) – 3 of 4 Perryman GACs have been replacement
- (Dan) – Nothing to report
- City of Aberdeen (Jonathan Ely) – Completed four quarters of PFAS testing and bio solids testing.
- Town of Bel Air – No one present
- Havre de Grace – No updates
- MD American – No one present
- HCPS (Chris) – reached out Matt with MES to start looking at the procurement of treatment systems for the schools – current problem trying to access grants – looking into next January due to the Master plan update and tight Jan 31 deadline. Last meeting was very helpful.
- HCC – (Cathy) Received products to update well. Need to fill out permits to start construction – using activated carbon filters.
- Harford Co. Facilities (Hayden) – No updates
- Harford Co. Heath Dept (Brian) – PFAS training webinar/in-person January 22 presented by MD Water Monitoring Council - believes registration is still open. Will share information for those that are interested. Broad overview training of PFAS.
- MES (Matt) – MAMWA, best thing to be a part of; worth the money. Was asked about the risk assessment discussion; Matt to follow up with the information presented and will distribute.
- Track build – Senate Bill 265 (Reservoir Augmentation Permit) – water from wastewater plants with additional treatment; keep an eye out on the bill; expect the bill to go through.
- Harford Co. DPW (Jeff) – No updates
- Harford Co. DPW (Joe) – No updates
- HCPS (Chris) – will septic reserves (drain fields) change in the future given new technology in place? Regulations have not been looked at reducing the size of the drain fields. (Larry) current systems are not cheap at this point and require additional disinfection. (Matt) MDE has so many regulations at this point.

Member Issues and Concerns:

- (Bill) Sewer sludge regulation – report released two days ago; if we lose land application, it could pose a huge problem/burden for the counties and municipalities that deal with biosolids. Residents might be affected where sewer sludge is applied. Report includes risk assessment, exposure pathways, and tables with the risk levels. It's a draft risk assessment; may pursue further regulations.
- (Matt L.) Composting, what is the state saying with regards to PFAS. (Johnathan) To just get initial results/samples into the state. More information to come. (Bill S.) same with influent/effluent samples to the state, submitted samples to the state, but no feedback was given.
- (Bill) Any other issues to raise? No further issues raised

Next Meeting

- Proposal assistance from UMD Environmental Finance Center planned for our next meeting. Note the next meeting was initially slated for Feb 27th, but subsequently adjusted to March 6th to allow for their presentation and participation.

Anything Else to Share

- (Chris) – Has a meeting planned with MD Department of the Environment; will provide additional information
- (Bill S.) – Plant hosted CWEA and provided a tour; information will be posted in their newsletter.

Meeting is adjourned.

References:

- EPA Fact Sheet: PFAS NPDWR Monitoring and Reporting
https://www.epa.gov/system/files/documents/2024-04/pfas-npdwr_fact-sheet_monitoring_4.8.24_0.pdf
- MDE: PFAS in Private Drinking Water Wells
https://mde.maryland.gov/PublicHealth/Documents/PFAS%20Private%20Well%20Factsheet_March2023.pdf
- EPA SDWIS Search <https://enviro.epa.gov/envirofacts/sdwis/search>
- MDE – Consumer Confidence Reports, Harford County
https://mde.maryland.gov/programs/water/water_supply/ConsumerConfidenceReports/Pages/harford.aspx
- Harford County Task Force Site <https://www.harfordcountymd.gov/3781/Drinking-Water-PFAS-Task-Force>
- Harford County PFAS letter to customers
<https://www.harfordcountymd.gov/DocumentCenter/View/26650/PFAS-letter-to-Harford-Co-water-customers>