EPA’s New Vision and Maryland’s Priorities for Total Maximum Daily Load Development

Section 303(d) of the federal Clean Water Act requires Maryland (MD) to: (1) identify waters, known as water quality limited segments (WQLSs), where technology-based effluent limitations and other required controls cannot achieve water quality standards; (2) for each listed water, establish Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) for pollutants preventing the attainment of water quality standards; and (3) offer an opportunity for public review and comment on the proposed TMDLs.

MDE is holding three public meetings throughout the State, at the locations identified below, to provide information on the TMDL Program’s plans and priorities for the 2016-2022 period. MDE is using these meetings to solicit feedback on these plans from interested stakeholders. The purpose of these meetings is to describe our approach to the New Vision in general, and to discuss in particular our strategy for prioritizing watersheds for restoration and protection under CWA § 303(d).

Informational Meetings

Informational briefings will be held as follows:

**Eastern Shore:**
October 20, 2015
10:00AM-Noon
Talbot Co. Free Library
100 West Dover St.
Easton, Maryland 21601

**Western Maryland:**
October 22, 2015
1:00PM-3:00PM
CBA Community Room
C. Burr Artz Public Library
110 East Patrick Street Frederick, MD 21701

**Central Maryland:**
October 27, 2015
9:00AM-11:00AM
MDE Lobby Conference Rooms
1800 Washington Blvd, Baltimore, MD 21061

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**EPA's New Vision**
The U.S. EPA has recently unveiled a “Long-Term Vision for Assessment, Restoration, and Protection under the Clean Water Act Section 303(d) Program,” under which the TMDL Program is administered. Details of the EPA’s “New Vision” for CWA § 303(d) may be found here:[http://water.epa.gov/lawsregs/lawsguidance/cwa/tmdl/programvision.cfm](http://water.epa.gov/lawsregs/lawsguidance/cwa/tmdl/programvision.cfm).