



Water Quality Advisory Group

September 15, 2025, Meeting Notes

Meeting Location

Virtual Meeting on Teams

[Remote Teams Meeting link](#)

Attendance

Members Present (In-person and remote)

- Keith Brooks
- Phillip Mariscal
- Amy Stevens
- Mark Symborski
- Bob Buglass
- Travis Gorleski
- Linda Silversmith

Members Not Present

- Tracy Rouleau
- Allison Wright
- Amanda Rockler

Proof of Quorum

A quorum was not present, and no official business or voting was conducted.

Staff Present

- Ho-Ching Fong

Guests

- None

Guest Speakers

- Joel Caudill, Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission
- Thomas Hilton, Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission

Handouts

- WQAG Briefing 9_2025 - Cooperation & Coord for regional Water Supply in the Metro Area.pdf

Call To Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 PM.

Welcome and Introductions

Travis Gorleski, co-chair of the WQAG, welcomed the guest speakers, and each speaker and member present provided a brief introduction.

Review and Approval of Previous Meeting Notes

The group reviewed the meeting notes from the July meeting. There were no recommended edits or comments. As a quorum was not present, the meeting notes could not be formally approved. The review was conducted for discussion purposes only.

Review and Approve Meeting Agenda

The draft agenda for the meeting was reviewed. As a quorum was not present, the agenda could not be formally approved. The group proceeded with the proposed agenda for discussion purposes only.

Meeting Notes Agenda Items

1. Regional Cooperation and Coordination for Water Resource Planning for Metropolitan Washington Drinking Water Sources Supply, Joel Caudill and Thomas Hilton, WSSC
 - a. This presentation was given at the Tricon in Ocean City. Jole is the regional sewer manager, and Tom is the planning chief. They work closely with the Interstate Commission on the Potomac River Basin (ICPRB).
 - b. The presentation is an overview of the history of Montgomery County's water supply and the region. It was over five decades of coordination among the jurisdictions that sourced their water supply from the Potomac River. There are two agreements negotiated between the USACOE and the jurisdictions, which include five public systems, 10 intakes, 8 treatment plants, and 7 major storage reservoirs providing water to the region. Seventy percent of WSSC's raw water comes from the Potomac River.
 - c. 1966 lowest recorded flow on the Potomac River. Led to the need for coordination and began the work on the two agreements that govern the allocation of the Potomac River water supply.
 - d. Low Flow Allocation Agreement (LFAA, 1978): LFAA: Allocates withdrawals from the Potomac when flow is insufficient to meet the demands of water agencies and

environmental flow by ensuring the city gets an equitable share of flow from the river when there isn't enough water to meet all needs. LFAA covers all the intakes – Fairfax, WSSC, Rockville, Washington Aqueduct at Great Falls, and Little Falls - but does not cover Loudoun. Loudoun has language in their permit that their use doesn't impact the metro area.

- e. Water Supply Coordination Agreement (WSCA, 1982): water suppliers are committed to coordinating during droughts to optimize available source water, maintain the Drought-related operations manual, jointly plan, design construction and share the cost of future regional water storage facilities, conduct planning forecasts every five years, and provide oversight and funding for the annual operation budget for the ICPRB Co-Op Section. Four decades of success.
 - f. 400m gallons/daily by the three major suppliers: Fairfax County Water Authority, Washington Aqueduct, and Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission. Upstream reservoirs (Savage Reservoir, Jennings Randolph Reservoir, Little Seneca Reservoir, Patuxent Reservoirs, and Occoquan Reservoir) supplement flow during droughts.
 - g. Gauges in the river determine when the flow will need to be supplemented. Point of Rocks gauge in Frederick Co. is the first reference for determining drought.
2. Discussion on additional speaker topics, potential topics included:
- a. Water supply resiliency
 - b. Threshold for stream restoration – what criteria are used by DEP and Parks to select a stream restoration project?
2. Reports of Officers, Boards, Standing Committees
- a. None at this time.
3. Reports of Special Committees
- a. None at this time.
4. Special Orders
- a. None at this time.
5. Unfinished Business and General Orders
- a. None at this time.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be on October 20, 2025, at 7:00 P.M. Mark Symborski will be the notetaker for the next meeting.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:28 P.M.