

September 27, 2024

Local Leadership Workgroup Update

Les Knapp, Government Relations Director, MDE LLWG Vice Chair

Agenda =

- August Quarterly
 Meeting Recap –
 Talking Toxics w/
 Local Officials
- Technical Assistance
 Inventory and Gap
 Analysis

3 Local Leadership Survey – Findings and Figures

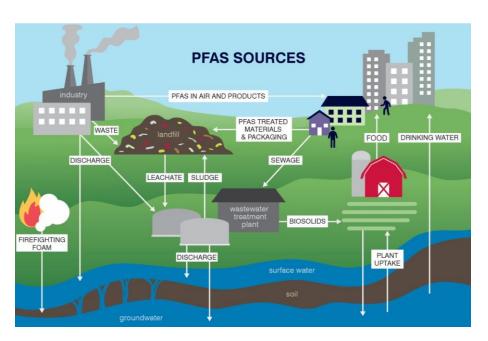
DC Peer to Peer – Equitable Access to Green Space

1

August Quarterly Meeting

Talking Toxics with Local Governments

August Quarterly Meeting



Support Local Governments in Addressing Toxic and Emerging Contaminants

August Quarterly Meeting

Technical Assistance to Brownfield Communities

EPA's Technical Assistance to Brownfields (TAB) Communities Program

Transforming environmental liabilities into community assets





Technical Assistance Inventory and Gap Analysis

Technical Assistance Inventory and Gap Analysis

- Identify and inventory existing local government technical assistance programs that align with the Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement outcomes.
- Compile standardized information about each technical assistance program (geographic scope, funding source, types of local governments served, type of services offered, costs, and key watershed agreement outcomes the technical assistance addresses).

Technical Assistance Inventory and Gap Analysis

- Define and analyze gaps (regions, types of local governments, types of services offered, watershed agreement outcomes covered, etc.) in existing technical assistance programs.
- Recommend approach to fill gaps in technical assistance to local governments to drive increased implementation towards meeting watershed agreement outcomes.

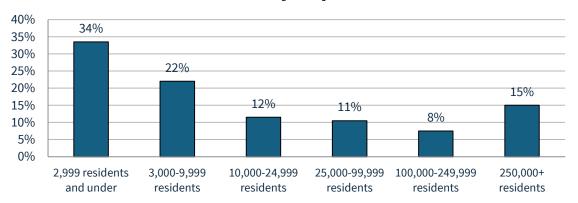
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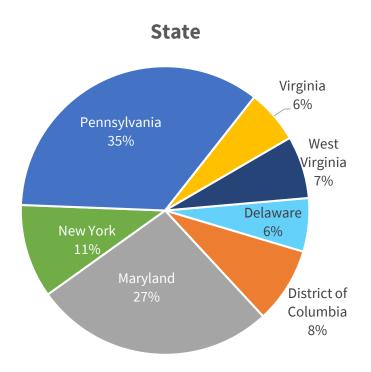
Local Leadership Survey Findings and Figures

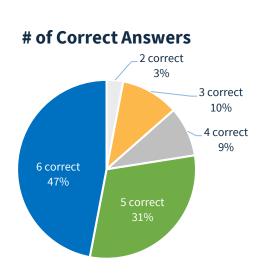
Local Leadership Survey

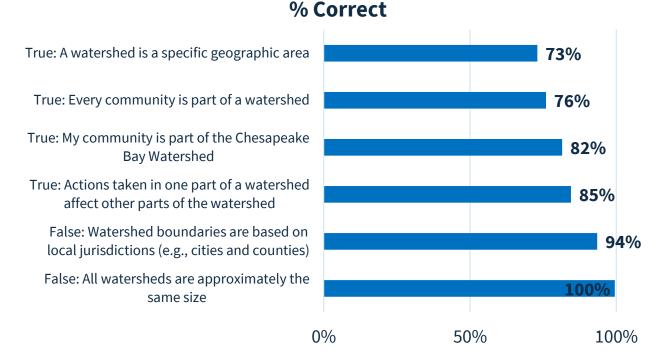
• 200 respondents from communities in all six states in the Bay watershed and Washington, D.C.

Community Population

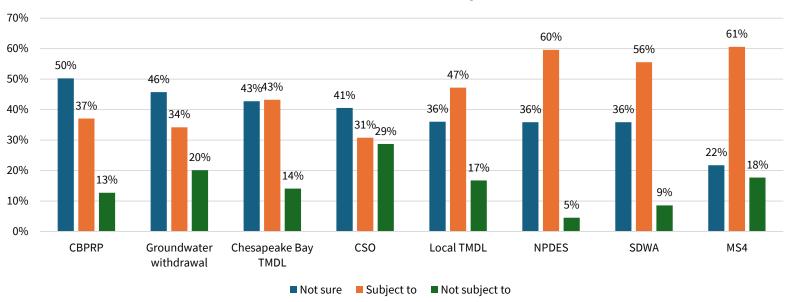








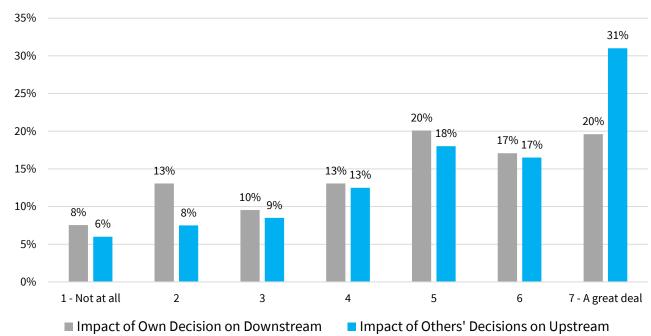




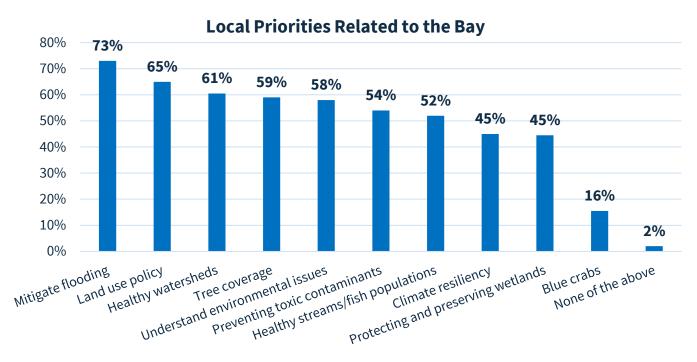
 Understanding of regulations was lowest for officials with less than 2 years experience and highest for those with 11+ years experience.

Half (50%) think about downstream communities when making policy decisions. Respondents were more inclined to see others' decisions impacting their own communities vs. their decisions impacting other communities.

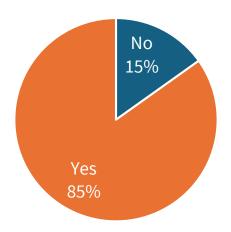
Perceived Impact of Decisions



 Mitigating flooding remained as a top local priority to water resources.

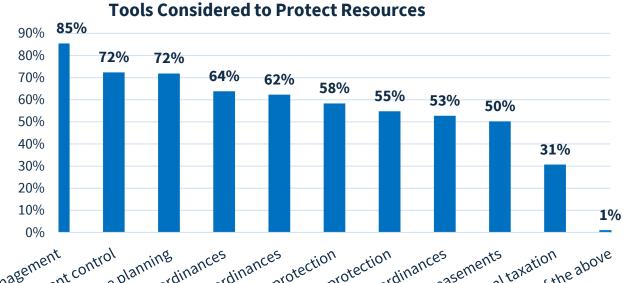


 Majority say they have a contact person to consult for more information on water resources or how to implement environmental policy.



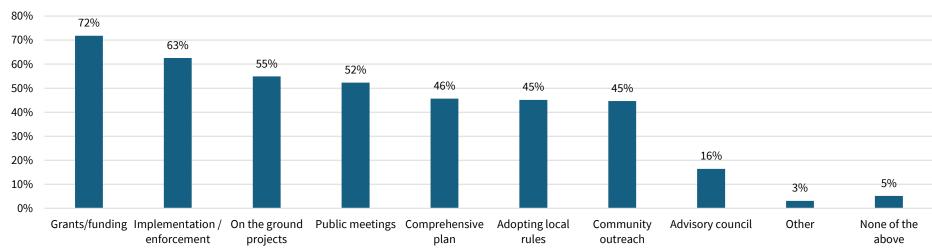
Question 15: If you had a question about water resources or how best to implement environmental policy, do you have a knowledgeable person or source you could go to for assistance?

Stormwater management remained as key tool to protect water resources with erosion/sediment control and comprehensive planning highly considered.



Stormwater management Comprehensive planning Zoning ordinances Forest protection Conservation easements Local taxation Source water protection Conservation easements Local taxation Source Water Protection Conservation easements Local taxation above Local taxation Source Water Protection Conservation easements





Almost all respondents (95%) reported taking actions related to water resources.

- Smaller communities (especially those with fewer than 10,000 residents) remained lower in using tools, taking fewer actions, not understanding regulations as well, and lower knowledge scores.
- Officials in office longer (11+ years) continued to report less uncertainty about whether various federal regulations apply to their communities and a higher understanding of state regulations.

Local Leadership Next Steps

 How will the LLWG utilize this information moving forward?

 What are the key areas the LLWG is looking to focus on in the future?

4

DC Peer to Peer Tour

Facilitating Equitable Access to Greenspace

DC Peer to Peer





P2Ps in all watershed jurisdictions!



Maryland

Department of the Environment

Thank you!

Les Knapp, Government Relations Director, Maryland Department of Environment LLWG Vice Chair les.knapp@maryland.gov

