

# Potential COVID-19 Impacts by Jurisdiction

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LOCAL GOVERNMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE (LGAC) QUARTERLY  
MEETING WEBINAR | JUNE 4, 2020

# Delaware

James Sullivan, DE DNREC

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- **PSC-Approved Two-Year Milestones Deliverables and Schedule:** Delaware anticipate milestones will be completed on time, provided that our partners provide responses on time and EPA adheres to their deadlines.
- **Annual Progress Data Submission Schedules:** Delaware will be as proactive as possible in collecting partner data and submitting before the December 1st deadline.
- **QAPPs for ongoing monitoring:** Delaware doesn't anticipate this deadline being an issue.
- **QAPPs for BMP verification:** Pending the CBPO/EPA critique of the document, Delaware would have to accommodate accordingly to meet the December 1st deadline.
- **Submission of tidal and non-tidal water quality monitoring data:** Delaware has this as a requirement for the EPA 106 grant and has never had a problem meeting this deadline.

# District of Columbia

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## Citywide Updates:

- Analysts estimate a \$1.5 billion revenue loss for the District through FY21 due to COVID-19.
- Mayor Bowser presented a balanced budget to the DC Council for FY21 in May.

## DOEE Updates:

- DOEE will continue its stormwater control and pollution prevention programs to comply with our federal MS4 permit and Bay TMDL.
  - However, the scope of some of these programs will be reduced due to COVID-19
- DOEE will continue Restoration Programming that benefit the District's Water Quality. In FY21 these efforts will include:
  - Continuation of the Oxon Run Stream Restoration
  - Restoration of tidal and non-tidal wetlands, fringe wetlands, living shorelines, and submerged aquatic vegetation and mussel beds

## Chesapeake Bay Program Impacts:

- 2 Year Programmatic Milestones
  - DC submit Final Version on June 1
  - In response to COVID-19, will reevaluate milestones in Fall to determine feasibility
- Annual Progress Reporting
  - Expect to submit Annual Progress Reports on time - Due December 1
  - Encourage EPA to support Federal Agency submissions, due to Jurisdictions October 1
    - 30% of land in the District is Federally owned
- Monitoring Program
  - District monitoring will restart under Phase I Reopening with proper safety precautions

# Maryland

Phil Stafford, MD DNR

Kathy Stecker, MDE

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- *(invited)*

# New York

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Danny Lapin, AICP

- *(see presentation)*

# Pennsylvania

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Jessica Trimble, PA DCED

- **Decreased local capacity to continue operations**
  - Safety challenges
  - Technological challenges
  - Fiscal challenges
  - Political and communication challenges
- **Increased strain on fiscally vulnerable municipalities, such as those in PA's Act 47 Program**
  - Loss of revenue
  - Increased lack of available credit for previously unstable municipalities
  - Loss of ability to make debt payments
    - Tax Anticipation Notices
    - Pensions
    - Capital improvement debts
- **Projected impacts**
  - Anticipated further decreases in wage tax revenues
  - Anticipated delinquent property tax payments
  - Decreased staffing capacities (thereby decreasing capacity to administer local programs)
  - Potential decreases to state and federally administered local funding programs

# Virginia

Justin Williams, VA DEQ

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- Virginia is committed to ensuring public health and safety while maintaining our commitment to the environment
- Virginia has approximately 33,000 confirmed cases
- Virginia has entered into Phase I reopening for most of the state (except NOVA, RVA) including allowance with limitations at state parks
- Virginia DEQ:
  - Has transitioned to Work At Home
  - Has begun limited resuming of water quality monitoring
  - Has issued guidance that Virginia continues to expect compliance
  - Has begun working under Governor's Executive Order to identify ways to conduct public hearings and meetings when necessary
- Localities largely remain working remotely with no public engagement
- Virginia, working with EPA, has identified and allowed grant extensions
- Virginia Fiscal Considerations:
  - Governor's Budget Action unallots new spending
  - Will revisit and evaluate fiscal impacts largely during August budget reforecast
- Virginia is engaging with localities and planning district commissions regarding concerns over grants, audits, inspections, and commitments

# West Virginia

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Matt Pennington, WV

On Track to fulfill our nutrient and sediment reduction responsibilities long-term.

## **Short-Term Delays / Impacts**

- May cause a few Two-Year Milestones (2020-2021) to fall short.
- Community Tree Plantings have been delayed until the Fall 2020.
- Training and Outreach Events have been delayed or reformatted.

## **Local Government:**

- Revenues will be lower and may effect staffing or capital projects.
- Some grant dollars could be lower or more competitive.
- Estimated financial loss might not be known for at least 6-12 months.