

## **VA GROUND WATER PROTECTION STEERING COMMITTEE**

The next meeting of the Steering Committee will be held on

**Tuesday, May 17,, 2005 from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m.**

**DEQ 629 East Main Street, Richmond VA**

For more information contact Mary Ann Massie at 804-698-4042 or  
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### **Meeting Summary: Tuesday, March 15, 2005**

Steering Committee members in attendance:

Mary Ann Massie, Department of Environmental Quality

Howard Freeland, Department of Environmental Quality

Rebecca Askew, Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services

Jody Aston, Department of Conservation and Recreation

Jim McKean, Department of Business Assistance

George Harlow, US Geological Survey

Chris Adkins, Department of Health

Wyatt Little, Department of Housing and Community Development

Others:

Josh Rubinstein, Virginia Rural Water Association

Albert Crigger, Virginia Rural Water Association

Brock Herzberg, Virginia Farm Bureau

Brent Waters, Golder Associates

Agencies not in attendance:

Virginia Cooperative Extension, Department of Mines, Minerals and Energy, and  
the Department of General Services/Division of Consolidated Laboratories.

Following introductions George Harlow, USGS, gave an overview of their  
Shenandoah Valley Regional Assessment activities. Handouts were provided.

### **AGENCY UPDATES:**

#### **Department of Environmental Quality**

Howard Freeland, Waste, noted DEQ's commitment to cleaning up the  
environment, finding new ways to conduct the site-wide corrective action  
program known as RCRA Corrective Action, and encouraging brownfield  
redevelopment at hazardous waste sites. As a result staff of the Hazardous  
Waste Permitting program has been recognized by EPA for the second year on a  
national level for its efforts and leadership in the RCRA CA program.

DEQ staff members Maria Williams, Dennis Lund and Kelly Ward were awarded  
the State Corrective Action Reform Award. This award recognized the team's  
innovative approach in encouraging clean up and redevelopment at brownfield  
sites subject to RCRA Corrective Action. With EPA's support and participation,  
the team met with a selected group of industries in the Tidewater area and

offered a collaborative approach to meeting the RCRA program goals. At the meetings, the team was able to explain the program requirements, provide a flexible regulatory mechanism, and discuss a source of low interest loans. The Brownfield Remediation Loans are available through the Construction Assistance Program funded through the Clean Water Act and are used to remediate or protect surface or groundwater in the Commonwealth.

In other division news, Howard noted development of a new web page for citizens to obtain information about sites that may have been used for waste disposal in the past. Visit the site at

<http://www.deq.virginia.gov/waste/disposal.html>

Mary Ann Massie noted General Assembly approval to fund two ground water resource characterization positions, receipt of EPA comments on the State Wellhead Protection Plan, and progress in identifying localities interested in participating in a household hazardous waste disposal program.

### **Department of Agriculture and Consumers Services**

Rebecca Askew reported the General Assembly did not approve an additional FTE for the AgStewardship program.

### **Department of Housing and Community Development**

Wyatt Little noted General Assembly support for increased funding for clean water projects in southwest Virginia.

### **Department of Health**

Chris Adkins reported the General Assembly will require amendments to the Code of Virginia to permanently establish exemption criteria for siting sanitary landfills near public water supplies. Chris also noted interest at the General Assembly in expanding sampling requirements for domestic wells, both at well development time and for real estate transactions.

### **Department of Conservation and Recreation**

Jody Aston reported House Bill 2777 substantially increases funding in the Water Quality Improvement Act. DCR staff is working to establish criteria for dispersal of funds.

Josh Rubinstein with **Virginia Rural Water Association** reminded members of their upcoming annual conference March 20-22 in Williamsburg. For details visit [www.vrwa.org](http://www.vrwa.org) VRWA staff member Albert Crigger noted source protection interests by the town of Jonesville.

Brock Herzberg with **Virginia Farm Bureau** noted increased funding in the WQIF would be well received by the agricultural community for future cost share activities. The WQIF funds are dispersed and managed by DCR.

**THE NEXT MEETING IS SET FOR TUESDAY, MAY 17, 2005**