



Office of Environmental Policy







Urban/suburban stormwater is the fastest growing source of pollution to the Chesapeake Bay watershed.

Streets, parking lots, roof tops

New development/redevelopment
– sediment/erosion control violations

Water contact advisories

Fish consumption advisories

Sedimentation of waterways

Algae blooms

Destruction of Habitat

Danger to Navigation









Conowingo Dam Debris in Ego Alley

August 2018

Source: Baltimore Sun



Interaction with State Agencies

- Maryland Department of the Environment
- Maryland Department of Natural Resources
Chesapeake Bay Critical Area Commission
- Maryland Environmental Trust
- Maryland State Highway Administration

Interaction with State Agencies

- NPDES Phase II MS4 permittee
- Chesapeake Bay TMDL goals (2025)
- Forest Conservation Act
- Stormwater Controls
- No Discharge Zone
- Conservation Easements

Stormwater Management

COMAR Title 26

Maryland Stormwater Design Manual (2000), revised 2009)

Sets *minimum* standards for treatment on site at development sites

100% new development

50% redevelopment

Local jurisdictions may do more

- Increasing frequency and severity of rain events
- State minimum targeted at first one inch of rainfall- addresses on site pollution treatment, but not erosion
- Annapolis pursuing more robust stormwater treatment on site

Maryland Forest Conservation Act

COMAR Title 08, Subtitle 19 Forest Conservation (1992)

To minimize the loss of Maryland's forest resources during land development by making the identification and protection of forests and other sensitive areas an integral part of the site planning process.

Of primary interest are areas adjacent to streams or wetlands, those on steep or erodible soils or those within or adjacent to large contiguous blocks of forest or wildlife corridors.

Annapolis strengthen certain provisions in 2016. Maryland General Assembly failed to follow suit.

Annapolis pursuing “no net loss” amendment.

No Discharge Zone

a.k.a.

“Don’t Pee in Our Pool!”

- Prohibits the discharge of sewage from vessels into the NDZ.
- Section 312 of the Clean Water Act provides for designation of NDZ’s.
- A No Discharge Zone is an area of water where the discharge of all boat sewage is prohibited. This includes raw sewage, which is prohibited anywhere within the three-mile limit, as well as sewage treated by an approved marine sanitation device (MSD). An NDZ does not restrict the discharge of gray water.
- Herring Bay and the Northern Coastal Bays are only two NDZ’s in Maryland. Applications are pending for the Chester River and Annapolis/Anne Arundel County.