

2005 Action Strategy for the Reservoir Watersheds

Baltimore Reservoir Watershed Management Program - November 2005

1.0 Reservoir and Watershed Assessment

1.1 Monitoring

(1) Baltimore City will continue to conduct comprehensive water quality monitoring in the three reservoirs and in selected major tributaries. Concentrations of key pollutants of concern will be measured, and estimated annual loadings of sediment and total phosphorus will be calculated.

(2) Baltimore County will continue to conduct chemical and biological sampling in the tributaries in its portions of the three reservoir watersheds, including its Randomized Biological Monitoring Program to assess general water quality in the three watersheds and its Baseflow Chemical Monitoring Program to assess dry-weather-flow water quality in the three watersheds. Results will be reported annually in Baltimore County's NPDES/MS4 report, submitted to MDE.

(3) The RTG will work cooperatively to evaluate the existing reservoir monitoring programs and to determine the resources needed to develop and maintain an integrated comprehensive monitoring program which will support the following objectives (a – e). The signatories will commit to carry out this evaluation within one year of the signing of the 2005 Reservoir Watershed Management Agreement. Based on the results of this evaluation, the RTG will develop a collaborative monitoring strategy for the reservoirs and their tributaries. This strategy will include the development of funding arrangements for the planned monitoring efforts.

- a) The evaluation of annual and long-term water-quality trends in the reservoirs and in their contributing watersheds, with emphasis on those parameters related to the use of the reservoirs as sources of potable water and to their ability to support desirable types of living resources (including the need to sample for sodium and for “disinfection byproduct” precursors);
- b) The evaluation of both monitoring efforts and available predictive tools (such as computer models) for their effectiveness in helping to manage reservoir water quality;
- c) The investigation and evaluation of new technologies (including “best management practices”) that might improve the effectiveness of ongoing reservoir watershed management efforts;
- d) The evaluation of various types of pollutant sources in relation to current land use and land cover in the watersheds; and
- e) The evaluation of the areal extent and adequacy of the existing monitoring networks, including the need to sample additional areas in Carroll County or in selected watersheds.

1.2 Reservoir Modeling and Predictive Analysis

(1) The Department of the Environment (MDE) and its contractors, working in consultation with the members of the Reservoir Technical Group (RTG), will develop in-lake models of Prettyboy and Loch Raven reservoirs. This will be in support of MDE's efforts to develop Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) for nutrients and sediments entering Loch Raven and for nutrients entering Prettyboy. These numbers in turn will support the establishment of annual loading goals for each reservoir.

(2) MDE, working with the RTG, will develop pollutant loading targets for Liberty Reservoir (expressed in maximum pounds per year), using the TMDL process or a suitable alternative method. MDE will consider funding this work through the Chesapeake Bay Restoration Fund.

1.3 Watershed Studies and Modeling

(1) MDE will link its hydrologic and water quality model of the Prettyboy and Loch Raven watersheds (completed in 2002) with the in-lake models described in Section 1.2 to develop TMDLs (see above) for the two reservoirs and to allocate load-reduction goals among the various land uses in the respective watersheds.

(2) MDE will give high priority to the reservoir watersheds on the new statewide Priority List for Watershed Water Availability Studies. These studies will determine the availability of ground water and surface water sources to meet future water demands.

(3) Baltimore and Carroll Counties will work with the RTG to conduct GIS-based landscape assessments of the reservoir watersheds and will develop appropriate "landscape indicators" for use in summarizing watershed conditions (for example, the percent of sub-watershed streams which have forested buffers.) The counties and the RTG will use the data for the various "landscape indicators" to track progress over time towards reservoir watershed management objectives.

2.0 Point Source Management

(1) Hampstead WWTP will continue to meet the requirements of its NPDES discharge permit (issued by MDE in 1997), which requires an effluent phosphorus concentration below 0.3 mg/l. Since its latest upgrade, the WWTP has consistently met this requirement.

(2) Policy for **new** municipal discharges in the watersheds: The Department of the Environment (MDE), through its NPDES permit program, will discourage new discharges exceeding 1,000 gpd, except as needed to correct failing septic systems. In those cases, MDE will encourage land treatment of the plant effluent.

(3) MDE, through its NPDES permit program, will discourage discharges from package sewage treatment plants intended to serve new residential communities and proposed to discharge in the reservoir watersheds.

(4) Policy for **existing** industrial discharges in the watersheds: MDE, through its NPDES permit program, will set a phosphorus limit of 0.3 mg/l effluent concentration when each permit comes up for renewal, if phosphorus is present at any significant level in the waste stream.

(5) Policy for **new** industrial discharges in the watersheds: MDE, through its NPDES permit program, will discourage significant phosphorus discharges to the reservoir watersheds.

(6) When a phosphorus loading goal has been established through the TMDL process (see item 1.2.1) for each reservoir, MDE, through its NPDES permit program, will not permit an increase in the total phosphorus load delivered to the reservoirs.

3.0 Nonpoint Source Management, Land Use and Resource Protection

3.1 Agricultural Practices

(1) The Baltimore County Soil Conservation District (SCD) and the Carroll SCD will continue to encourage farm owners/operators in the three reservoir watersheds to utilize their various technical and financial assistance programs for soil conservation practices and other measures to protect local water quality. This includes both the federal programs (from NRCS and FSA) and the state assistance programs which are delivered in cooperation with the two SCDs (see items below).

(2) The Baltimore County SCD and the Carroll SCD (also referred to as “the two SCDs”) will give targeted attention to farms operated in the reservoir watersheds, and will adopt the long-term goal of preparing a “soil conservation and water quality plan” (SCWQ plan) for every farm in the reservoir watersheds.

(3) The two SCDs will continue their efforts to follow up on the implementation by farmers in the watersheds of their existing SCWQ plans (i.e., plan maintenance) and to update all SCWQ plans that are 10 or more years old.

(4) The two SCDs will continue to assist farmers in meeting the requirements of federal (USDA) laws and regulations, which require up-to-date SCWQ plans for all farms that apply for benefits under a variety of federal USDA programs.

(5) The two SCDs will continue to assist farmers in meeting the requirements of Maryland laws and regulations, including:

- a) Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Program requirements that participants develop and implement a SCWQ plan. The same plan requirements apply for the local land preservation programs and for Rural Legacy designation;
- b) Maryland water-quality and sediment-control requirements, which utilize SCWQ plans to address pollution concerns;
- c) Maryland state discharge permits for confined animal feeding operations, which require SCWQ plan components as part of a Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan for such operations; and
- d) The Maryland Water Quality Improvement Act, which requires farmers to implement animal waste management measures as part of a complete nutrient management plan.

(6) The two SCDs will encourage farm owners and operators in the reservoir watersheds to use the Maryland Agricultural Cost-Share program (MACS) to help offset the costs of best management practice (BMP) implementation.

(7) The two SCDs will provide information and assistance to farm owners and operators in the watersheds to help them utilize the Low-Interest Loan Agricultural Conservation Program to cover the cost of implementing conservation measures.

(8) The two SCDs will promote and support farmer participation in various federal conservation programs, including EQIP (Environmental Quality Incentive Program), CRP (Conservation Reserve Program), CREP (Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program), WHIP (Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program), AMA (Agricultural Management Assistance) and other new programs as they become available. These programs typically provide funding or other incentives for the application of eligible BMPs on farms or for the removal of highly erodible areas from crop production.

(9) The two SCDs will encourage and assist agricultural producers to comply with the requirements of their “nutrient management plans”, including the implementation of those soil-conservation, water-quality, and animal-waste-management BMPs which support the appropriate management of nutrient inputs to croplands.

- The Maryland Water Quality Improvement Act of 1998 requires all farms that make \$2500 or more annually (or have 8 or more animal units) to have and implement a nutrient management plan. Beginning July 2005, all such plans must address nitrogen and phosphorus as a limiting nutrient, in accordance with the regulatory guidelines.

(10) In support of the Maryland Water Quality Improvement Act of 1998, as well as the Reservoir Watershed Management Program, the Department of Agriculture (MDA) will:

- a) provide comprehensive educational programs developed for nutrient consultants, as well as operation-specific training and certification for farmers, nutrient applicators, and fertilizer users in urban/suburban areas;
- b) offer related assistance to farmers through the MACS cost-share program;

- c) support technical assistance provided through the SCDs and county Extension offices;
- d) enforce the Act and its regulations, including taking action against noncompliant farms;
- e) compile information and generate reports at the county and state levels on operator/farmer compliance with nutrient management plan requirements; and
- f) with the development of an advanced database system, may generate nutrient plan implementation reports at both the county and watershed levels.

(11) The signatories will work together to evaluate the pollution potential from horse operations located in the reservoir watersheds. The two SCDs will expand outreach and assistance to those operations.

(12) Baltimore County DEPRM and the Baltimore County SCD will continue to provide technical review of proposed farm ponds in the county.

(13) MDA and the two SCDs will target assistance to farmers with on-site problems having the potential to cause water pollution. Where polluting conditions are suspected to exist on a farm, the particular SCD will work with MDA and with the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) to follow the enforcement protocol developed pursuant to a Memorandum of Understanding among MDA, MDE, and the State Soil Conservation Committee.

(14) MDE will continue to inspect each site (often a farm) proposed for sewage biosolids application, and may issue a permit which specifies the allowed application rate, taking the sludge nutrient content into consideration. An MDE inspector also visits the site/farm at the time the biosolids are being applied, to verify that permit conditions are being met.

(15) Baltimore City, the Carroll SCD and MDA will continue their cooperative agreement, under which the City partially funds an MDA position at the SCD to work with farmers in the reservoir watersheds, to help them implement agricultural BMPs. As a result of this and other funding, the Carroll SCD currently has three full-time staff who work in the reservoir watersheds.

- a) The signatories agree that an effort will be made to be able to relate this “targeted” staff work to the agricultural BMPs installed and to the estimated pounds of phosphorus saved per year in the respective watersheds.

(16) The signatories agree to investigate the possibility of increased staffing support for the Baltimore County SCD, so that more outreach and assistance effort can be focused on farms in the reservoir watersheds in the county.

(17) The two SCDs, working with MDA staff and with the Reservoir Technical Group, will develop “indicators” of agricultural-pollution-reduction program effectiveness in the watersheds. These indicators should include measures of BMPs actually applied, which

can be related directly to the need to reduce phosphorus and sediment inputs to the reservoirs.

3.2 Sediment Control and Stormwater Infrastructure

(1) Baltimore and Carroll Counties will continue to implement state-mandated stormwater management regulations for all new development (including residential, commercial and institutional.) The current county regulations, amended to adhere to MDE's year 2000 regulations and supporting Design Manual, provide for enhanced water quality protection and onsite groundwater recharge, as compared to the older local regulations. (The counties and the State Highway Administration are also subject to the state law, in connection with all new or reconstructed road projects.)

- a) In 2004, Carroll County adopted new regulations which require the use of enhanced stormwater management practices for all new commercial or industrial development in the county's designated "surface watershed/water resource management areas" (which, under the regulations, include the reservoir watersheds.)

(2) Baltimore and Carroll Counties will continue to operate their respective programs for the periodic inspection of all existing stormwater management facilities in their jurisdictions. The two counties' programs meet state/federal requirements for stormwater facility approval, inspection and enforcement, as set forth in their federal/state NPDES/MS4 (municipal stormwater) permits, which are issued in Maryland by MDE.

(3) In accordance with the conditions of their respective NPDES/MS4 permits, Baltimore and Carroll Counties will continue to carry out long-term studies of a few specified stormwater BMPs. Each county will estimate the annual nutrient load reductions (on a watershed basis) resulting from all completed capital projects (stormwater retrofits and conversions; stream restorations.) For projects located in the reservoir watersheds, the estimated reductions will be counted against the established nutrient-load-reduction goals.

(4) Baltimore and Carroll Counties will continue their respective maintenance programs for all publicly-owned stormwater management facilities.

(5) Baltimore and Carroll Counties will review and revise, as necessary, their respective design standards for roads and parking areas, in order to reduce the extent of impervious surfaces.

(6) The Reservoir Technical Group will investigate the feasibility of having local and state agencies adopt an alternative de-icing policy in the reservoir watersheds.

(7) Baltimore and Carroll Counties, working in cooperation with their respective SCDs, will continue to operate sediment and erosion control programs county-wide, in order to limit sediment runoff from all new private construction and redevelopment sites. (The

SCDs and the county agencies cooperate on sediment-control plan review and approval, while the county agencies do the inspection and enforcement.) At the present time, Carroll County enforces the sediment and erosion control regulations in the towns of Hampstead, Manchester and Westminster.

(8) The state (MDE) will continue to enforce sediment and erosion control on state agency construction projects; the State Highway Administration provides sediment control inspection on its own construction projects; and the two counties will continue to enforce sediment and erosion control on local government projects, using the same standards as those applied to private construction projects.

(9) The state (MDE) will continue to carry out triennial reviews of the respective local sediment/erosion control programs and stormwater management programs.

3.3 Sewerage System Infrastructure

(1) Baltimore and Carroll Counties will continue to operate sewage pumping stations located in the Liberty and Loch Raven watersheds in compliance with current state standards for backup systems, including secondary power sources and/or reserve storage capacity, in addition to backup pumps. This greatly reduces the chances of sewage overflows from the public collection systems which are adjacent to the two reservoirs.

(2) Baltimore County will implement new capital and operating/maintenance programs for its county-wide sewerage system, in compliance with the requirements of the recent Consent Decree (a settlement with state and federal agencies to be filed in federal court) addressing overflows from its sanitary sewers.

(3) Carroll County has surveyed both the Hampstead and Freedom sewage collection systems and soon will implement a computer-based inspection/maintenance system for these service areas. Implementation will be completed for the Freedom system in the coming year, with implementation scheduled for Hampstead in the following year. Westminster runs a systematic and thorough sewer inspection program, with facility upgrades where needed. Manchester also performs regular inspections.

(4) Baltimore and Carroll Counties will continue to maintain their respective Master Water and Sewerage Plans (as required under state law) so as to reinforce the reservoir-protection goals and policies which are contained in their master land-use plans. (See also section 3.6.)

3.4 Septic Systems

(1) The signatories will seek funding through the Chesapeake Bay Restoration Fund to carry out a study regarding the extent to which residential septic systems in the reservoir watersheds contribute nutrients, sodium, and pathogens to the tributary streams.

(2) Financial assistance for income-eligible residents for the repair of failing septic systems will continue to be provided by Baltimore County through its Single-Family Rehabilitation Loan and Emergency Repair Program.

(3) Baltimore and Carroll Counties will promote the proper maintenance of septic systems by homeowners through education conducted via the development-approval process. The Carroll County Health Department (a state agency) will continue to distribute brochures to the public on proper septic system operation.

(4) The Baltimore County Soil Conservation District will continue to distribute its educational booklet for rural homeowners, which includes information on maintenance of septic systems. Carroll County will consider the publication of a similar booklet.

(5) Baltimore and Carroll Counties will continue to license septic system scavengers and will provide facilities for septage disposal into public sewer systems. (Septage can be put into the Baltimore County sewer system at two points in the reservoir watershed areas. In Carroll County, septage is accepted at the site of the Westminster WWTP, which is located outside the reservoir watersheds.)

(6) The Baltimore County DEPRM and the Carroll County Health Department will continue to administer septic system regulations and design standards which are intended to ensure reliable service and to prevent septic system failures.

(7) The Baltimore County DEPRM and the Carroll County Health Department will conduct sanitary surveys, as needed, to identify areas of failing septic systems and to evaluate the alternatives available for making corrections.

(8) The Department of the Environment (MDE) will develop a protocol to evaluate and verify the stated performance of “best available technology” being used to remediate conventional on-site disposal systems which have experienced problems.

(9) MDE will evaluate the legal/financial options for providing long-term maintenance of existing innovative on-site disposal systems.

3.5 Urban Nutrient Management

(1) The Department of Agriculture (MDA) will continue to operate a statewide training and certification program for commercial lawn care companies, which addresses the proper use of lawn fertilizers and pesticides. Baltimore County will continue to offer on a periodic basis fertilizer/pesticide training to institutional grounds managers (for facilities such as business parks, hospitals and schools.)

- Several agencies, including MDA, Extension, and Baltimore County DEPRM, have ongoing programs to educate homeowners about “environment-friendly” lawn management practices, including reduced fertilizer use.

- (2) Baltimore County will continue to conduct programs involving street-sweeping, stormdrain-inlet cleaning, and storm pipe cleaning in its urbanized areas, in support of urban nonpoint source control objectives (by reducing pollutant inputs.)
- (3) Carroll County will continue to regularly inspect inlets and storm sewers in commercial and industrial areas.
- (4) Baltimore County and Baltimore City will conduct a cooperative study of the water-quality benefits of regular street-sweeping and stormdrain-inlet cleaning.
- (5) The two counties and Baltimore City will continue to evaluate a variety of urban best management practices under the technical work required by their NPDES/MS4 (municipal stormwater) permits, which are issued by MDE.

3.6 Land-Use Planning and Zoning

- (1) Baltimore County will continue to apply Resource Conservation (RC) zoning in the reservoir watersheds, with allowed residential densities and performance standards that are protective of water quality.
- (2) Baltimore County will maintain insofar as possible the current limits of extension of the Urban-Rural Demarcation Line (URDL) in the Loch Raven and Liberty watersheds. (The Prettyboy watershed lies well outside of the URDL line.) The URDL essentially represents Baltimore County's urban growth boundary.
- (3) Baltimore and Carroll Counties will maintain the current extent of conservation and agricultural zoning in the reservoir watersheds, insofar as possible.
- (4) Baltimore and Carroll Counties will protect the reservoir watersheds by limiting insofar as possible additional urban development zoning within the reservoir watersheds.
- (5) The Baltimore County and Carroll County master land-use plans will continue to support the goals of the Reservoir Watershed Management Agreement and the commitments made in this Action Strategy.
- (6) The signatories will work with the Maryland Department of Natural Resources to include the reservoir watersheds in the Forest Legacy Program and to seek funding for protection of forested areas from the Coastal Estuarine and Land Preservation Program.

3.7 Resource Protection and Restoration; Development Guidelines

- (1) Baltimore and Carroll Counties will continue to implement the sensitive-area-protection provisions of their development regulations for non-tidal wetlands, steep

slopes, floodplains and water courses, forests, water bodies, and natural land areas. These regulations are intended to protect important ecosystem functions and tributary stream quality.

(2) Baltimore County will work to establish a comprehensive forest resource management program in the watersheds, with the goal of ensuring the ecological and economic sustainability of forest resources as a means to help stabilize watershed hydrology and to help protect water quality. This program should seek to:

- a) reduce forest loss and fragmentation;
- b) prioritize establishment and expansion of forested buffers along streams;
- c) educate landowners about forest sustainability and sustainable forest management practices, and provide incentives for private forest stewardship;
- d) conduct forest assessments and develop forest management plans for all major public forest lands;
- e) conduct forest-health monitoring to identify and address forest diseases and pests;
- f) develop and use “indicators of forest sustainability” to measure progress and to guide program implementation; and
- g) in all of the above, develop partnerships with federal, state and local agencies and organizations.

(3) The signatories will encourage the Department of Natural Resources to manage its land holdings in the reservoir watersheds so as to benefit reservoir protection

(4) Baltimore City will work with Baltimore and Carroll Counties to evaluate the adequacy of land-acquisition and development-rights easement programs (e.g., Rural Legacy, etc.) for protecting critical or sensitive areas in the reservoir watersheds which are vulnerable to development. Following this evaluation, the City and the two counties will develop a strategy for supplementing current preservation and/or acquisition efforts in the reservoir watersheds.

(5) Baltimore City and Baltimore County will work cooperatively with the Department of Natural Resources to develop a comprehensive deer management program for the reservoir watershed areas, with an initial focus on the Loch Raven watershed. Within one year of the signing of the 2005 Reservoir Agreement, the City and the County will develop a preliminary set of recommendations for deer management, and will present these recommendations to the BMC Management Committee. Baltimore City will continue the existing programs in its Liberty and Prettyboy watershed properties.

(6) Baltimore County will continue to implement its capital improvement program for stream restoration and for upgrading of existing stormwater best management practices to stabilize selected stream channels and to improve water quality in the reservoir watersheds. The objectives are to restore more natural conditions to the streams and to reduce the potential for further erosion and sediment delivery to the reservoirs.

(7) Carroll County will continue its current multi-year process of systematically assessing the condition and integrity of various tributary streams in the reservoir watersheds. Portions of these streams will be selected on a priority basis for restoration work, to be supported with county capital funds. This effort is one condition of the County's NPDES/MS4 (municipal stormwater) permit from MDE.

(8) Baltimore and Carroll Counties will evaluate and implement, where desirable, the site-design recommendations of the Builders for the Bay Roundtable, in order to enhance resource protection in the reservoir watersheds.

(9) Baltimore and Carroll Counties will continue to apply their regulations for the design, construction and operation of golf courses. These guidelines address water-quality and habitat-protection issues, including appropriate nutrient application and pesticide management, as well as the preferred designs for wetlands crossings and guidance on the removal of vegetation.

4.0 Management of Municipal Watershed Property

(1) Baltimore City will continue its efforts to maintain diverse and vigorously-growing forest communities on the City-owned watershed properties surrounding the three reservoirs.

(2) When and where appropriate, Baltimore City will implement the recommendations of the *Comprehensive Forest Conservation Plan for Long-term Watershed Protection on the City of Baltimore's Reservoirs*, which was prepared by the state DNR Forest Service in 2003. These recommendations are aimed at improving the health, diversity and sustainability of the forests surrounding the lakes.

- a) Within one year of the signing of the 2005 Reservoir Agreement, the City will evaluate the DNR report and develop a list of recommended actions for implementation.

(3) New or expanded recreational or commercial facilities should not be constructed in the City-owned watersheds. Existing facilities should be managed so as to not represent a significant threat to the health of the City-owned forests, nor to the water quality of the reservoirs.

(4) Baltimore City will continue to take action to discourage or prevent unauthorized recreational uses of the City-owned watersheds which present a significant threat to public safety, forest health, and/or reservoir water quality.

(5) Baltimore City DPW officials will continue to meet periodically with the "Friends of the Watersheds" advisory group. This group serves as a forum for nearby community associations, watershed advocates, and recreational users' groups to exchange

information and views with City managers and to discuss problems and opportunities involving the reservoirs and the City-owned watersheds.

5.0 Toxics, Pathogens, Potential Spills, and Disinfectant Byproduct Precursors

(1) The Department of the Environment (MDE), working in cooperation with the Hazardous Waste Facility Siting Board, will enforce the provision in State law which prohibits the siting of any hazardous waste facility that would “adversely affect” a public water supply, such as the reservoirs.

(2) The program participants will continue to stay abreast of new developments and new issues relating to potential toxics problems in the reservoirs.

- The signatories do not have evidence of a toxics problem in the reservoirs at this time (except for mercury, addressed below.) Baltimore City labs routinely screen for some specific toxic compounds in the raw water, and they find no violations of EPA standards.

(3) MDE will continue to support fish-consumption “advisories” for fish taken from the three reservoirs, based on the potential for bioaccumulation of mercury present in the water column. Such advisories have been issued for most Maryland lakes. The source of the mercury is atmospheric, with much of it coming here from out of state.

(4) Baltimore City will analyze the raw (untreated) reservoir water for a range of pathogens, in compliance with new federal EPA requirements (the Long-Term 2 Enhanced Surface Water Treatment Rule.)

(5) Baltimore City will track sodium and chloride levels in both the raw water and the finished water, in view of the upwards trends seen in these substances over the past thirty years. (Previously, the City has not been analyzing the raw water for sodium.) Using the information gained, Reservoir Program participants, working through the RTG, should establish a goal for sodium concentration in the lakes. This goal should relate to the current EPA advisories for water consumed by individuals who are on a sodium-restricted diet.

(6) Baltimore City, in cooperation with other Reservoir Program signatories, will investigate the principal sources of the “precursors” (organic substances present in the raw water) of the disinfection byproducts (DBPs) which have been detected at various points in the metropolitan water system. The research would include a study of the relationship between sub-watershed land cover, total organic carbon/dissolved carbon in the tributaries and the reservoirs, and DBP precursors in the raw water.

(7) Reservoir Program signatories, working with other agencies as appropriate, will study the routine transport of hazardous materials over the bridges crossing the reservoirs and their major tributaries, and will make recommendations on the prevention of and

response to accidental spills on or near those bridges. The potential hazards of ruptured pipelines also will be evaluated.

(8) Reservoir Program signatories will review and comment on the existing arrangements and established procedures for notification of all appropriate agencies in the event of a significant spill or discharge of a hazardous substance in any of the reservoir watersheds.

6.0 Reservoir Watershed Protection Program: Coordination and Administration

(1) The six major jurisdictions in the Baltimore region will continue to fund the operation and coordination of the Reservoir Watershed Protection Program by making annual payments to the Baltimore Metropolitan Council, with each jurisdiction's contribution based in part on the volume of Baltimore City or reservoir water consumed by that jurisdiction in the previous fiscal year.

(2) Program participants, working through the Reservoir Technical Group, will prepare a biennial report on progress made in implementing the Action Strategy for the Reservoir Watersheds, including the quantification of cumulative accomplishments, such as the estimated reduction of the annual pollutant loads to each reservoir.

(3) Program participants will encourage greater participation by the municipalities (Westminster, Hampstead and Manchester) in the Reservoir Watershed Management Program.

7.0 Public Awareness

(1) Reservoir Program participants, working through the Reservoir Technical Group, will continue to identify and pursue opportunities for public education programs relating to reservoir protection, including outreach to schools.

(2) The Reservoir Watershed Protection Program will continue over the years to distribute its progress reports and technical reports to public agencies and to interested citizens' groups.

(3) Reservoir Program participants will use the Baltimore Metropolitan Council website to disseminate current information and to promote public awareness about the Reservoir Program and its activities and accomplishments.

(4) Reservoir Program signatories will continue to assist and encourage the efforts of local citizens' organizations which are concerned about watershed management issues and reservoir protection.