

# **DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ANNOUNCEMENT OF A PUBLIC MEETING AND NOTICE OF A PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD TO INTRODUCE THE DEVELOPMENT OF A SALT MANAGEMENT STRATEGY TO IMPLEMENT A TOTAL MAXIMUM DAILY LOAD STUDY AND PROACTIVELY ADDRESS SALT POLLUTION IN THE NORTHERN VIRGINIA REGION**

**PURPOSE OF NOTICE:** The Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) and its contractors, the Interstate Commission for the Potomac River Basin (ICPRB), will announce the development of a Salt Management Strategy (SaMS) for the Northern Virginia region, which includes Arlington, Fairfax, Loudoun, and Prince William counties and the cities of Alexandria, Manassas, Manassas Park, Falls Church, and Fairfax. This is an opportunity for local residents to learn about the impacts and challenges of snow and ice management, share information and thoughts on snow and ice management, and get involved in the process of developing a SaMS.

**PUBLIC MEETING:** A public meeting will be held **Wednesday, January 17, 2018, beginning at 6:30 pm at the Auditorium of the Arlington County Central Library located at 1015 N Quincy St, Arlington, VA 22201.** In case of inclement weather, the alternate meeting date will be Wednesday, January 31, 2018, and will also be held at the Auditorium of the Arlington County Central Library. Please note that if Arlington County schools or the library are closed on January 17<sup>th</sup> due to inclement weather, the meeting will be postponed to this alternate date.

**MEETING DESCRIPTION:** This meeting will be open to the public and all are welcome to attend. The first 30 minutes of the meeting will be an informal informational session where members of the public are invited to visit the various displays to learn more and ask questions of the experts staffing the displays. At 7:00 pm the formal portion of the meeting will begin. During the formal portion of the meeting a guest speaker will speak about challenges related to snow and ice management, and ICPRB will speak about a report they have prepared on the impacts of salts on infrastructure, drinking water, and aquatic life. The meeting will conclude with DEQ describing the development process for the SaMS, and by informing the public how to participate in the development process. For more information, please contact Dave Evans at (703) 583-3835 or [David.Evans@deq.virginia.gov](mailto:David.Evans@deq.virginia.gov).

**DESCRIPTION OF STUDY:** In July 2017, DEQ completed a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) study for the Accotink Creek watershed that identified chloride (salt) from snow and ice management as a contributing cause of a water quality impairment. To bring chloride loads down to acceptable levels that were identified in the TMDL report, DEQ is initiating the development of a SaMS that will among many things prescribe best management practices for more efficient and effective salt application. While the Accotink Creek watershed is located in Fairfax County and the City of Fairfax, snow and ice management practices are not confined to watershed boundaries. Therefore, the project area will include all of Northern Virginia as defined by Arlington, Fairfax, Loudoun, and Prince William counties and the cities of Alexandria, Manassas, Manassas Park, Falls Church, and Fairfax. For more information on the SaMS, visit <http://www.deq.virginia.gov/SaMS.aspx>.

**HOW TO COMMENT AND PARTICIPATE:** This meeting is open to the public and all interested parties are welcome. A public comment period will begin on January 17, 2018 and end on February 16, 2018. Comments will be accepted on the SaMS project in general, on participating in the Stakeholder Advisory Committee (SAC) to help develop the SaMS, and on the report prepared by ICPRB on the impacts of salts on infrastructure, drinking water, and aquatic life. Persons interested in participating in the SAC that will help develop the SaMS should notify the DEQ contact person, Dave Evans, by the end of the comment period and provide their name, phone number, email address and the organization they represent (if any). **All comments must be written and submitted via e-mail or traditional mail by the end of February 16, 2018. They must include the name, address, and telephone number of the person submitting the comments.** DEQ will notify all applicants of the composition of the SAC after the close of the comment period. For more information or to submit written comments, please contact:

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**13901 Crown Court**  
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