DEQ Welcome and Opening Remarks

• Salt Management Strategy (SaMS)
  – Why are We Here?
  – Why is it Important?
  – What is Envisioned?
  – Scope

• Plenary Session Speakers
  – Salt Institute
  – ICPRB

• SaMS Goals & Objectives, Process & Timeline
Why are We Here?

• TMDL (2017) identified chlorides (salts) as one of the primary stressor pollutants in Accotink Creek
  – Primary source of salts are products used for winter storm management (snow and ice removal)

• Develop a strategy to improve water quality through enhanced winter storm management in Accotink Creek and proactively throughout Northern Virginia
Why is this Important?

• Snow and ice removal products used broadly throughout Northern Virginia to meet a variety of public interests:
  – Public safety on roads and sidewalks/paved surfaces, and
  – Accessibility of businesses/maintaining standard work schedules, while
  – Balancing the cost of winter storm maintenance

• However, excessive use of salts can:
  – Reduce water quality
  – Damage infrastructure and landscape
  – Threaten drinking water quality and affect public health
SaMS – What is Envisioned?

• A collaboratively developed, comprehensive strategy to
  ✓ maintain high levels of public safety and winter accessibility, and
  ✓ reduce chloride (salt) releases to Northern Virginia surface waters

• Broadly framed best management practices; education/outreach, & commitment to track improvements in salt use and monitor water quality

• Relevant to all involved and affected by snow and ice management:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Government Agencies</th>
<th>Water Suppliers</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Property Owners/Managers</td>
<td>Public Safety Managers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Winter Maintenance Providers</td>
<td>Residents/Local Organizations</td>
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Project Scope: Accotink Creek Watershed and NOVA

- Accotink Creek watershed conditions not unique; Winter salt use practices not limited to watershed boundaries
- Project area includes VDOT Northern Virginia District, which matches State Police Division 7
Tonight’s Featured Speakers

• Salt Institute, Dr. Wilfrid Nixon
  – Presentation on “Safe and Sustainable Snowfighting”
  • Safety and Economic benefits of salt use in winter maintenance
  • Practices that save costs and reduce environmental impacts

Was traveling in from Florida.....

• Interstate Commission on the Potomac River Basin, Heidi Moltz and Karin Bencala
  – Presentation of research on:
    • impacts of salts used in winter maintenance operations
    • Costs and benefits of improved management practices
Current Plans for SaMS Development

**Goals**

- Develop a strategy to address the Accotink Creek chloride TMDLs and apply it proactively to the NOVA region
- Generate long-term support for improved practices that protect public safety and lessen environmental, infrastructure and public health effects

**Objectives**

- Develop a suite of improved winter salt use practices
- Produce a *guiding document* on how to address all aspects of the issue
- Develop a comprehensive public education and outreach campaign
- Explore *funding opportunities* to support implementation
- Develop options for effectiveness monitoring and ways to report and track salt usage
Survey Responses: Opportunities, Levels of Concern and Stakeholder Group Participation

- 95% of Respondents see opportunities to both 1) reduce the environmental impacts of salts, and 2) keep high levels of public safety.

- The 58 Respondents have 1) moderate to high levels of Concern, and 2) span all major stakeholder groups – with environmental groups and MS4’s most represented in survey.
Types of Involvement and Concerns

**Ways Respondents are Involved with Winter Salt Use**

- Property Owner: 20
- Contract for Services: 15
- Water quality Manager: 10
- Product/Equipment Supplier: 5
- Road maintenance: 5

**Issues of Concern with Winter Salt Use**

- Water Quality: 60
- Cost of Winter Maint.: 50
- DW Impacts: 40
- Landscape Impacts: 30
- Infrastructure Damage: 20
- Road Safety: 10
- Property Safety: 10
- Regulation of Salt Use: 10
- Business/Commerce Delay: 10
- Not Concerned: 10

**Water Quality, Property Ownership/Management and Road Maintenance are top ways respondents are involved in salt use**

**Water Quality, Drinking Water, Vegetation/Landscaping & Infrastructure damage, and Road Safety are top areas of concern**
SaMS Project Plan and Schedule

– **Stakeholder Advisory Committee**
  • February 27: initial meeting in Fairfax
  • Additional 2-3 meetings to guide project

– **Workgroups**: currently envision 6 workgroups, to frame recommendations for SAC consideration
  • Begin June 2018, conclude April 2019
  • Each workgroup to meet approximately 3 times

– **Steering Committee** (potential): to guide final report development

– **Final Public Meeting** (anticipated in Fall 2019)
SaMS Participation and Public Comment

• Public Comment period Jan. 17 – Feb. 17, 2017
  – SaMS Project Plan input
  – Report on the impact and costs of salt application

• Submit comments to: Dave Evans
  – Telephone: (703) 583-3835
  – E-mail: David.Evans@deq.virginia.gov

• Public Participation in the SaMS
  – Sign-up for interest in Stakeholder Advisory Committee throughout the comment period
  – Workgroups for specific areas of interest will be formed early this Spring
Thank you for Attending

• We welcome your continued participation, feedback and questions.....

• DEQ Project Team:
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