

## **FAQ from 2016 Integrated Report Webinar**

Hosted by Sandra Mueller

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### **Are we seeing a trend in the reduction of any specific pollutant that can be attributed to TMDL implementation?**

The majority of TMDL Implementation Plans that have been developed in Virginia address excess bacteria from non-point source pollution. The VA DEQ TMDL Program website has the most recent updates on Implementation Plans being developed across the State:

<http://www.deq.virginia.gov/Programs/Water/WaterQualityInformationTMDLs/TMDL/TMDLImplementation.aspx>. In addition, DEQ maintains a webpage dedicated to Water Quality Success Stories and provides an interactive mapping application to learn more about efforts being put in place to restore waters:  
<http://www.deq.virginia.gov/Programs/Water/WaterQualityInformationTMDLs/WaterQualitySuccessStories.aspx>.

### **Are there any areas of the state where there is a lack of monitoring?**

Virginia's comprehensive water quality monitoring strategy integrates both fixed-site and probabilistic monitoring techniques to improve our understanding of water quality conditions, increase monitoring efficiency, and meet the needs of multiple regulatory and water quality management programs. Virginia also coordinates with citizen and non-agency monitoring groups to provide greater monitoring coverage and reduce monitoring overlaps whenever possible.

Every year, the VA DEQ releases their annual water quality monitoring plan (MonPlan) summarizing monitoring activities conducted during each calendar year. The current MonPlan is posted on the VA DEQ website, along with an interactive map showing all the monitoring stations across the State:  
<http://www.deq.virginia.gov/Programs/Water/WaterQualityInformationTMDLs/WaterQualityMonitoring/AnnualWaterQualityMonitoringPlan.aspx>.

In addition, DEQ seeks input from the citizens of the Commonwealth to identify waterbodies which could benefit from monitoring by agency staff. Nominations can be for any waterbody located in the Commonwealth and are submitted from January 1 to April 30:  
<http://www.deq.virginia.gov/Programs/Water/WaterQualityInformationTMDLs/WaterQualityMonitoring/CitizenMonitoring/FollowupMonitoring.aspx>.

### **How many waters are typically delisted each cycle?**

VA DEQ has been tracking delisted waters each IR cycle since 2002. On average, roughly 75-100 waters are fully delisted, or are found to be meeting all uses for which they are assessed. In addition, 200-300 waters are partially delisted, or now meeting standards for a pollutant that was previously listed, but other impairments still remain.