

Lower Susquehanna Regional Action Agenda Outline

- I. Forwards written by Chair / Vice Chair (~1 pg each)
- II. Regional Vision / Need for Water Planning ~ 2 paragraphs
- III. Foundation ~ 1 page
 - a. Regional committee meetings
 - b. Public meetings / hearings
 - c. Meetings with County Planners / Watershed Specialists
- IV. Current Practices we want to maintain and promote **(Optional)** ~ 3 pages
(Maintain/Promote practices and introduce discussion on major problems/issues)

V. Inventory Water Resources Supply and Demand

Purpose: Expand our collective knowledge of sustainable water resources within the region to improve our ability to plan for the social, economic, environmental and recreational needs of the region.

Goal 1: Inventory water resources supply

Objectives:

- 1. Inventory all sources of groundwater and surface water
- 2. Examine geologic influences on surface and groundwater quality and availability
- 3. Identify and evaluate water quantity and quality issues (such as the impacts of land-use, agriculture, mining, and industry on surface and groundwater)

Goal 2: Inventory water resources demand

Objectives:

- 1. Project demand for consumptive water use (i.e. evaporation, transfer out-of-basin, incorporation into products)
- 2. Quantify demand for non-consumptive water uses (all other uses)
- 3. Identify and analyze CWPAs
- 4. Determine safe yields and impacts for flood and drought conditions

Action Items:

VI. Promote Water Resource Conservation and Protection

Purpose: Promote the protection and conservation of our water resources to ensure a reliably supply of quality water for meeting human and ecological needs

Goal 1: Support healthy watershed activities and initiatives to enhance source water protection

Objectives:

1. increase the percent of public water supplies with source water protection plans or wellhead protection plans in place.

Goal 2: Identify, protect and restore key, at risk, water resources such as:

- a. Aquifers
- b. Aquatic ecosystems
- c. Ecologically sensitive watersheds
- d. Groundwater recharge areas
- e. Riparian corridors
- f. Wellheads
- g. Wetlands

Objectives:

- 1.

Goal 3: Advocate for and implement water conservation practices and technologies to minimize water loss in water distribution systems and improve efficiency of commercial and residential water use

Objectives:

- 1.

Goal 4: Encourage water recycling and reuse programs and projects

Objectives:

- 1.

Goal 5: Promote water resource education and stewardship

Objectives:

- 1.

Action Items:

VII. Minimize Land Use Impacts

Purpose: Recognize land use interrelationships that affect our water resources and develop strategies to reduce watershed and ecological impacts

Goal 1: Reduce or prevent point and nonpoint sources of pollution

Objectives:

1. Reduce and control the release of toxics, nutrients and pathogens to minimize the impacts of agricultural, mining, industrial and other land use activities on ground and water resources
2. Encourage more effective storm water management programs to control run-off, promote infiltration and ensure sufficient groundwater recharge
3. Support implementation of comprehensive and sustainable Chesapeake Bay pollution prevention measures for nutrients and sediment, including legacy sediment accumulations

Goal 2: Develop a comprehensive approach to improving water quality within our impaired streams

Objectives:

- 1.

Goal 3: Protect, restore and reclaim flood plains, wetlands and waterway corridors

Objectives:

- 1.

Goal 4: Facilitate water-based recreation activities

Objectives:

- 1.

Goal 5: Encourage State agencies to expand the scope of Interagency Land Use Team initiatives to include more water resource issues

Objectives:

- 1.

Action Items:

VIII. Unify Water Resource Management Initiatives

Purpose: Promote more uniformity, communication and interrelationships among water resource stakeholders for consistency and joint advancement of mutually beneficial initiatives

Goal 1: Increase coordination and information sharing between regulatory water resource agencies and other state, county and municipal officials

Objectives:

- 1.

Goal 2: Plan by regions and watersheds

Objectives:

- 1.

Goal 3: Coordinate water resources planning with land use and transportation planning

Objectives:

- 1.

Goal 4: Support financial, political and regulatory efforts to protect water resources and advance regional priorities

Objectives:

- 1.

Goal 5: Advocate more regulatory linkages between state agencies

Objectives:

- 1.

Goal 6: Promote the development and shared use of compatible data gathering and evaluation tools for water resources planning

Objectives:

- 1.

Goals 7: Standardize an information gathering and report system for the many Water Authorities, Water Companies and Watershed Committees within the region to use as an early warning system and documentation tool

Objectives:

- 1.

Action Items:

IX. Conclusion / Additional steps needed to achieve our vision for 2013, and in 2030
~3 pages