POTOMAC WATER RESOUCES GOALS
(September 15, 2006)

What our group said at the meeting – to condense the priorities into three primary goals and supporting objectives

Managing water supply and demand using scientific principles to grow and develop as the region elects while maintaining adequate quantity and quality of our waters. (I have this sentence as a descriptor under the Balancing Supply and Demand heading.)

I. BALANCING SUPPLY AND DEMAND

Inventory

1. Inventory waters to identify sources and quantity of quality water to meet human and ecological needs.

2. Inventory the demand to identify sources and quantity of quality water to meet human and ecological needs.

Land Use Planning & Growth

1. Develop land use plans that preserve the natural hydrologic cycle.

2. Develop land use that promotes sustainability of water resources. Manage growth with programs that will prevent the increase of run-off and flooding, reduce groundwater recharge, and that protects soil and vegetation.

3. Institute land development techniques and strategies that protect stream morphology and channel stability

4. Encourage comprehensive regional planning to incorporated watershed and water supply objectives.

5. Provide local government with water resources management tools

Recreational Water Use

1. Develop, maintain, and protect recreational water use such as fishing, canoeing, boating, swimming, and kayaking.

2. Assess the instream flow needs to support recreational water use.

II. PROTECTING/PRESERVING AND RESTORING INSTREAM AND GROUNDWATER NEEDS

1. Develop land use programs that protect water quality and ecological integrity of streams, lakes, and wetlands. Program can include stream buffers, vegetated systems, and the

natural soil mantle. Minimize the use of impervious surfaces that produces run-off warmer than stream flow that will negatively impact the aquatic community.

2. Protect stream habitat from the loss of trees, shrubs, and other vegetation along stream banks.

3. Establish an erosion and sedimentation control program that regulates pollution and reduces the erosion of stream banks and channels.

4. Promote nitrogen removal technologies and strategies that can be implemented by wastewater treatment plants to reduce nitrogen loading in plant effluent.

5. Assess watersheds to determine the potential of non-point source pollution.

6. Provide assistance in the planning and design of nutrient management programs

III. EDUCATING AND PROMOTING SOUND WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

1. Encourage elected officials to use the data and tools provided by the State Water Plan and DEP to make better water management decisions and land use policies.
2. Implement programs to train local officials and the public about planning for adequate water resources.