



# Carroll County Environmental Advisory Council (EAC)

Frank Vleck, Chair

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Brenda Dinne, Staff Liaison/Secretary

## 2018 Annual Report

### 2018 Work Plan Progress

**Workshop: National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) Public Education Requirements – for 12SW Industrial Stormwater Permittees**



The MS4 permit requires implementation of the public education and outreach program to include the regulated community. Certain industrial activities require a business or municipality to apply for a stormwater permit. These 12SW permits require practices that minimize and mitigate stormwater runoff and pollution. Each permittee must develop a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) to indicate how these practices will be implemented.

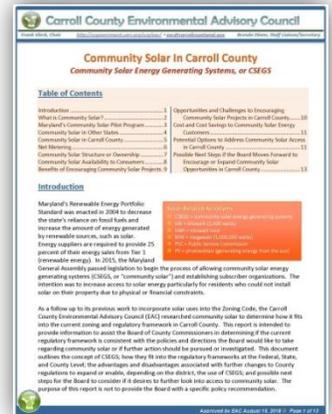
The EAC hosted an educational workshop geared toward these permittees. Carroll County permittees were invited to learn more about various aspects of their permit requirements.

This event was held on Friday, February 16, 2018, at Carroll Community College. Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) staff addressed ten different topics to 28 registrants, including private and municipal representatives.

**COMPLETED**

### Report: Community Solar in Carroll County

The Maryland General Assembly passed legislation in 2015 to allow community solar energy generation systems (CSEGs). Implementing regulations were subsequently adopted and finalized in July 2016. The Maryland Public Service Commission set up a three-year pilot program to allow subscriber organizations, which own and/or operate the CSEGs, to apply and implement a program. CSEGs are limited to 2 MW of electrical output.



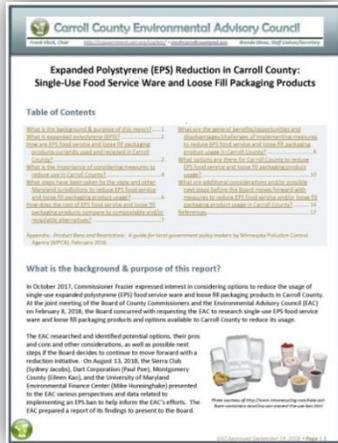
The EAC researched what a CSEG is, where they can be developed in Carroll County and pros and cons and other considerations for expanding that area. Findings and possible next steps were included in a report to the Board. The report was made available to download on the EAC webpage after it was presented to the Board.

**COMPLETED**

### Report: Reducing Expanded Polystyrene (EPS) Foam Use in Carroll County

Based on the 2018 Work Plan, the EAC researched and identified potential options, their pros and cons and other considerations, as well as possible next steps if the Board decides to continue to move forward with a reduction initiative.

To help further inform its efforts, the EAC invited representatives of various perspectives to present data to the members related to implementing an EPS ban.



The EAC prepared a report of its findings to present to the Board. After presenting the report to the Board, the report was made available to download on the EAC webpage.

**COMPLETED**

### Report: Single-Use Plastic Bags Use Reduction in Carroll County



The trend toward reusable shopping bags provides benefits to the County, including less clogging of storm drains and less waste in the landfill. Recycling of plastic bags can be challenging, due to cost as well as the interfering with recycling sorting equipment.

At the Board's request, the EAC will research options available to Carroll County to reduce the use of single-use plastic bags, as well as possible options for feasible recycling of plastic bags. The EAC will review pros and cons of the options and provide its findings to the Board in a report. This report will be similar to the EPS reduction report.

**IN PROGRESS**

### Public Outreach Materials: Residential Graywater Use in Carroll County



Graywater is untreated water collected from a clothes washing machine or a bathroom sink, tub, or shower. While not drinkable, it is suitable, and even beneficial, for irrigating certain areas of the yard, which also helps to conserve water usage. The 2018 Maryland General Assembly passed legislation (Senate Bill 496/Chapter 705) to allow residential graywater for certain uses. The legislation requires Maryland Department of the

Environment (MDE) to develop regulations to implement the bill's provisions.

At the Board's request, the EAC will research homeowner graywater usage and prepare public outreach materials to help provide Carroll's residents with basic information regarding graywater, its residential uses, and benefits. The materials will be made available in hardcopy and online.

The EAC is waiting on regulations to be released by MDE. The regulations need to be available in order to inform the public of the process and requirements associated with use of residential graywater.

**IN PROGRESS**

### 2018 Environmental Awareness Awards

In January 2018, the EAC initiated outreach efforts to seek nominations for the 2018 Awards. Nominations were reviewed in March and winners



in each category chosen. The EAC and Board jointly presented the winners with their awards on June 20, 2018.

**COMPLETED**

### Tree Planting Ceremony to Honor 2018 Award Winners

The EAC organized and held a tree planting ceremony at Carroll Community College on September 28, 2018. Trees were planted in the grove behind the college to honor the Environmental Awareness Award winners.

Commissioner Richard Weaver, Community College Vice President Alan Schuman, and award winners, Nancy Bittler, George Schooley of Legacy Septic, and Carolyn Krome, participated in the ceremony with EAC



members, Frank Vleck, Craig Paskoski, Tiffany VanDerwerker, and Jesse Drummond. The ceremony also included the unveiling of an anonymously donated sign to mark the tree grove.

## COMPLETED

### 2019 Work Plan

The EAC developed a proposed work plan for projects to be completed during the 2019 calendar year. The EAC approved the proposed work plan on November 28, 2018. It will be finalized pending additional projects requested by the Board and concurrence at the annual joint meeting scheduled for February, 7 2019.

## PENDING BOARD CONCURRENCE

### *Solid Waste Committee Service on Solid Waste Advisory Council (SWAC):*

One member of the EAC's Solid Waste Committee continued to serve on the Solid Waste Advisory Council, which is facilitated by the Department of Public Works (DPW) staff. The group serves in an advisory capacity to the DPW regarding implementation of recommendations from the Solid Waste Work Group's report, input on potential capital projects and future directions, as well as public outreach efforts. The EAC members on the SWAC serve as liaisons between the two groups to allow for additional collaboration and input. One of the EAC members serving as a liaison resigned from the EAC but remained on the SWAC. Therefore, only one EAC member currently serves on the SWAC.

## ONGOING

## Actions Taken

### ◆ *Chair & Vice Chair Elections:*

- ▶ Elected every 2 years.
- ▶ Frank Vleck elected Chair to replace Karen Leatherwood upon resignation.
- ▶ Craig Paskoski elected Vice Chair upon Frank Vleck's election as Chair.
- ▶ Effective April 18, 2018.



- ◆ *Workshop – 12SW Stormwater Permit:*
  - ▶ Per the 2018 Work Plan and NPDES MS4 permit, surveys, advertising, materials, and logistical/administrative details were developed and implemented.
  - ▶ The workshop was held on February 20, 2018, at Carroll Community College.
- ◆ *Report – Community Solar in Carroll County:*
  - ▶ Per the 2018 Work Plan, the EAC researched the topic and prepared a report for the Board with findings and possible next steps.
  - ▶ The EAC approved the report on August 15, 2018, and presented it to the Board in open session on November 1, 2018.
  - ▶ The report is available on the EAC's webpage.
- ◆ *Report – Reduction of EPS Usage in Carroll County:*
  - ▶ At the Boards' request, the EAC members researched EPS, current usage, alternatives, options for reduction of use, and pros and cons, then prepared a report with findings and possible next steps.
  - ▶ The EAC approved the report on September 19, 2018, and presented it to the Board in open session on November 1, 2018.
  - ▶ The report is available on the EAC's webpage.
- ◆ *Report – Reduction of Plastic Shopping Bag Usage in Carroll County:*
  - ▶ At the Boards' request, the EAC members researched plastic shopping bags, current usage, alternatives, options for reduction of use, and pros and cons. Members began drafting the initial text of the report.
- ◆ *Public Outreach: Residential Graywater Use in Carroll County:*
  - ▶ At the direction of the Board, the EAC began research to develop public outreach materials to inform residents of options for using residential graywater.
  - ▶ The EAC is awaiting regulations from MDE indicating how residential graywater is to be implemented, per 2018 Senate Bill 496.
- ◆ *Environmental Awareness Awards:*
  - ▶ The EAC advertised for nominations, reviewed the nominations, and chose award winners.
  - ▶ The awards were presented jointly with the Board on June 20, 2018.

# 2018 Annual Report

- ◆ **Tree Planting Ceremony**
  - ▶ The EAC, Commissioner Weaver, and Alan Schuman (CCC) honored award winners at a ceremony to plant donated trees and unveil the new tree grove sign at Carroll Community College on September 28, 2018.
- ◆ **Work Plan:**
  - ▶ In October, the EAC drafted a proposed 2019 Work Plan in preparation for the annual joint meeting with the Board, to be scheduled in January 2019.
  - ▶ On November 28, 2018, the EAC approved the work plan to propose to the Board.
- ◆ **Annual Report:**
  - ▶ The 2018 Annual Report to the Board was drafted and reviewed in November.
  - ▶ The EAC approved the report on November 28, 2018.

County. In 2018, EAC members participated in the following public education activities:

- ◆ *June:* Environmental Awareness Award Presentations
- ◆ *September:* Tree Planting Ceremony

## Citizen Concerns/Issues

Concerns or issues are periodically brought to the EAC's attention. The EAC responded to or referred the individuals to the appropriate agencies, as needed.

- ◆ *January:* Air quality in a specific neighborhood
- ◆ *September:* Positive feedback on *Guide to Residential Solar Installation in Carroll County*

## Informational Briefings

### Received

- ◆ *August:* Expanded Polystyrene Reduction (Sydney Johnson-Sierra Club, Paul Poe-DART, Eileen Kao-Montgomery County, Mike Hunninghake-UMFEC)
- ◆ *September:* Residential Graywater (Brenda Dinne)

## Public Education

Part of the EAC's charge is public education on environmental issues that are pertinent to Carroll

## Member Activity

| Member  | Action  | Term Expiration    |
|---|---|--------------------|
| Curtis Barrett<br>Ellen Cutsail<br>Jesse Drummond<br>Charlene Norris<br>Craig Paskoski<br>Frank Vleck | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Served as current members throughout the year.</li> <li>◆ Frank Vleck was elected Chair upon Karen Leatherwood's resignation. Craig Paskoski was elected Vice Chair upon Mr. Vleck's appointment as Chair. (2-year terms)</li> </ul> | --                 |
| Craig Paskoski  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Reappointed to full term; accepted January 17, 2018</li> </ul>   | October 31, 2021   |
| Tiffany VanDerwerker  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Appointed March 22, 2018; replaced Rick Elyar</li> <li>◆ Filling remainder of term</li> </ul>  | June 30, 2021      |
| David Hynes   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Rejoined the EAC March 22, 2018; replaced Amy Krebs</li> <li>◆ Filling remainder of term</li> </ul>  | September 30, 2019 |
| Karen Leatherwood   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Resigned April 4, 2018; work circumstances</li> </ul>  | January 31, 2020   |
| Rick Elyar  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Resigned February 13, 2018; work circumstances</li> </ul>  | June 30, 2021      |
| Amy Krebs   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Resigned January 16, 2018; work circumstances</li> </ul>   | September 30, 2019 |

