

Potomac Water-Quality Monitoring Program  
Quarterly Progress Report  
U.S. Geological Survey

Reporting Period July 1, 2000 – September 30, 2000

Cooperating Agencies Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) and  
U.S. Geological Survey (USGS)

Project Personnel

Brenda Feit Majedi, Project Chief, USGS  
Southern Maryland: Josh Kempf and George Zynjuk, USGS  
Western Maryland/WVa: Jim Jeffries, USGS;  
John Holt plus one, MDE  
Virginia: Rick Ahlin, USGS

Progress During Reporting Period

1. Initial site visit to all nine priority sites completed in mid-July. In Virginia, it was decided to substitute Blacks Run as the Great Valley urban indicator site for the originally proposed Abrams Creek site. (Letter sent to MDE 9/6/00.)
2. Agreement signed on July 26, 2000.
3. Conducted a training session of MDE personnel in USGS field water-quality sample-collection and processing techniques at the Shepherdstown site.
4. Collected first sample (a storm replicate) of the project at Zekiah Swamp Run in Southern Maryland in late September 2000.
5. Procured project sampling equipment, including everything needed by MDE personnel.
6. Ordered new project water-quality van; approximate arrival date is March 2001.
7. Investigated and procured automatic sampling, flow, and precipitation equipment. It was decided to purchase the ISCO 6700 refrigerated automatic sampler and compatible flow modules and rain gages for the project.
8. Initial site installation began, which includes the following activities:
  - procuring construction materials, supplies, and housing;
  - meeting with electrical contractors, power companies, phone companies;
  - obtaining permissions and formal site addresses.
9. Site construction began, which included site preparation (brush clearing, leveling), building support decking for gage houses; installing gage housing.

Plans for Next Quarter

1. Complete site construction and installation, including obtaining power and phone as needed at all sites.
2. Install automatic samplers.

3. Commence monthly sample collection at all 9 sites.
4. Draft formal work plan and quality-control plan.