

ROCKVILLE WATER RESOURCES ELEMENT

OF THE

COMPREHENSIVE MASTER PLAN



**Planning Commission Draft Recommendations to the
Mayor and Council
August 2010**

Rockville, Maryland

Water Resources Element of the Comprehensive Master Plan



Mayor and Council of Rockville

Phyllis Marcuccio, Mayor
John Britton
Piotr Gajewski
Bridget Donnell Newton
Mark Pierzchala

City of Rockville Planning Commission

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Jerry Callistein
Sarah Medearis
Kate Ostell
Tracy Pakulniewicz
Dion Trahan
John Tyner

Rockville Environment Commission

Kris Dighe, Chair
Seth Adams
Julie Carr
Steve Cardon
David Davis
Beri Kravitz
Christine Davidson-McCord
Tolu Odunlami
Donna Vincent Roa

City of Rockville Staff

Scott Ullery, City Manager
Jenny Kimball, Assistant City Manager
Claire Funkhouser, City Clerk

Rockville Water Resources Element of the Comprehensive Master Plan

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Safeguarding Rockville's Water Resources

Executive Summary

Introduction

Rockville is proud of its history of exceptional planning and implementation to ensure the delivery of high quality customer services, such as the delivery of drinking water and the disposal of wastewater. These principles and proactive approaches have carried over to the City's stewardship of its land and water resources.

The City has prepared this water resources plan to accomplish the following key objectives:

- Ensure that existing drinking water and wastewater infrastructure capacity is adequate to accommodate projected growth through 2040
- Identify infrastructure concerns, including diminished capacity due to aging, that may restrict predicted population and economic growth
- Protect Rockville's three sub-watersheds and the larger water bodies these sub-watersheds flow into from stormwater impacts

This plan supplements the water resource provisions currently set out in the City's existing Comprehensive Master Plan.

The City currently occupies 13.54 square miles (8,667 acres). While some additional annexation is possible, it is unlikely that these additions will add significant amounts of acreage over the next 20-30 years. Rockville was founded in the 1750s and has been an incorporated City since 1860. The City's current 2010 population is approximately 62,500. This population is anticipated to grow to 77,650 (an additional 15,150) by 2030, and 84,000 (a cumulative addition of 21,500) by 2040.

Over 20% of Rockville's current housing has been constructed since 2000. The total number of 2010 households is 24,300 and that number is expected to grow to 31,500 households by 2030 and 34,500 by 2040. This represents a projected increase of approximately 7,200 (23%) and 10,200 (30%) over the number of current households.

There are few *greenfields* remaining within the City limits. Since Rockville is almost entirely built out, future growth will focus on infill and redevelopment of the City's existing footprint. Land use patterns in the City are predominantly residential and commercial with different neighborhoods offering differing housing styles and densities, including several mixed use, smart growth centers. Additional population growth is expected to spur greater residential densities and be clustered around Metro subway stations, Rockville Pike (State Route 355), and the City Center.

Drinking Water Capacity

Rockville has a very reliable source of drinking water, and is part of a regional partnership that ensures adequate wastewater capacity. The City is moving forward to expand the capacity and efficiency of its water treatment plant as well as address concerns with aging in both the water distribution system and the wastewater collection system.

Since 1958, Rockville has obtained 100% of its drinking water directly from Potomac River withdrawals. Groundwater is not used to supplement the Potomac River withdrawals. Virtually all Rockville residences and businesses are on either the City or WSSC water systems. There are a few individual parcels within the City limits that are *islands* still under the Montgomery County jurisdiction

that may have an active well. However, these property owners are not subject to the Rockville City Code and have not been required to connect to a City water line or sewer.

The City owns and operates its own water treatment plant and supplies approximately 11,820 residential households (49 percent of the City's actual population) with drinking water. Similarly, Rockville provides water to 820 nonresidential customers. There is no irrigated agriculture or water-intensive manufacturing in the City. The City has an appropriation permit issued by the Maryland Department of the Environment to withdraw an average of 7.1 million gallons of Potomac River water per day and a daily maximum *not-to-exceed* amount of 12.1 million gallons. The actual daily average withdrawal is currently 4.264 million gallons. The approximate summertime maximum withdrawal is currently 8 million gallons per day.

The remaining 51% of Rockville households and businesses are served by the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission (WSSC), which owns and maintains the water lines serving these customers. WSSC does not anticipate any concerns with continuing to service its Rockville customers for the next 20-30 years. The reason for the dual service approach derives from periodic annexations of land that have historically been in the WSSC service district and remain therein after annexation. In the future, should Rockville annex additional land into the City, those properties will continue to be served by WSSC. In the event that a parcel is currently on a well (there are only a handful known at this time), the property would be required to connect to the City water and sewer lines as a condition for coming into the City. Rockville does not anticipate any concerns with providing service to these few residents.

The projected drinking water needs of the resident and nonresident populations in 2030 will require an additional 681,600 gallons per day. By 2040 this amount will grow to 956,115 over current withdrawals for a total need of 5,220,255 gallons per day. This modest additional need can be satisfied from the City's existing Potomac River allocation.

Wastewater Capacity

There are no domestic septic tanks treating sewage within the City limits. Rather all sewage is collected in 148 miles of City-owned and maintained sewers and transported out of the community to interceptor sewers owned and maintained by WSSC. In turn, WSSC conveys the Rockville sewage, along with the sewage WSSC itself collects from other jurisdictions, to the Blue Plains regional wastewater treatment plant owned and operated by the District of Columbia Water and Sewer Authority (DC WASA). There the sewage receives primary, secondary and tertiary treatment, including denitrification before being discharged into the Potomac River. The current sewage demand for residential and nonresidential customers is 3,411,312 (approximately 80% of the drinking water demand).

The projected wastewater needs of the resident and nonresident populations in 2030 will require an additional 545,280 gallons per day (14%) above current demand. By 2040 this amount will grow to 764,892 (18%) over current demand, for a total demand of 4,176,204 gallons per day. This volume of wastewater is well within the City's existing allotment of Blue Plains regional treatment capacity. Similarly, WSSC is expected to be able to accommodate the portion of the City's sewage that flows into its collection system. Consequently, there are no anticipated wastewater capacity issues for either the City or WSSC beyond the continued maintenance of the collection systems.



Stormwater Controls

Rockville has 32.2 miles of surface streams within 13.54 square miles. These streams flow through three sub-watersheds. The three are Rock Creek, Cabin John Creek and Watts Branch. All of Rockville's waterways flow into the Potomac River and ultimately the Chesapeake Bay.

Rockville has adopted its own stringent regulatory controls to prevent water quality degradation in its three sub-watersheds. For example, the City has the most extensive stream buffers in the State of Maryland. Over the last few years, Rockville has restored several miles of critical stream channel and stream-side habitat in the Rock Creek and Watts Branch watersheds. The City undertakes a comprehensive watershed study of its three watersheds every 10 years. In 2008 the City adopted the first-of-its-kind-in Maryland stormwater utility fee that allows the City to invest in 20 full time equivalent employees (FTE) to address various aspects of stormwater management as well as pay for storm drain and treatment facility capital improvements.

Stormwater is removed from streets and properties through a combination of public and private stormwater inlets, drainage systems, treatment facilities and outfalls discharging to one of the three sub-watersheds. The City itself currently owns and maintains 2,050 inlets, over 162 miles of storm drains and 106 treatment facilities. In some of the City's older locations, stormwater is conveyed directly to a stream without any treatment. In recently years, the City has begun to supplement these structural approaches with efforts to establish low impact development and environmental site design practices that use or store stormwater runoff on-site rather than transporting the water to a neighborhood treatment structure or stream. This in turn will reduce the quantity and velocity of runoff exiting the City's storm drains, reduce sediments and erosions entering the City streams and extend the useful life of the existing storm drain system. These practices show particular promise as a way of addressing stormwater in the older neighborhoods lacking treatment.

Recommendations

Rockville is well positioned to protect its precious water resources and provide adequate service to its population now and well into the future. In order to expand or accelerate these actions, the City will require assistance from the federal government or the State of Maryland. The following steps will ensure that the City's program remains on track in the future:

Drinking Water Actions

1. Replace 34 miles of the most vulnerable water lines over the next 20 years.
2. Resolve concerns with the water age and storage capacity of the City's three existing storage tanks.
3. Bring the Glen Mill Pump Station on line.
4. Upgrade the water plant with energy efficient components that will allow it to produce up to a maximum of 14 million gallons per day, and pursue commensurate increases in the City's Potomac River allocation as needed.
5. Provide customers with consumption data and water conservation techniques and other meaningful public education activities.

Wastewater System Actions

1. Complete mapping and metering the entire system including privately owned sewers and the WSSC interconnections.
2. Continue to support the annual camera inspections of the sewer system.
3. Follow up on the results of the television inspections and the Rock Creek and Watts Branch Infiltration and Inflow (I&I) studies and undertake priority sewers rehabilitation and replacement.
4. Continue to implement commercial and residential fats, oils and grease management program to prevent grease buildups and sewer blockages from occurring.
5. Maintain easement access to all portions of the wastewater infrastructure.
6. Develop a City-wide hydraulic model of the collection system.

Stormwater Management Actions

1. Develop and implement regulatory amendments to the City Code.
2. Improve the City's stormwater enforcement program.
3. Implement an effective preventative maintenance program.
4. Repair watershed damage through capital improvement projects (CIP).

5. Identify and implement effective data management approaches to inform decision-making.
6. Perform continuous program assessment and planning updates.
7. Actively participate in regional stormwater improvement efforts targeted to the Potomac River and Chesapeake Bay.

Chapter One: Goals, Organization and Comprehensive Planning Consistency

Water is the life's blood of any community. A safe and adequate drinking water supply is critical to the sustainability of existing communities and the viability of planned future growth. Population increases, climate change and pollutant contamination all present potential challenges to maintaining this assured supply. Limited supplies can slow or stop planned development thereby preventing communities from achieving the vision set out in Comprehensive Land Use Plans and pursue smart growth policies to manage growth.

Population and economic growth must align with water quantity and quality. A balance must be struck to avoid over development that in turn leads to water shortages and non-potable water sources. Careful water-resources planning will protect public health, safety and welfare; and support smart-growth land use choices in the future.

Water Resources Planning Requirements

On May 2, 2006, House Bill 1141, the Government Planning Act was signed into law. The legislative purpose of this Act is to ensure that comprehensive land use plans and future growth considerations reflect both the opportunities and limitations presented by a community's water resources. Water resources include drinking water sources and service, wastewater service, and the community's efforts to protect surface and groundwater resources through a stormwater management program and activities. The 2006 law requires all local jurisdictions in Maryland to incorporate into their comprehensive master plans a *water resources planning element* by October 1, 2009. The Maryland Department of the Environment and the Maryland Department of Planning can extend this deadline to October 1, 2010 and have done so for Rockville.

Water Resources Plan Goals

The water resources plan presents both challenges and solutions for Rockville's community water resources. The City's goals for this plan can be summarized as follows:

- Ensure that existing drinking water and wastewater infrastructure capacity is adequate to accommodate projected growth through 2040
- Identify infrastructure concerns, including diminished capacity due to aging, that may restrict predicted population and economic growth
- Protect Rockville's three sub-watersheds and the larger water bodies these sub-watersheds flow into from stormwater impacts
- Promote the reduction of impervious surfaces in the community during redevelopment activities
- Preserve existing open spaces and expand them as opportunities present themselves
- Encourage future population expansion to concentrate in areas designated as mixed use or *smart growth* neighborhoods.

The document outlines how water supplies, wastewater and stormwater will be managed to support planned growth. Since Rockville has very limited undeveloped land or *greenfields*, this plan describes the City's approach to growing population densities rather than changing land uses. The plan is realistic and sustainable over time.

The water resources plan functions as an early warning system that alerts City decision-makers when predicted growth and densities could outpace supply and infrastructure capacities. Therefore, the plan is intended to trigger work on laws, policies and actions needed to ensure future water and wastewater needs are met while protecting local and regional watersheds and related habitat.

Plan Organization

This remainder of this plan is organized into **five** Chapters.

Chapter Two presents an overview of the general physical and planning circumstances surrounding Rockville and provides the context for this document. For more detailed information, see *The Municipal Growth Element* (of the Comprehensive Land Use Master Plan)(August 2010), a companion document to this one.

Chapter Three describes Rockville’s drinking water program, including current and projected water demand, the City’s available water supplies, the Rockville water treatment plant, the water distribution system, known concerns about long-term capacity regarding all of these facilities, our current plans to address those concerns.

Chapter Four addresses Rockville’s current and projected domestic sewage collection and treatment needs, the capacity of existing city sewers to carry these loads, wastewater treatment provided by the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission and the District of Columbia Water and Sewer Authority. The Chapter also identifies concerns about the long-term capacity of these facilities and our current plans to address those concerns.

Chapter Five addresses the many aspects of stormwater management and the wide variety of actions Rockville is currently pursuing to address potential pollutant loads to the City’s three sub-watersheds (Rock Creek, Cabin John Creek and Watts Branch) that flow to the Potomac River and then into the Chesapeake Bay, as well as groundwater underlying the City’s footprint. The Chapter includes steps the City anticipates taking to further enhance the effectiveness and efficiency of the stormwater program.

Each of the last three Chapters includes information on funding needed improvements and any data gaps that need to be addressed in the coming years.



Consistency with the Comprehensive Plan and Inter-Jurisdictional Coordination

This plan supplements the water resource provisions currently set out in the City’s existing Comprehensive Master Plan. In the event of any conflict between the provisions of the Comprehensive Master Plan and the statements and conclusions contained in this plan, the statements and conclusions of this plan will govern.

Rockville recently enacted comprehensive changes to our existing zoning code, including the City’s zoning map. This land use pattern is not expected to change existing actual uses (other than the expectation that key population centers will grow increasingly dense over time). It should also be noted that since the City of Rockville is located entirely within Montgomery County, the two jurisdictions have coordinated their plans. In fact, the Rockville information on existing land use, projected land use changes, and nonpoint source pollutant analyses have been included in the maps and supporting documentation contained in the County’s own water resources plan.



Finally, Rockville acknowledges that the City needs to coordinate with the Maryland State Highway Authority (SHA) when utility or facility upgrades and expansions relative to the Rockville storm drain system, the sanitary sewer system, and water distribution lines may impact State highways or rights-of-way; or impact SHA’s ability to implement roadway improvements, acquire additional right-of-way, or otherwise act to maintain a safe and efficient multi-modal transportation system.

Chapter Two: General Physical and Planning Background

Originally called Hungerford’s Tavern, the community of Rockville was founded in the 1750s and has been an incorporated City since 1860. The City is currently celebrating 150 years of home rule in 2010. Rockville has been the county seat for Montgomery County government since 1776.

Population Growth

When first incorporated in the mid nineteenth century, Rockville boasted a population of 365. Population growth was modest until World War II, after which the City experienced sharp population increases in every decade after the 1950s. For example, between 1950 and 1960, the population rose by 276 percent. In 2010, the population is approximately 62,500 (24,300 households) and is projected to rise to 84,000 (34,500 households) by 2040. This increase is broken down into 5-year increments in the table below. These projections equate to a 34% increase in population and a 42% increase in the number of Rockville households.

Table 2.1 Rockville Population Growth Projections (2010 - 2040)

| Year | Population | Percent Change | Number of Households | Percent Change |
|-----------------------|---------------|----------------|----------------------|----------------|
| 2010 - Current | 62,476 | | 24,327 | |
| Five Year Change | 4,865 | 7.8% | 2,317 | 9.5% |
| 2015 | 67,341 | | 26,644 | |
| Five Year Change | 4,506 | 6.7% | 2,140 | 8.0% |
| 2020 | 71,847 | | 28,784 | |
| Five Year Change | 2,656 | 3.7% | 1,250 | 4.3% |
| 2025 | 74,503 | | 30,034 | |
| Five Year Change | 3,141 | 4.2% | 1,475 | 4.9% |
| 2030 | 77,644 | | 31,509 | |
| Five Year Change | 3,142 | 4.0% | 1,500 | 4.8% |
| 2035 | 80,786 | | 33,009 | |
| Five Year Change | 3,143 | 3.9% | 1,500 | 4.5% |
| 2040 | 83,929 | | 34,509 | |
| 30 Year Change | 21,453 | 34.3% | 10,182 | 41.9% |

In 2000, Rockville’s population density was 3,524.1 persons per square mile.

Employment

Due largely to its proximity to Washington D.C., and the wide variety of transportation modes available in the immediate vicinity, Rockville has and is expected to remain a net job importer. That is, the City will continue to enjoy job expansion in numbers that exceed its present and future population projections. The table below indicates the number of projected jobs in 5-year increments through 2040.

Table 2.2 Rockville Employment Projections (2010 – 2040)

| Year | Number of Jobs | Percent Increase |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| 2010 – Current | 74,549 | - |
| 5 Year Change | 9,047 | 12.1% |
| 2015 | 83,596 | |
| 5 Year Change | 8,004 | 9.6% |
| 2020 | 91,600 | |
| 5 Year Change | 5,183 | 5.7% |
| 2025 | 96,783 | |
| 5 Year Change | 2,620 | 2.7% |
| 2030 | 99,403 | |
| 5 Year Change | 3,000 | 3.0% |
| 2035 | 102,403 | |
| 5 Year Change | 3,000 | 2.9% |
| 2040 | 105,403 | |
| 30 Year Change | 30,854 | 41.4% |

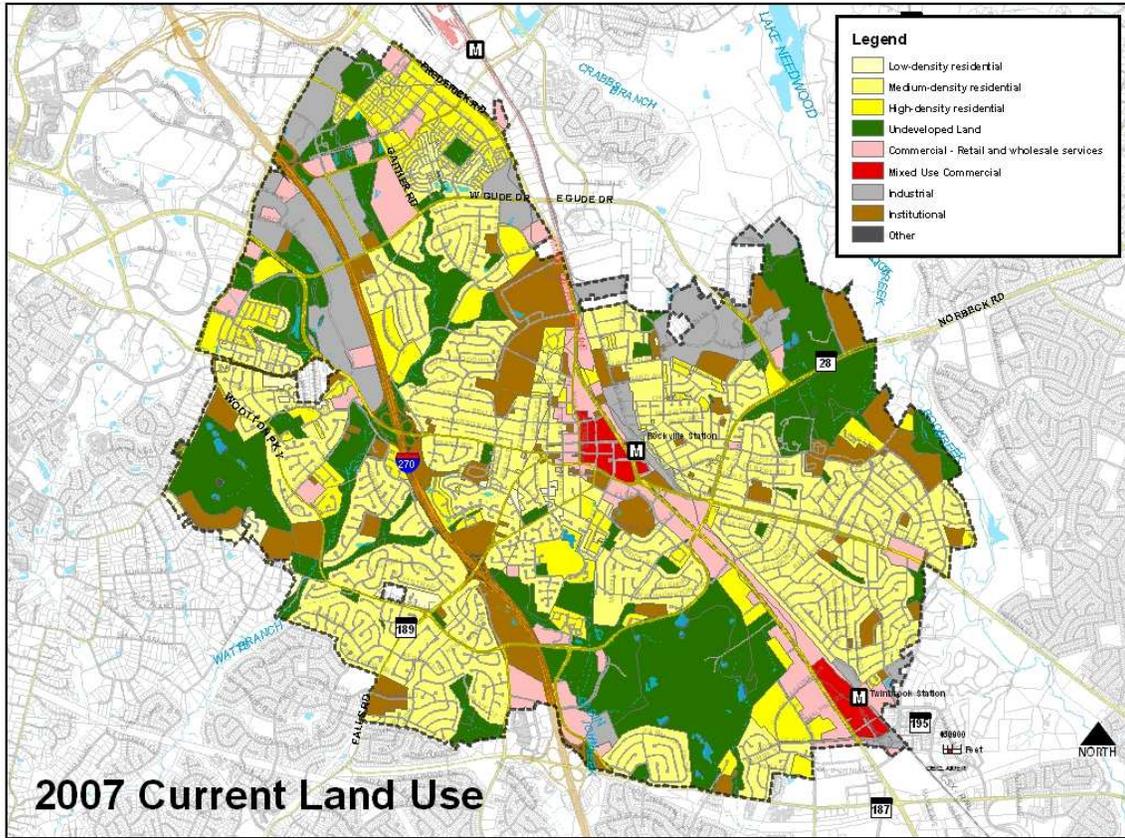
Land Area and Use

Rockville currently occupies 13.54 square miles (8,667 acres). When the City was incorporated, it was 73 acres. Rockville is located approximately 12 miles from the District of Columbia. Our proximity to the nation’s capital and the federal agencies, and government consultants and contractors also makes the City an attractive place for employees and businesses to locate. Moreover, it is only an hour’s drive to the State capitol in Annapolis and the City of Baltimore.

Except for green areas specifically reserved by the master plan and City zoning code, there are few *developable greenfields* remaining in the City limits. That is, Rockville is almost entirely built out. Consequently, **future growth will principally consist of redevelopment projects within the City’s existing footprint.** Land use patterns in the City are predominantly residential and commercial with different neighborhoods offering differing housing styles and densities, including several mixed use, smart growth centers. Additional population growth is expected to spur greater residential densities and be clustered around proximity to metro subway stations and the City Center. This continues a trend underway since 1970 when multi-family dwellings began to make significant inroads in Rockville housing. By 2000, multi-family dwellings comprised 25% of residential dwellings in the City. That trend is expected to intensify as the City moves to more mixed-use, higher-density, smart-growth redevelopment in the future.

There are no agricultural land uses remaining in the City. The City zoning code was comprehensively rewritten in 2009, along with the zoning maps. The new code emphasizes smart growth objectives and predicts mixed-use, higher-density redevelopment in several neighborhoods, including the Rockville Pike/State Route 355 corridor. Land use flexibility was codified in specific areas while doing away with optional and overlay zoning categories. The Code was also *greened* up and contributes to water resources stewardship through such provisions as an expressed preference for parking structures over larger surface lots, the use of water conservation measures, installation of on-site stormwater controls (including pervious pavements), cross linkage to the City’s water quality protection and tree protection ordinances, and the use of green or vegetated roofs.

Map 2.1 Rockville Land Use Patterns



Rockville’s Zoning Code has never allowed the presence of junk yards or other establishments that might contaminate stormwater runoff.

Land use in Rockville may be described as follows:

Table 2.3 Percent of Rockville Land Uses

| LAND USE | ACRES | % OF TOTAL |
|---|--------------|---------------|
| RESIDENTIAL (ALL TYPES) | 4,275 | 49.3% |
| RESERVED PARKS, FORESTS & WETLAND AREAS | 1,913 | 22.1% |
| INSTITUTIONAL | 811 | 9.4% |
| INDUSTRIAL | 694 | 8.0% |
| COMMERCIAL (RETAIL/WHOLESALE) | 628 | 7.2% |
| TRANSPORTATION | 232 | 2.7% |
| COMMERCIAL MIXED-USE | 114 | 1.3% |
| TOTAL | 8,667 | 100.0% |

- 15% of the City’s land is in mixed use.
- 6% is the Town Center city core area.
- 15% is office buildings and grounds.
- 13% of the City is designated as 61 parks totaling 1,050 acres.
- Rockville’s tree canopy is 44%, including over 25,000 street trees and 12 forest preserves.

Transportation Options

Rockville enjoys access to three major regional airports [Baltimore-Washington International (aka Thurgood Marshall),

Reagan National, and Dulles International]; interstate highways [Routes 270, 495, 95, 29, 70 and Maryland 200]; and local mass transit options [the Washington Metro subway system, Amtrak and MARC trains, and Ride-On buses] make the community attractive to residents and businesses alike.

The City maintains all roadways that are not maintained by the State, Montgomery County or private parties. The City does not operate local bus service in the community but has installed over 70 bus shelters to encourage residents to use this system. Finally, the City adopted and completed a Bicycle Master Plan in 1998, including construction of a large network of bike commuter trails around the City.

For more detailed information on population projections, land use, maximum expansion limits, and projected growth impacts beyond water resources, see *The Municipal Growth Element* (of the Comprehensive Land Use Master Plan)(August 2010), a companion document to this one.

Rockville Water Resources

Rockville has 32.2 miles of surface streams within its 13.5 square miles. These streams flow through three sub-watersheds. The three are Rock Creek, Cabin John Creek and Watts Branch. All of Rockville’s waterways flow into the Potomac River and ultimately the Chesapeake Bay.

Table 2.4 Rockville Surface Stream Miles

| Area (in square miles) | Cabin John Creek | Rock Creek | Watts Branch |
|---|-------------------------|-------------------|---------------------|
| <i>Within Rockville</i> | 3.6 | 2.9 | 6.5 |
| <i>Within Montgomery County (est.)</i> | 21.4 | 48.1 | 15.5 |
| <i>Within D.C. (est.)</i> | 0 | 17 | 0 |
| <i>Total Watershed Area</i> | 25 | 68 | 22 |
| <i>Percentage of Watershed within Rockville</i> | 14.4% | 4.3% | 29.5% |
| <i>Percentage of Rockville’s land area within Watershed</i> | 28% | 22% | 50% |

Historically, Rockville relied on groundwater to meet its drinking water needs. However, since 1958, Rockville has obtained 100% of its drinking water directly from Potomac River withdrawals (see Drinking Water Chapter). There are no active wells within the City and Rockville does not currently withdraw any groundwater resources to meet its needs.

Water Supply Capacity

The City owns and operates its own water treatment plant and supplies approximately 48,500 people living in 11,820 households (49 percent of the City’s residential households) with drinking water. The City has an approved 2002 Maryland Department of the Environment allocation to withdraw an average of 7.1 million gallons per day and a daily maximum not-to-exceed amount of 12.1 million gallons of Potomac River water. The actual daily average is currently just below 5 million gallons per day and the summertime maximum withdrawals currently total approximately 8 million gallons per day (for more details on this consumption, see discussion in Chapter 3). The allocation is subject to renewal in 2014.

The City water treatment plant is located in Potomac Maryland on the bank of the Potomac River. Water is withdrawn and treated by settling and filtering out solids and the addition of chemicals and disinfectants to eliminate and prevent the occurrence of bacteria, pathogens, and viruses. The water is

then pumped to the City and distributed through 182 miles of water lines. The City also maintains three storage tanks with a combined 12 million gallons of storage capacity.

The Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission (WSSC) services the remaining 51 percent of the City's population. WSSC owns and maintains the water and wastewater lines serving these customers. This dual approach derives from periodic City annexations of land that have historically been and remain in the WSSC service district.

In the event of a planned or emergency outage of the City's system, Rockville can obtain sufficient water from WSSC via nine intersystem connections tying the two systems together. For more on the City's Drinking Water system, see Chapter Three.

Future annexation will not result in significant new demands placed on Rockville's water and sewer systems. First, the areas identified in the existing and proposed maximum expansion limit (MEL) are already nearly fully developed. Second, these areas are already serviced by the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission, and will remain WSSC customers after annexation. Third, the few properties that still have individual wells or septic systems will be required to connect to Rockville's water and sewer systems as a condition of annexation.

Threats to Rockville's Water Supply

As noted above, Rockville draws its drinking water from the Potomac River above Little Falls Dam. Although there are several medium size urban areas in its drainage, much of the Middle and Upper Potomac River flows through land that is primarily forested or engaged in agriculture. Threats to the Potomac River include:

- Urban area stormwater
- Agricultural runoff
- Municipal treatment plants
- Transportation (road surface) runoff
- Septic tanks discharges
- Wildlife generated bacteria
- Legacy (historic) pollutants in sediments
- Drought-caused low flow conditions

The entire Maryland shore of the Potomac is contained within the boundaries of the Chesapeake and Ohio National Historical Park. The park buffers pollutants from entering the River and in general, the Potomac River runs clear and has a low turbidity. However, Maryland and Virginia tributaries still carry sediments and runoff to the Potomac mainstem.

Tributary erosion, channel widening, and down-cutting of these tributary stream banks deliver substantial sediments to the Potomac. However, since the Rockville water treatment plant is capable of removing these sediments, they do not render the River unusable. Similarly, disinfection addresses bacteria in the river system. Other pollutants (e.g., metals, pesticides, oil and grease, fertilizers and organic materials) could require additional treatment at the water plant but have not been observed at levels high enough to warrant this action. Therefore, the leading threat to the continued use of the Potomac River as Rockville's water supply is the remote possibility that climate change could lead to a temporary low-flow based disruption in service. There is little scientific evidence that this threat is likely during the 2010 to 2040 time horizon.

Only one of Rockville's three sub-watersheds (Watts Branch) flows to the Potomac upstream from the City's intake location. A second (Cabin John Creek) reaches the Potomac above the Washington D.C. intake. The third (Rock Creek) waterway discharges into the Potomac in the vicinity of Georgetown just above the National Mall where the River is tidally influenced. Rockville has taken steps to ensure that none of these waters is contaminated by local discharges and activities.

Existing Water Resource Protection Laws

The Potomac River is an interstate water of the United States protected by the federal Clean Water Act [33 U.S.C. 1251 et seq.]. The water quality programs established by the Clean Water Act are implemented by the Maryland Department of the Environment, the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation, and the West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection. These States develop water quality standards to protect the River's designated uses including use as a drinking water supply. The States then issue point-source regulatory permits for all process and stormwater discharges into the river and administer nonpoint source pollution programs. In the event that designated uses are impaired, the States undertake total maximum daily load (TMDLs) analyses to identify and correct the situation and ensure the continued designated uses for the River.

Due to the size and scope of the watershed, there is little Rockville can do to influence upstream conditions in the Potomac River basin. However, Rockville, has adopted several local ordinances that serve as a model to other communities further up the drainage.

Rockville's Water Quality Protection Ordinance (City Code Chapter 23.5) was adopted in 2007 and prohibits any pollutants from being discharged, dumped or even placed in proximity to a waterway or a storm drain inlet such that the pollutant can be reasonably be expected to reach the waterway or storm drain. The ordinance prohibits phosphates of any kind from being discharged. It establishes stream buffers of 125 to 175 feet on either side of a Rockville stream and requires adjacent landowners to allow stream banks to develop natural vegetation.

Rockville's Stormwater Management Ordinance (City Code Chapter 19) is one of the oldest in the State. First adopted in 1978, the ordinance establishes mandatory stormwater management practices, soil and erosion controls, a development review process, and a stormwater utility fee system based on the amount of impervious surface on each parcel in the City.

The City Building Codes and Property Maintenance Codes (City Code Chapter 5) ensure that development pursues low flow water fixtures and considers stormwater implications when designing new building projects. The Codes also prevents litter or other pollutants reaching the waterways of the City.

Rockville's Forest and Tree Preservation Ordinance (City Code Chapter 10.5) is one of the most protective in the State and requires that trees be retained on site or replaced in another off site location elsewhere in the City.

Stream Restoration and Treatment Facility Retrofits

Rockville has undertaken a number of projects aimed at repairing stream courses damaged by adverse stormwater impacts as well as improving the quality of stormwater itself. Stream Restoration Projects include daylighting and restoring Maryvale Creek, an East Rockville tributary of Rock Creek; restoration of more than a mile and a quarter Watts Branch mainstem in the Wootton Mills area; and nearly another mile of Watts Branch in the Woodley Gardens neighborhood.

Rockville recently completed a retrofit in the College Gardens neighborhood. This project involved the installation of a regional stormwater pond facility that will drain 79 acres that previously ran directly into Watts Branch without treatment. A similar project was completed in 2008 at Carnation Drive addressing 352 acres of drainage. The next project is scheduled for 2012 in Horizon Hills Park draining 186 acres. For more details on Rockville's stormwater controls, see Chapter Five.

Wastewater Treatment Capacity

There are no domestic septic tanks treating sewage within the City limits. All sewage is collected in 148 miles of City-owned and maintained sewers and transported out of the community. Rockville has not owned or operated a wastewater treatment plant since the 1950s, but rather contracts with WSSC to dispose of our domestic waste. In turn, WSSC conveys the Rockville sewage, along with the sewage WSSC collects from other jurisdictions, to the Blue Plains regional wastewater treatment plant owned and operated by the District of Columbia Water and Sewer Authority (DC WASA). There the sewage receives primary, secondary and tertiary treatment, including denitrification before being discharged into the Potomac River. For more on this system see Chapter Four.

Stormwater Management

Stormwater is removed from streets and properties through a combination of public and private stormwater inlets, drainage systems, treatment facilities and outfalls discharging to one of the three sub-watersheds. The City itself currently owns and maintains 2,050 inlets, over 162 miles of storm drains, and 106 treatment facilities. In some of the City's older locations, stormwater is conveyed directly to a stream without any treatment.

In recent years, the City has begun to supplement these structural approaches with efforts to establish low impact development and environmental site design practices that use or store stormwater runoff on-site rather than transporting the water to a neighborhood treatment structure or stream. This in turn will reduce the quantity and velocity of runoff exiting the City's storm drains, reduce sediments and erosions entering the City streams and extend the useful life of the existing storm drain system. These practices show particular promise as a way of addressing stormwater in the older neighborhoods lacking treatment. For more on the City's stormwater program see Chapter Five.

Growth Restrictions and Regulatory Obligations

Rockville growth is restricted by its allocation of Potomac River Water, the capacity of its water treatment plant, the capacity of its water distribution lines, and the capacity of its sewers. In addition, storm drain capacity dictates the amount of impervious surface available before local flooding begins to occur. Finally, the City holds a State Clean Water Act (NPDES) permit that establishes stormwater requirements associated with the City's storm drain system, including the drains and treatment facilities, and a second permit that controls activities that could potentially adversely impact runoff from the City's vehicle maintenance yard and golf course. The stringency of these permits is expected to increase in conjunction with State and Federal efforts to restore the Chesapeake Bay.

Rockville's Pro-Active Approach to Water Resources Management

Rockville's development review process ensures that additional residential and commercial growth does not occur if the water, sewer and stormwater needs of that growth cannot be assured. The process determines whether there is adequate capacity *downstream* of the project (all the way to the City limits) and requires developers to increase that downstream capacity before the project can go forward. In 2009, Rockville adopted comprehensive revisions to the City's zoning code, including provisions that

anticipate denser mixed or *smart* growth in the future. Along with the water element component of the Comprehensive Plan, the City enacted comprehensive revisions to the City's building codes that establish a green building program.

Since Rockville's population has already constructed homes, retail and offices on virtually all of the developable land in the City; and since irrigated agriculture has been eliminated and replaced by urban land uses; the City's per capita water demand has actually declined against its historical consumption. With the exception of several golf courses, agricultural scale irrigation and livestock watering have ceased. Similarly, there is no water-intensive industry within Rockville's borders. As the City's population grows denser over the next 30 years, lawn irrigation is expected to decline on a per capita basis as well. The denser portions of the City will continue to require water for drinking, food preparation, wastewater removal, washing dishes and surfaces, vehicle washing, cleaning laundry, gardening, supplying pools and fountains, and other uses associated with an urban lifestyle. However, this volume is not expected to equal historic agricultural consumption until the population experiences considerable growth beyond the projections for the next 30 years.

While the per capita water demand may fall, the City anticipates the absolute need for water may increase. Therefore, Rockville has already begun the planning process to upgrade and expand capacity at its water treatment plant. Further, knowing that our drinking water lines are nearing the end of their useful life, the Rockville Mayor and Council has embarked on a 20-year project to replace the most vulnerable 34 miles of water lines. This effort will minimize water breaks and service interruption as well as increase capacity in those neighborhoods.

Our sewer conveyance system is aging as well. A capital project repair and replacement program is underway. The City is also systematically studying the condition of sewers across the City as the first step to ensuring adequate long-term capacity.

Conclusion

Rockville has a very reliable source of drinking water, and is part of a regional partnership that ensures adequate wastewater capacity. The City is moving forward to expand the capacity and efficiency of its water treatment plant as well as address concerns with aging in both the water distribution system and the wastewater collection system.

In recent years, Rockville has adopted its own stringent controls to prevent water quality degradation in our three sub-watersheds. The City has the most extensive stream buffers in the State of Maryland. Over the last few years, Rockville has restored several miles of critical stream channel and stream-side habitat in the Rock Creek and Watts Branch watersheds. The City undertakes a comprehensive watershed study of its three watersheds every 10 years. Finally, in 2008 the City adopted the first-of-its-kind-in Maryland stormwater utility fee that allows the City to invest in 20 full time equivalent employees (FTE) to address various aspects of stormwater management as well as pay for storm drain and treatment facility capital improvements.

Chapter Three: Assuring Adequate Drinking Water Supplies

Without adequate drinking water, a community cannot survive. Water drives population and economic growth and allows a community to thrive. Further, poor local land use decisions can unknowingly jeopardize an existing water supply by leading to its contamination. Therefore, protection of existing water supplies must be considered an overriding factor influencing a community’s ultimate sustainability. The Safe Drinking Water Federal and State laws and standards address both microbial and chemical contaminants that threaten the integrity of drinking water quality. Microbial contaminants are considered immediate or acute public health concerns while chemical contaminants pose longer-term or chronic health risks.

This plan sets out the vision and path needed to assure that Rockville has an adequate supply of drinking water that meets all applicable health and safety standards. Since Rockville is located in a rapid growth area of Maryland, residents, businesses, developers and environmental professionals are understandably concerned that the City will enjoy an adequate supply of drinking water well into the future. Moreover climate change and recent drought conditions have generated concerns that Central Maryland communities may not have always have an adequate supply. However, Rockville has no such concern for the foreseeable future.

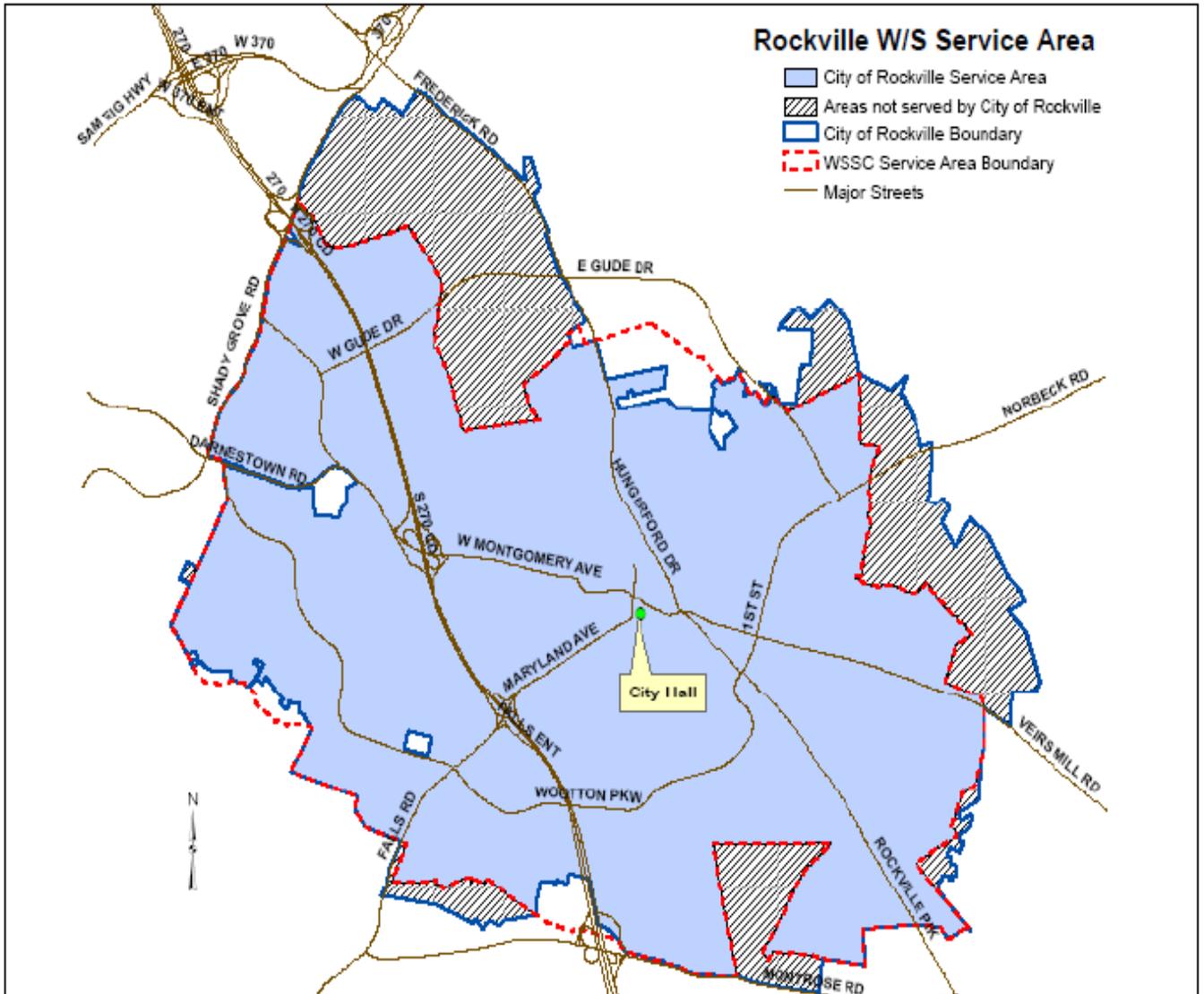
Table 3.1 Rockville Demographic Information

| | 2010 | 2030 | 2040 | Change (Percent) |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------------|
| Square miles | 13.5 | 13.5 | 13.5 | - |
| Total City Population | 62,500 | 77,650 | 84,000 | 21,500 (34%) |
| Total Rockville Households | 24,327 | 31,500 | 34,500 | 10,173 (42%) |
| City Service Population | 11,820 Households | 15,320 Households | 16,820 Households | 5,000 (30%) |
| City Nonresident Service Population | 820 Connections | 860 Connections | 871 Connections | 51 Connections (6%) |
| WSSC Service Population* | 12,507 Households | 16,180 Households | 17,680 Households | 5,173 (29%) |

*/ The Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission (WSSC) continues to provide water and sewer service to those households and businesses located within its historic service area that have been annexed into the City.

Since the City of Rockville is completely built out, future growth will be infill and redevelopment. This redevelopment will be concentrated in close proximity to the City’s redeveloped Town Center, its three Metro (subway) stations, a redevelopment along the Rockville Pike corridor. With the exception of the area surrounding the Shady Grove Metro Station, the City provides drinking water to these areas and will be expected to absorb these new customers.

Map 3.1 The Rockville/WSSC Drinking Water Service Areas



Rockville’s Water Supply

As noted above, there is no irrigated agriculture or water intensive industry located in Rockville. Similarly, there are no public or private drinking wells currently in operation in Rockville. The City holds a May 15, 2002 State Water Appropriation Permit [No. MO1958S001(04)] from the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) that allows it to withdraw a daily average amount of 7.1 million gallons each day and a not-to-exceed daily maximum of no more than 12.1 million gallons of Potomac River water. At present, Rockville water system is meeting the needs of our customers through daily average withdrawals of 4.264 million gallons a day (60% of the authorized daily average amount) during the fall, winter and spring months, and approximately 8 million gallons per day during the driest summer months (113% of the daily *average* allocation, but 44% below the daily *maximum* allocation of 12.1 million). This seasonal difference is attributed to lawn and garden irrigation and backyard pool maintenance demands. The permit expires on May 2014 subject to renewal.

As noted in the table above, Rockville's water plant produces 1.82 billion gallons of water annually to serve approximately 46,500 residents living in 11,820 residential units (49% of our population). The remainder of the City's population is served by WSSC. A 2006 Rockville water consumption study indicates that, on average, City households use 162 gallons per day per household (approximately 65 gallons per person per day). This per capita consumption is expected to fall as a result of a series of conservation practices and incentives the City has put in place. That same study indicates that non-residential connections consume approximately 2,865 gallons of water per day. This level is also expected to decline over the next 20 years.

Threats to the Water Supply

The Potomac River drains 14,670 square miles in Maryland, Virginia, Pennsylvania, West Virginia and the District of Columbia.

A minimum Potomac River flow has been established to protect aquatic life. This *flow-by* requirement is 100 million gallons per day (MGD) at Little Falls Dam, and 300 MGD at Great Falls (both points are downstream of the Rockville intake). It should be noted that the scientific basis for the 100 MGD Little Falls Dam number is currently under review. During low flow periods, additional water can be released from the Jennings Randolph impoundment (13 billion gallons) and Little Seneca Lake (4 billion gallons).

Potential threats to the watershed include:

- Spills from roadways and pipelines
- Upstream point-source discharges
- Upstream agricultural runoff
- Urban stormwater flows
- Drought (low flow) conditions

All of these land uses and threats lay beyond the Rockville City limits. However, the federal, state and local governments have regulatory and incentive programs to address each of these concerns. Further, the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal National Historic Park occupies the Maryland shoreline for more than 184 miles above Washington D.C. and acts as a natural stream buffer to filter pollutants.

Since the river is the primary water supply for the metropolitan Washington D.C. region, it is extensively monitored for quality and quantity by water utilities including Rockville and WSSC, the U.S. Geological Survey, the Interstate Commission on the Potomac River Basin, the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments, and the Army Corps of Engineers. In the event a spill occurs upstream, all potentially affected water utilities are notified. The nature and circumstances of the spill are investigated and the size and shape of the spill plume are transmitted to the water utilities. Recently, these entities have begun monitoring for emerging contaminants that are yet to be regulated by the State and Federal government.

In the event that a spill threatens the Potomac in the vicinity of the City's water supply, Rockville has the ability to immediately close off the intake and allow a spill to pass by, without harming the system. The system will continue to operate and provide approximately six hours of short-term water demands. If the spill will take longer to pass the intake, water will be purchased from the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission (WSSC) through a series of intersystem connections. Further, for spills that float

on the river's surface (e.g., gasoline and oil) the water plant is fully equipped with a series of booms and other devices to prevent the spill material from entering and contaminating the water system.

In the event of a prolonged power outage affecting the intake or the water plant that might otherwise prevent water withdrawals and treatment, Rockville's water plant is equipped with an emergency backup diesel generator that is capable of running the plant.

It is unlikely that even an extreme drought condition will cause a significant adverse effect on Rockville's water source. The likelihood that the Potomac River flow will be insufficient to satisfy the Rockville allocation is extremely small. For example, during the significant low flow periods experienced in the drought summer and fall of 2007 and 2008, river levels never fell below a point more than 2 feet above the top of Rockville's intake pipe. The lowest the river has fallen (in 1966 and 2009) was approximately 600 million cubic feet per second, which is more than adequate to support all existing river allocations (plus an additional 100 million gallons per day increment to support aquatic life).

Rockville City Code provides authority to restrict water use in the event of a prolonged drought (see City Code Chapter 24, Section 24.72(b), including limiting or curtailing water for lawn and garden irrigation, vehicle washing, street, sidewalk and building washing, fountains, swimming pools, and water cooled air conditioning equipment. Moreover, Rockville participates in a regional partnership that manages several Potomac reservoirs that can be released into the main stem during in very low-flow situations.

Anticipated Increased Water Demands

Residential Demand

Rockville currently provides 1,912,700 gallons per day for its residential customers. By 2030, the City's residential connections are expected to climb from 11,820 in 2010 to 15,320. By 2040 the number of residential households is estimated to reach 16,820. At the same time, the WSSC service area is expected to experience an increase in the number of households as follows: 12,507 in 2010, 16,180 by 2030, and 17,680 by 2040. A separate survey done specifically for Rockville indicates that the average number of Rockville residents per household is approximately 2.5; below both the National and State averages.

3.2 Projected Residential (Household) Growth

| | 2010 | 2030 | 2040 | Total Change and Percentage |
|------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|------------------------------------|
| Rockville Service Area | 11,820 | 15,320 | 16,820 | 5,000 (30%) |
| WSSC Service Area | 12,507 | 16,180 | 17,680 | 5,173 (29%) |

Translating this growth to water demand involves applying the average water consumed in each household to the expected growth in the number of those households.

2010 Current Demand per Household = 11,820 households x 162 gallons per household or **1,914,840 million gallons per day**

2030 Projected Demand per Household = 15,320 households x 162 gallons per household or **2,481,840 million gallons per day**
An increase of 567,000 gallons per day (23%)

2040 Projected Demand per Household = 16,820 households x 162 gallons per household or **2,724,840 million gallons per day**
An increase of 243,000 gallons per day (23%)

The total additional projected demand placed upon the City’s water plant is expected to be 810,000 gallons per day. **This brings the total water needed for projected residential service to 2,724,840 gallons per day.**

Nonresident (Commercial/Industrial/institutional) Demand

Rockville currently provides 2,349,383 gallons per day to its 820 nonresident (commercial/industrial/Institutional) customers. Note that there are no significant irrigated agricultural uses in the City any more. By 2030, the City’s nonresident customers are expected to climb from 820 to 860. By 2040 the number of nonresident customers is estimated to reach 871. According to an actual study of water usage in Rockville, the average nonresident consumption rate is 2,865 gallons per day. Assuming this consumption number remains representative in the future, the increased nonresident demand is as follows in the table below:

Table 3.3 Projected Nonresidential Customer Growth

| | 2010 | 2030 | 2040 | Total Change and Percentage |
|------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|------------------------------------|
| Rockville Service Area | 820 | 860 | 871 | 51 (6%) |

2010 Current Nonresident Demand = 2,865 gallons per day x 820 nonresident connections or **2,349,300 million gallons per day**

2030 Projected Nonresident Demand = 2,865 gallons per day x 860 nonresident connections or **2,463,900 million gallons per day**
An increase of 114,600 gallons per day (<5%)

2040 Projected Nonresident Demand = 2,865 gallons per day x 871 nonresident connections or **2,495,415 million gallons per day**
An increase of 31,515 gallons per day (>1%)

The total additional projected demand placed upon the City’s water plant is expected to be 146,115 gallons per day. **This brings the total needed for nonresident water service to 2,495,415 gallons per day.**

Taken together, the anticipated residential and nonresidential increases are 956,115 gallons per day (an 18% increase) for a **total projected demand of 5,220,255 gallons per day**. This demand is well under Rockville’s existing Potomac River allocation of 7.1 million gallons per day.

Even if Rockville were to aggressively pursue annexation over the next 20-30 years, pushing the City limits further into Montgomery County will not create additional water demands because all of this land has been developed and these potential customers already receive water and sewer service from WSSC, and these properties will continue to receive WSSC service following annexation into the City. There are a very small number of properties in the Maximum Expansion Limit (see the Rockville Municipal Growth Element for more detail) that remain on private wells and septic tanks. While these properties will be compelled to connect up to City water and sewer (if available) following annexation, they do not represent a significant burden on either the water or wastewater systems. In addition, given water conservation incentives and mandates that the City has and will continue to put in place, the actual water demand may actually be significantly less on a *per capita* and *per job* basis than the calculated projection set out above.

Despite this analysis, should the City require more water than the projected demand, and its current River allocation, it has three potential courses of action:

- 1) Impose or incentivize even greater water conservation measures for both resident and nonresident customers.
- 2) Pursue an additional River allocation from the State (MDE).
- 3) Supplement its water source by purchasing WSSC water and reselling it to the Rockville customers

In all likelihood, all three approaches will be pursued if necessary

Drought is not expected to present a major consideration regarding Potomac flows. While climate change may have a significant impact on future summer base flows, this impact is not anticipated to take place within the planning horizons of this document. Further, there are several water reservoirs upstream just off the Potomac River. Water from these reservoirs will be released to supplement the base summer flows as needed to counteract low flow conditions.

However, should the Potomac River levels become problematic, reduced or temporarily unreliable during exceptionally or unprecedented months, Rockville has the authority to impose water restrictions to temporarily limit consumptions. In addition, the Rockville water system abuts the neighboring Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission (WSSC) system. There are 10 intersystem locations that can be accessed to provide additional water to Rockville customers. At the present time these interconnections are only used when the City system is rendered insufficient or unavailable because of construction or the prolonged loss of power. Negotiations with WSSC could result in a more consistent source of water to supplement the City water plant's production if necessary.

Rockville's Water Treatment Plant

Rockville was settled in the 18th century and has provided water for its residents for over 150 years. From 1897 to 1958, water was withdrawn from groundwater production wells. These wells are no longer in operation and were abandoned when Rockville opened a water treatment plant adjacent to the Potomac River. The historic pump house structure of the *Rockville Electric Light and Water Works* has served as a community center since 1962.

The City holds a State allocation to withdraw up to 12.1 million gallons of Potomac River water each day. Originally a 4 million gallon per day facility, the water plant was expanded to its current 8 million gallon per day capacity in 1969. In 1995, a solids handling facility was added to the water plant. This new treatment component allowed the termination of the City's historical practice of discharging removed solids back into the River. The plant currently produces an average of 1.826 billion gallons of drinking water each year and satisfies the daily need of 46,500 customers. The average cost of treatment is \$1.16 per 1,000 gallons. Currently, Rockville is nearing the completion of the Glen Mill Pump Station that will increase the production capacity from 8 million gallons per day to 14 million gallons per day.

Water is withdrawn directly from the Potomac River through an underwater intake structure located on the towpath of the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal National Historical Park. The intake pipe is divided into 2 channels. Each channel has two 36-inch diameter screens (3 feet by 3 feet). The screens can continue to withdraw up to 12 million gallons per day even if River levels drop half way down the screens. During the drought years of 2007 and 2008, the River never fell below a level that was 2 feet above the top of these intake screens.

Floating river debris is prevented from entering or damaging the intake structure by these screens. During times of possible algae blooms, potassium permanganate is added to kill the algae and reduce taste and odor concerns. From the intake structure, water is pumped to the treatment plant approximately one half mile away.

Once at the treatment plant, a chemical flocculent is added to aid in settling solids then the raw water is sent to a clarifier where the settling takes place. The recovered solids are collected and removed to a thickening unit and, following dewatering, ultimately sent off site. The settled water then goes to a series of sand and anthracite coal filters where it is further processed. The highly-filtered water is then disinfected using chlorine gas. Fluoride is added as an enhancement to prevent tooth decay. Finally, sodium hydroxide is added for final pH adjustment. The fully treated water is then pumped via a seven-mile, 24 inch main line to the City's distribution system.

Near-Term Improvements to the Water Plant

In 2008, the City adopted a *Water Treatment Plant Facility Plan* that articulates intended plant upgrades anticipated over the next 5-7 years. Current upgrades address the chemical storage facilities, improving our organic pollutant removal process, upgrading the electrical system, reviewing potential improvements to the disinfection process, and increasing our solids handling capability (disposal of the material removed from the raw water). The total cost of these improvements is estimated to be \$14.6 million over 5 years. We are also currently considering operational changes that will make the treatment facility more efficient and effective.

In addition to these upgrades, the electrical components at the raw water intake and water treatment plant are the most inefficient and demanding electrical systems in the City. Rockville has recently received \$1.57 million dollars under the Federal American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009 to convert these systems to more energy efficient ones. Specifically, these economic stimulus funds will be used on the HVAC system, raw water pumps, solids transfer pumps, chemical feed pumps, the solids press, the instrumentation and control panels, and improved lighting throughout the plant.

Water Plant Capacity Expansion

The improvements identified in the 2008 Facility Plan will allow the water plant to increase its production up to 12 million gallons per day. The emergency generator will reduce or eliminate service disruptions due to local power outages. Other improvements will extend capacity, improve energy efficiency and extend the useful life of plant treatment components.

Limitations or restrictions on water plant production are the State allocation of 12.1 million gallons per day, the size of the City's intake pipe, and the capacity of pumps, clarifiers and filters. *As noted above, Rockville does not anticipate needing an increase in the Potomac River allocation it holds between now and 2030.* However, as Rockville improves its water plant and infrastructure to handle up to 14 million gallons per day, petitioning the State to increase the allocation from 12.1 million gallons per day to perhaps 14 or 15 million gallons may be desirable.

In the event Rockville exhausts its river allocation and cannot obtain an increase from the State, the City is in position to seek additional or supplemental water elsewhere. First, over 31% of Rockville residents already receive their water and sewer service from the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission (WSSC). The WSSC presence creates an opportunity for the City to negotiate with WSSC to use one or more of the nine locations where the WSSC distribution system and the Rockville distribution system come together to routinely purchase additional water. Currently, these interconnects are used to satisfy emergency or short-term needs. For example, during a planned plant shutdown (e.g., for upgrades or repairs) or in an emergency situation (e.g., prolonged power outage, a pressure drop caused by a major water line break, or other water supply shortage), Rockville, by agreement with WSSC can open these interconnections and purchase water to meet its needs. In 2008, Rockville purchased over 1.551 million gallons (about 0.1% of its total need) from WSSC.

In the future, should the production of additional drinking water be unavailable or no longer cost effective, Rockville could decide to supplement the volume of water the City produces by purchasing enough water to meet the additional demands projected for future growth. Similarly, Rockville could decide to obtain 100% of our water from WSSC and either abandon the water plant or maintain it as an emergency back-up facility. Yet another alternative would be to supplement the surface water withdraws with ground water.

In addition to WSSC, Rockville has entered into a mutual aid agreement with other Washington area jurisdictions. This agreement promises that other communities will provide labor, equipment and expertise needed in the event of a natural or man-made disaster, including disruption to Rockville's water treatment plant and the distribution system.

Rockville's Distribution System

As noted above, 6-8 million gallons of fully treated drinking water per day are pumped the seven miles from the water treatment plant in Potomac, Maryland to Rockville's distribution system. The City's water distribution system has expanded to keep pace with the City's footprint. The City owned and maintained system is now 182 miles. These lines vary from 4 to 24 inches in diameter. Once the Glen Mill Pump Station becomes operational, in 2011, Rockville will be able to pump up to an additional 4 million gallons per day (14 MGD total) to its distribution system.

The City has 3 storage tanks with a total storage capacity of 12 million gallons.

Table 3.4 Rockville Drinking Water Storage Tanks

| Tank Name | Capacity |
|------------------|-------------------|
| Huntington Hills | 8 million gallons |
| Carr Avenue | 3 million gallons |
| Talbott Avenue | 1 million gallons |

However, because these tanks were all constructed at grade (rather than elevated), the City is unable to use 100% of the stored water without losing some head pressure in the system. Rockville has already undertaken a study to determine tank upgrades that will improve the access and water age (quality) of water stored in these tanks.

Limitations of the Water Distribution System

The flow carried through the water distribution system is the primary limiting factor that may restrict the projected growth expected by the City by 2030. Pump capability, water line capacity, storage and aging infrastructure are all elements that influence the overall flow capacity and the ability of Rockville to serve its customers.

Much of the distribution system is now reaching the end of its useful life. Approximately 115 miles (64%) of water lines were constructed before 1970. These older parts of the system were constructed with unlined iron pipe and spiral-welded steel pipe. The newer sections are constructed of the more durable cement-lined, ductile iron and typically have a useful life of 100 years or more. The age and materials used in the older sections of the system present several concerns for the City.

First, after 40-60 years, the age and materials used in these older water lines are making the pipes brittle and subject to breaks and leaks. Second, sections of the system are becoming turberculated and no longer carry the volume of water they once did. Turberculation occurs when water chemically reacts with the deteriorating iron in the pipe. The result is growth inside the pipe that reduces the interior diameter and therefore, reduces the amount of water that can pass through the pipe. Tuberculation also causes rust and can reduce the chlorine residual available to address bacteria. Similarly, the fire hydrants located along these water lines may be also adversely affected.

The City is aware that over 33 miles (19%) of the system is becoming brittle and tuberculated. In 2007, Rockville’s system experienced a record 70 line breaks costing \$250,000 to repair. Similarly, 51 of the City’s 1,369 (<4%) fire hydrants have less than optimal fire suppression flow.

Table 3.5 Distribution System Line Breaks (2007-2010)

| FY 2006 | FY 2007 | FY 2008 | FY 2009 | FY 2010 |
|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| 30 | 70 | 41 | 64 | 40 |

Finally, some isolated low spots, dead ends and low flow areas are experiencing either a low chlorine level or the creation of disinfection byproducts. These dead end areas will be retrofitted with pressure reducing valves to maintain water circulation.

Distribution System Improvements

Rockville is taking proactive steps to address these distribution system concerns. In 2008, the City adopted a *Water Distribution Master Plan*. The plan prioritizes the replacement of water lines, water houses, fire hydrants, and valves across the City. The City has identified 33.8 miles of the worst sections of lines and has begun to repair or replace these lines. Rockville anticipates replacing 2.2 miles each year over 20 years at a cost of \$76 million. \$4.4 million will be spent in fiscal year 2010 alone.

As pipes are replaced, smaller lines will be enlarged to provide additional flow capacity, and dead-end lines will be connected. All new pipes will be cement-lined, ductile iron pipes with an exterior polyethylene wrap that will have a at least 100 years of useful life. Similarly, hydrants along these lines will also be replaced and will be tested and painted consistent with the National Fire Protection Associations guidelines (i.e., a yellow barrel with blue nozzles).

In addition to replacing the water lines, Rockville is expanding its existing System Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) electronic communication system. The system generates and analyzes data from sensors at the water plant, pump station, storage tanks and distribution system. The SCADA system also allows the entire system to be managed remotely from the water plant control room. The upgrade, including installing additional sensors in the distribution system, expanding the optic fiber available at the various drinking water facilities and upgrading the programmable logic controllers at the water plant, will cost \$600,000 and will increase the scope and efficiency of the system.

The City is also installing new air release valves in the 24-inch main connecting the water plant to the Glenn Mill Pump Station; and placing hydraulic surge suppression tanks at both the water plant and the pump station. The City expects to complete these upgrades in FY 2011 for a cost of approximately \$1.37 million.

In addition to these repairs, the City conducted a water-loss audit of the distribution system in 2007. The net lost/unmeasured water was 73.01 million gallons. This equates to 3.9% of the total water produced. Much of these losses were attributed to line breaks rather than leakage. The Maryland Department of Environment (MDE) guidelines indicate that well-operated systems should not lose more than 10% of their total water.

Water Conservation Measures

Although Rockville does not have a long-term concern with its water supply, the City has nevertheless pursued a number of measures intended to decrease the water demand of the City's consumers. These measures include providing better consumption data for customers, using incentive-based pricing, requiring low-flow plumbing fixtures, and source water protection actions.

Low Flow Fixtures

Rockville is currently developing comprehensive green building standards and complementary stormwater controls for new and renovated residential and commercial development that will require water conservation features in all buildings and structures in the City. For example, the new building code requires the installation of toilets that use no more than 1.2 gallons per flush. The stormwater requirements emphasize the use of rainwater for irrigation and other non-potable purposes. The City expects to have both of these ordinances in place and effective by May 2010.

Incentive Pricing

Rockville charges its customers for the water they use. The average water bill is \$30.98 per quarter. The water fee is expected to rise to \$71.28 (22% annual increase) through 2013 and level off thereafter. This revenue is deposited into an enterprise fund used to expand and maintain the system, pay debt service incurred for water capital projects, and pay operating costs including chemicals, electricity and personnel.

To encourage water conservation, Rockville has adopted a three tier pricing approach that penalizes larger volume users. The current and projected water fees are shown on the table below.

Table 3.6 Projected Rockville Water Rates (per 1,000 gallons)

| Volume | FY 2010 | FY 2011 | FY 2012 | FY 2013 | FY 2014 | FY 2015 |
|--------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| 0-12,000 gal. | \$2.78 | \$3.48 | \$4.33 | \$4.38 | \$4.43 | \$4.48 |
| 12,001 up to 24,000 gal. | \$4.00 | \$5.01 | \$6.23 | \$6.30 | \$6.37 | \$6.44 |
| > 24,000 gal | \$4.30 | \$5.37 | \$6.69 | \$6.76 | \$6.84 | \$6.91 |
| % Increase | - | 25% | 24.5% | 1.15% | 1.10 % | 1.10% |

These tiered rates encourage customers to reduce the amount of water they are using, particularly for nonessential purposes. The planned increases are intended to pay for upgrades and improvements to the water plant and the distribution system over the next 6 years. In addition to the tiered rate structure, Rockville imposes a charge for water meters that ranges from \$2.12 to \$254.40 a month. Finally, the City imposes a *Ready-to-Serve* charge (\$4.77 for FY 2010). This charge is based on water line and meter size. However, this charge (vis-à-vis the water rates above) is a flat fee and does not vary with actual usage. Consequently, commercial customers often reconsider using a smaller diameter line when constructing or renovating a building.

Water Meters

Rockville has recently completed a program to replace *all* 13,445 of our residential and commercial water service meters, including installing meters in city-owned facilities and other previously unmetered buildings. The new meters are *Sensus* and have remote radio-read capability. They will more accurately and efficiently collect water consumption data that can be provided to customers to help them understand their water use and show decreases in their bill due to office and household conservation practices (see also Consumer Education below)

Consumer Education

Rockville wants to put its water consumers in a position to make informed water-use choices and change poor water-use habits. Although difficult to quantify, these savings play an important role in the demand-side management of the water system. There are several components to the City of Rockville's information and education program.

An Informative Water Bill: Customers must first be aware of their own water usage and costs, before they can begin to consider investing in methods designed to reduce their water usage and therefore their costs. Rockville's water bill contains information on the amount of water used in the current usage period, and for comparison, the last usage period, last year's usage period and the same usage period from two years ago.

Newsletters and Television: Rockville currently uses a multi-media approach to informing consumers about water conservation. Conservation tips are put in *Rockville Reports*, the City's monthly newsletter sent to all residences and available to all businesses; tips are aired on *The Rockville Channel*, the City's cable TV station; the City has an educational pamphlet on water conservation that is handed out at community events or by request.

Website: The City's website provides a more detailed description of the charges appearing on the water bill, the full rate schedule, and contact information for additional questions or water emergencies (water line breakage, drinking water quality issue, etc.). There are also descriptions of conservation practices and actions our residents can take to reduce the volume of water they use. Since the City relies on these other methods, we have stopped the practice of including conservation tips in water bill inserts.

Regional Initiatives: Rockville is an active partner in the *Wise Use* water program coordinated by the Metropolitan Council of Governments and the Interstate Commission on the Potomac River Basin. The partnership has agreed in advance to regional voluntary and mandatory water conservation measures in the event the river flow drops beyond certain points. The program also has a centralized, public education campaign that alerts residents of the applicable water restrictions.

Funding the Drinking Water Program

Rockville will continue to rely on water fees from commercial and residential customers to pay for infrastructure, operation, electricity, chemicals and personnel needed to improve and provide water to our customers. These funds are deposited in an enterprise fund that can only be used for these drinking water purposes. The City has a AAA bond rating and capital projects are often bonded through municipal bond sales. In turn, the bonds are paid off over time using the fee revenue. The City supplements these revenues with grants and below-market-interest loans for such projects when available. We also continue to rely on developers to absorb the immediate costs of serving or increasing service to their proposed re-developments.

Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission Service in Rockville

The Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission (WSSC) serves 1.8 million residents in Montgomery and Prince George's Counties. As noted above, approximately 12,507 City residential households currently obtain drinking water from WSSC rather than the City. WSSC's household population is anticipated to grow to 16,180 by 2030 and 17,680 by 2040 (an increase of 5,173 households or 29%).

WSSC also relies on supplies from the Potomac and the Patuxent Rivers. Rockville customers are supplied by a Potomac withdrawal near the confluence with Watts Branch. The exact intake is directly downstream from the point where Muddy Branch and Great Seneca Creeks enter the Potomac. WSSC treats Potomac River Water at the Potomac Water Filtration Plant permitted to withdraw 300 MGD and has a current production capacity of 285 MGD, although typical daily production is 109.3 MGD. Peak flow is 161.7 MGD.

WSSC has determined that its supply, treatment facilities and distribution system have adequate capacity to accommodate the projected population growth in their entire service district, including its Rockville customers.

According to WSSC's 30 year Infrastructure Plan, aging and deteriorating water mains and valves present a serious challenge to the integrity of the water distribution system. By 2025, it is estimated that the approximately 50% of the entire distribution system will reach or exceed its useful life. There are over 2,000 miles of cast iron pipe in the system and over 85% of this pipe will exceed its useful life by 2025. WSSC is working with County officials to develop an infrastructure investment plan to provide a roadmap to refurbish and replace this infrastructure over time.

WSSC has a variety of programs to promote water conservation and reduce the water demand of households and jobs in its service area. These actions include the adoption of stringent plumbing codes requiring low water fixtures, water rate structure that encourages conservation and community education and outreach activities. These programs are particularly important during the summer and early fall months when the River experiences lower flow conditions.

Recommended Rockville Actions

Rockville's water supply is adequate to satisfy the demand of projected population growth over the next 20 years. The City also has additional alternative sources that will meet further long-term demands. These sources are limited by the size and condition of the City's infrastructure. Rockville is taking proactive steps to ensure that the infrastructure also keeps pace with demand. The City is also aggressively moving to reduce per-capita demand through mandatory and voluntary water conservation practices and incentives. These measures enjoy adequate funding under the City's water service enterprise fee program.

Rockville has already accomplished much of what it needs to do to position the City to address its future needs. Nevertheless, the City will continue to look for innovative and creative methods to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of its drinking water system. To complete these tasks, the City must follow through on its plans to:

1. Replace 34 miles of the most vulnerable water lines over the next 20 years
2. Resolve concerns with the water age and storage capacity of the City's three existing storage tanks.
3. Bring the Glen Mill Pump Station on line
4. Upgrade the water plant with energy efficient components that will allow it to produce up to 14 million gallons per day and pursue a commensurate increase in the daily average and daily maximum Potomac River allocations as needed.
5. Provide customers with consumption data and water conservation techniques and other meaningful public education activities to encourage per capita reductions in water use.

Chapter Four: Assuring Adequate Wastewater Disposal

As with drinking water, communities must provide adequate wastewater disposal for the domestic sewage they generate. Left untreated, sewage carries bacteria, viruses and diseases that can harm public health and contaminate downstream drinking water supplies. Similarly, many communities allow commercial and light industrial facilities to discharge their process wastewater into the community’s sewers. These discharges may contain toxic pollutants such as solvents and metals. They may also contain blocking or viscous substances that can obstruct a sewer and lead the contents of the sewer to spill out onto the land surface or community street exposing residents to public health concerns. In some cases, a sewage spill from the collection system can also reach and contaminate nearby waterways.

In the same manner that drinking water supplies are potentially jeopardized, poor local land use decisions can result in a domestic sewage overload beyond the capacity of the community’s sewers, pump stations or treatment plant to handle. This plan sets out the vision and path needed to assure that Rockville will continue to enjoy adequate facilities for wastewater disposal far into the future. As can be gleaned from the description below, Rockville has already put plans in motion to ensure this future capacity.

4.1 Rockville Demographic Information

| | 2010 | 2030 | 2040 | Change (Percent) |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|
| Square miles | 13.5 | 13.5 | 13.5 | - |
| Total City Population | 62,500 | 77,650 | 84,000 | 21,500 (34%) |
| Total Rockville Households | 24,327 | 31,500 | 34,500 | 10,173 (42%) |
| City Service Population | 11,820 Households | 15,320 Households | 16,820 Households | 5,000 (30%) |
| City Nonresident Service Population | 820 Connections | 860 Connections | 871 Connections | 51 Connections (6%) |
| WSSC Service Population* | 12,507 Households | 16,180 Households | 17,680 Households | 5,173 (29%) |

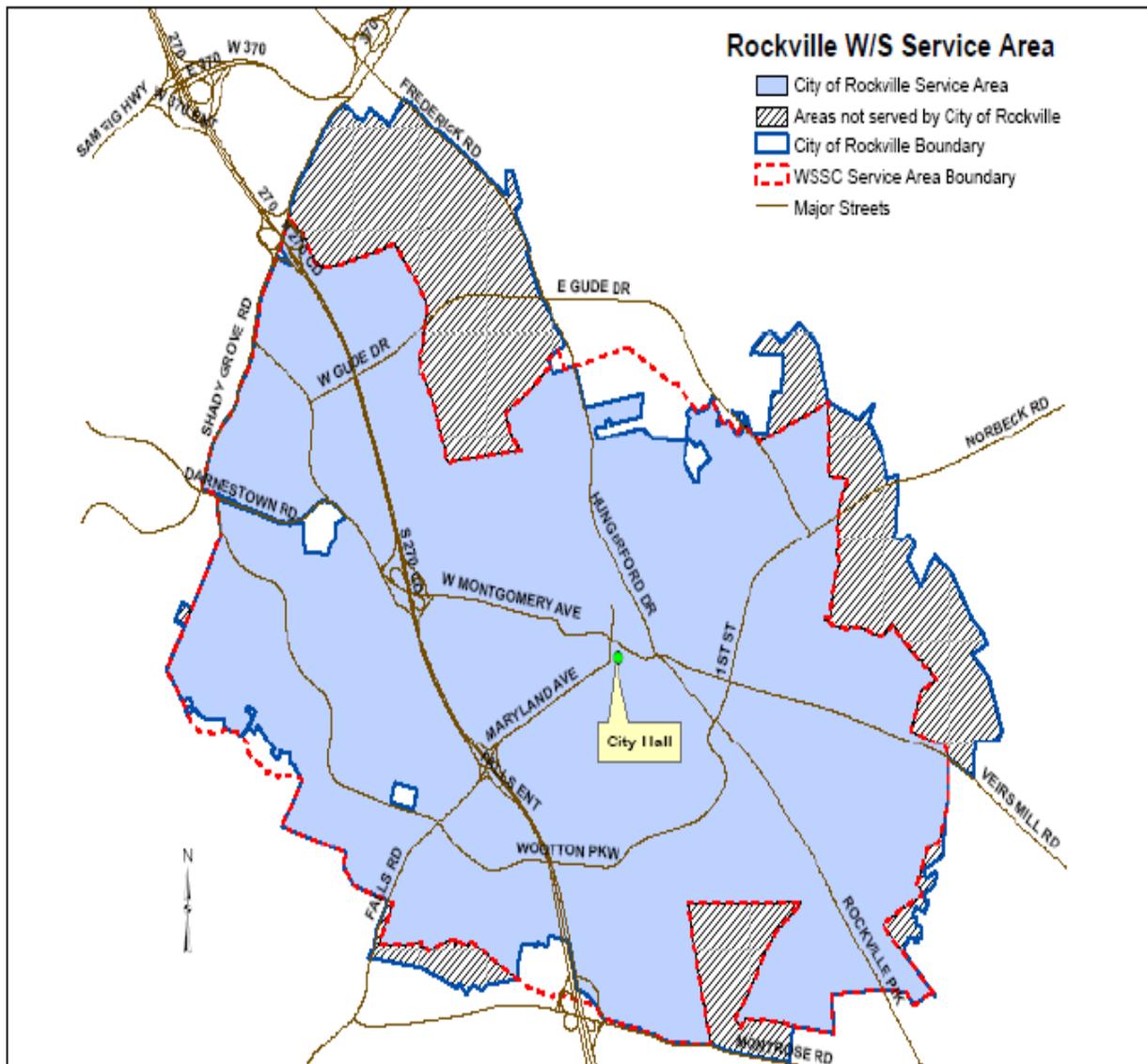
*/ The Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission (WSSC) continues to provide sewer service to those households and businesses located within its historic service area that have been annexed into the City.

Since the City of Rockville is completely built out, future growth (both residential and nonresidential) will consist of infill and redevelopment. This redevelopment will be concentrated in close proximity to the City’s redeveloped Town Center, its three Metro (subway) stations, and redevelopment along the Rockville Pike corridor. With the exception to the Shady Grove Metro station area (served by WSSC), the City provides wastewater service to these growth areas and will be expected to absorb these new customers.

Rockville's Wastewater Needs

Throughout most of the City's history, wastewater treatment and disposal occurred within the City limits. During the winter of 1913-14, Rockville experienced a severe typhoid epidemic that made national news. The cause was eventually traced to a typhoid-carrying guest of a resident whose privy contaminated the City wells located only 400 feet away. By 1916, Rockville had a state of the art sewer and treatment system that all residents were required to connect to. The typhoid event also directly led to the creation of the Washington Suburban Sanitation Commission (WSSC) to service Montgomery and Prince George's Counties. However, in the 1950s, pursuant to an order issued by the Maryland Department of Health, Rockville's wastewater treatment facilities were closed and the City has conveyed its sewage to the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission ever since. Although the City is no longer responsible for direct treatment and disposal of its sewage, Rockville continues to own and maintain much of the sewage collection system in the City.

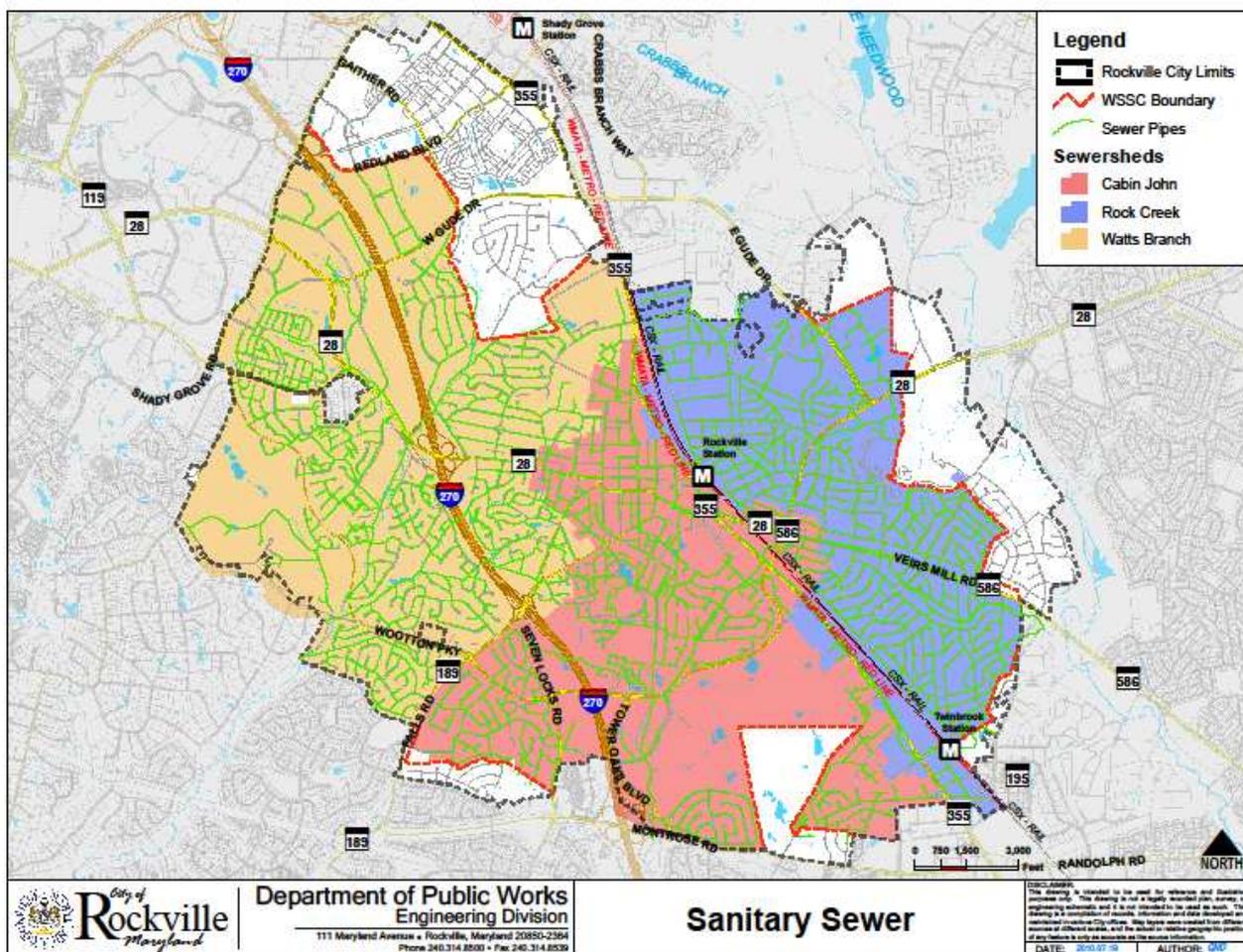
Map 4.1 The Rockville/WSSC Wastewater Service Areas



As with drinking water, Rockville’s own sewage system serves approximately 49% of the community, including 820 nonresidential customers. In 2009, the City’s resident and nonresident populations generated 6.85 million gallons of sewage each day. The remaining 51% of the City is served directly by sewers owned and maintained by the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission (WSSC). The WSSC wastewater service area is identical to the drinking water service area described in Chapter Three.

Pursuant to an agreement negotiated in the 1970s, the City conveys all of its collected sewage to sewers owned by WSSC. However, the agreement restricts Rockville’s contribution to 9.31 million gallons each day. The City has never used its full treatment allotment and does not expect to do so even after the projected population growth anticipated by 2040.

Map 4.2 Rockville Sewersheds



At the present time, Rockville is only using less than 69 percent of its allotted Blue Plains capacity via WSSC. Over 31 percent (2.92 million gallons per day) of the City’s capacity remains available to support future growth.

Table 4.2 Rockville Average Daily Wastewater Flows

| Fiscal Year | Flow (Million Gallons per Day) |
|--------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 2006 | 6.22 |
| 2007 | 5.97 |
| 2008 | 6.52 |
| 2009 | 6.85 |
| Four Year Average | 6.39 |

Anticipated Residential Wastewater Demand

Rockville currently collects sewage from 11,820 residential customers. By 2030, these connections are expected to climb to 15,320, and 16,820 by 2040. Similarly, the WSSC service area is expected to experience an increase in the number of households as follows: 12,507 in 2010, 16,180 by 2030, and 17,680 by 2040. A separate survey done specifically for Rockville indicates that the average number of Rockville residents per household is approximately 2.5; below both the National and State averages.

Table 4.3 Projected Residential (Household) Customer Growth

| | 2010 | 2030 | 2040 | Total Change and Percentage |
|------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|------------------------------------|
| Rockville Service Area | 11,820 | 15,320 | 16,820 | 5,000 (30%) |
| WSSC Service Area | 12,507 | 16,180 | 17,680 | 5,173 (29%) |

Rockville’s experience is that resident and nonresident customers typically discharge 80% of the water they consume back to the City in the form of sewage and greywater. While the recent trend toward bottled water may complicate a precise calculation, it is unlikely that the introduction of bottled water will present a significant variance from projections based on City drinking water consumption data. Therefore, a reliable wastewater need calculation can be derived by taking 80% of the estimated drinking water demands of the City’s customers as follows:

Residential Wastewater Demand

2010 Current Wastewater Demand = 11,820 households x 162 gallons per day – 20% or
1,531,872 million gallons per day

2030 Projected Wastewater Demand = 15,320 households x 162 gallons per day – 20% or
1,985,472 million gallons per day
An increase of 453,600 gallons per day (23%)

2040 Projected Wastewater Demand = 16,820 households x 162 gallons per day – 20% or
2,179,872 million gallons per day
An increase of 194,400 gallons per day (9%)

Therefore, the total projected increase in residential wastewater demand is 648,000 gallons per day (a 30% increase).

Nonresident (Commercial/Industrial/Institutional) Demand

Rockville currently collects sewage from its 820 nonresident (commercial/industrial/Institutional) customers. Note that there are no significant irrigated agricultural uses in the City any more. By 2030, the City’s nonresident customers are expected to climb from 820 to 860. By 2040 the number of nonresident customers is estimated to reach 871.

Table 4.4 Projected Nonresident Customer Growth

| | 2010 | 2030 | 2040 | Total Change and Percentage |
|------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|------------------------------------|
| Rockville Service Area | 820 | 860 | 871 | 51 (6%) |

According to an actual study of water usage in Rockville, the average nonresident water consumption rate is 2,865 gallons per day. Assuming this consumption number remains representative in the future, the increased nonresident wastewater demand can also be estimated using 80% of the water totals as follows:

2010 Current Wastewater Demand = 2,865 gallons per day x 820 nonresident connections – 20% or **1,879,440 million gallons per day**

2030 Projected Wastewater Demand = 2,865 gallons per day x 860 nonresident connections – 20% or **1,971,120 million gallons per day**
An increase of 91,680 gallons per day (<5%)

2040 Projected Nonresident Demand = 2,865 gallons per day x 871 nonresident connections - 20% or **1,996,332 million gallons per day**
An increase of 25,212 gallons per day (<2%)

Therefore, the total projected increase in nonresidential wastewater demand is 116,892 gallons per day (a 6% increase over current levels).

Taken together, the projected increase in residential and nonresidential wastewater demands is 116,892 gallons per day (18%). **The total projected wastewater demand from all sources is 4,176,204 gallons per day.** This demand is well under Rockville’s existing treatment allotment at the Blue Plains regional treatment facility. In addition, given water conservation incentives and mandates that the City has and will continue to put in place, the actual wastewater demand may actually be significantly less on a *per capita* and *per job* basis than the calculated projection set out above. For example, Rockville recently adopted a green building code (City Code Chapter 5) that requires the use of low-flow toilets (1.2 gallons per flush) and faucets in all new and renovated buildings.

Moreover, in the event that Rockville were to aggressively pursue annexation over the next 20-30 years, it would not create significant additional demands for wastewater treatment because the properties identified on the City’s *Maximum Expansion Limit* map (see the companion *Municipal Growth Element* for more details on the MEL) have already been developed and are either 1) on private wells and septic systems or 2) already receiving water and sewer service from WSSC.

Those properties receiving WSSC service will continue to receive these services even after annexation. The City has identified a small number of residential properties 10 or fewer on private wells and septic tanks. While these properties will be compelled to connect to City water and sewer systems (if available) as a condition of annexation, they do not represent a significant increase or burden on the system beyond the increases calculated for growth inside the current City limits.

Therefore, the only restrictions on short-term population growth will derive from any limitations in Rockville’s collection system.

Rockville’s Collection System

There are no public or private septic tanks in Rockville. Similarly, there are no public or private wastewater treatment plants located in the City. However, the City owns and maintains 149.44 miles of sanitary sewers. The diameter of these pipes ranges from 6 inches to 27 inches. WSSC maintains 32.56 miles of sewers. Another 18 miles of private sewers connected to the City’s collection system at various locations.

Most of the sewage in the system is moved by gravity (that is it is not pumped uphill). However, there are two locations that require pumping. The City has two pump stations; one at North Horners Lane (0.5 million gallons a day) in East Rockville and another in the Fallsgrove neighborhood (1.1 million gallons per day).

Table 4.5 Rockville’s Collection System Elements

| System Components | Number of Components |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Publicly-Owned Sewers | 149.44 miles |
| Privately-Owned Sewers | 18 miles |
| Total Sewers in City | 160 miles |
| Pump Stations | 2 |

There are 10 interconnections where the City’s collection system meets the WSSC collection system and wastewater is conveyed to WSSC. WSSC in turn conveys its sewage, including the Rockville portion, to a 370 million gallon per day wastewater plant owned and operated by the District of Columbia Water and Sewer Authority (D.C. WASA). The regional wastewater treatment plant is known as the Blue Plains facility. WSSC’s total contribution is limited to 169.9 million gallons per day pursuant to the regional agreement. Blue Plains treats another 200 million gallons of sewage generated in Washington D.C. as well as several Northern Virginia suburbs.

In addition to traditional primary and secondary treatment operations, the Blue Plains facility denitrifies and filters the wastewater and is the largest wastewater treatment plant in the world to do so. It discharges fully treated water to the Potomac River at a location just south of the confluence of the Potomac and Anacostia Rivers.

The Blue Plains facility holds a Clean Water Act, NPDES discharge permit issued by the Federal U.S. EPA. This permit establishes stringent requirements on nitrogen, phosphorus and bacteria. However, the advanced tertiary treatment provided by the plant is expected to satisfy these requirements. Therefore, Rockville’s projected population growth is not expected to be restricted by State and Federal regulatory obligations.



Collection System Concerns

The design capacity of the collection system is not considered an issue in Rockville. Rockville developers proposing new growth in the City are required to pay for infrastructure improvements and upgrades necessary to support the proposed development. Since Rockville is virtually built out, all new growth is expected to take the form of infill and redevelopment projects. Developers will continue to remain financially responsible for upgrades to increase or extend wastewater service to their properties in the future. This obligation continues as far downstream in the sewer system as may be necessary to assure capacity. All of these upgrades are at the developer's expense and are overseen by City personnel.

There are five primary concerns with the Rockville collection system:

- Ensuring system data is easily accessible
- Rehabilitating and replacing aging or damaged sewers
- Preventing precipitation and groundwater from entering the system
- Preventing blockages into and spills out of the system
- Eliminating discharges of incompatible wastes

None of these concerns are expected to limit or restrict population growth anticipated by 2040.

Resolving Information and Data Gaps

Rockville has electronically mapped all of its collection system, but the City is still in the process of mapping the privately-owned sewer segments that connect to it. City engineers, emergency response, field maintenance crews, and environmental compliance officers have access to this GIS information.

Most of the interconnections between the City collection system and the WSSSC collection system are metered and provide accurate data on peak and diurnal flows. However, flows traveling through the four interconnects in the Rock Creek portion of the City (i.e., the *sewershed*) are estimated rather than metered with precision. Rockville is working with WSSC to install meters in these locations.

The condition of the sewers is critical to maintaining their design capacity, particularly in the older parts of the community. The City has invested in remote camera imagery to enable it to take closed-circuit television (CCTV) video of the collection system. Rockville intends to deploy this technology to

examine every sewer segment in the City over a 10-year period (evaluating 14 miles each year). The City will complete the first round of inspections by the end of 2010. The camera footage identifies structural issues (i.e., deteriorating and cracked sewer pipes) and operation and maintenance issues (e.g., roots and blockages, including grease buildups). When a concern is identified, it is scored to ensure that the worst problems receive the quickest attention on a rolling basis.

Responding to Aging and Damaged Pipes

As with its drinking water distribution system, portions of the Rockville sewer system are reaching the end of their useful life. As these pipes deteriorate, the system is more vulnerable to cracks, breaks and, in the worst-case scenario, collapse.

Rockville is in the process of developing a Wastewater Capacity Management Plan aimed at ensuring the long-term integrity of the system. Under the plan, Rockville is rehabilitating 1.25 of the 149.44 (0.84%) total system miles each year. By comparison, WSSC rehabilitates 46 of its 5,400 system miles (0.85%) each year. Rehabilitation involves cleaning or scraping the pipe out and lining it with a resin material that hardens after being wet. If the pipe is structurally compromised, it is dug up and replaced. The Capital Improvement Project is designated No.220-850-9G34.

Table 4.6 Projected Rehabilitation Spending (2010-2015)

| FY 2010 | FY 2011 | FY 2012 | FY 2013 | FY 2014 | FY 2015 |
|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| \$1,534,515 | \$1,231,000 | \$1,413,000 | \$1,653,000 | \$876,000 | \$1,459,000 |

Rockville uses the camera inspections and analysis and the inflow and infiltration studies to target its rehabilitation and replacement efforts. Work is prioritized on a rolling basis so that those segments needing urgent attention are addressed first.

One of the challenges to rehabilitation is the City’s access to the property where the sewer lays. Many of these pipes are in right-of-ways under and next to City, County and State owned roads and streets. However, some pipes cross private property and the City needs the ability to access the property in order to conduct the annual inspections or affect the repairs. Rockville is in the process of ensuring these easements are up to date and effective.

Keeping Precipitation and Groundwater Out of the System

Inflows are cracks in the sewers that allow precipitation and groundwater to come into the sewer (aka *inflows*). Inflows reduce the sewer capacity to convey sewage. Inflows also reduce the effectiveness of the wastewater plant treating the sewage because instead of a concentrated sewage that the plant is designed to handle, the wastewater is diluted and more difficult to treat to acceptable discharge levels.

Similarly, infiltration poses a public health and environmental concerns in that sewage flows out of the pipes through these same cracks and breaks and contaminate groundwater and surface streams. At the present time, Rockville does not have comprehensive inflow and infiltration information on every part of its system, but the City should acquire this data in the near term.

Rockville completed an inflow and infiltration study and a sanitary sewer evaluation study (SSES) in the Cabin John (south) portion of the collection system in 2008. This study involved a series of smoke tests to look for breaks and cracks, and flow measurements to determine whether the system was under the influence of significant precipitation events. That is, whether stormwater was reaching the sewers and

causing flows to exceed normal diurnal patterns. The study identified a number of repairs all of which were completed by 2009.

The City intends to initiate a similar study in the Rock Creek (east) portion of the City in May 2010. The study will conclude in September 2011. In addition to results similar to those obtained in the Cabin John study, the City intends to create a hydraulic flow model to use in future planning and prioritizing for repairs. In 2013, the remaining (north and west) parts of the City located in the Watts Branch sewershed will also be studied. The Watts Branch sewershed was prioritized last because it is the newest portion of Rockville and the City does not anticipate substantial problems in this part of its system. In the future, all three of these initial threshold studies will be supplemented by the annual camera inspections described above.

One of the most common causes of inflow and infiltration is roots penetrating into the sewer system (seeking water). The City proactively treats all sewers in the system for root control at least once each year. In the event a root is identified, it is spot treated and removed and the crack sealed.

Preventing Blockages and Spills

Fats oils and grease are discharged into the sewers by residential cooking, and commercial, institutional or industrial kitchens. While fats, oils and grease do not adversely affect the sewer integrity, they do reduce the sewer's flow capacity and, if left untreated, can cause an overflow or spill to surcharge out of manholes upstream from the blockage they create. Similar blockages may be caused by other flushed items (e.g., lumber or rags), but grease blockages are unfortunately more common.

Known as sanitary sewer overflows (SSOs), spills out of the collection system expose the public and wildlife, (including aquatic life in adjacent streams in the event the sewage reaches those streams) to unsanitary conditions and water-borne diseases. Note, Rockville does not have any combined sewers (sewers that also convey precipitation runoff) in its collection system. In the event a grease build up is identified, it is spot treated and the line is flushed clean. The entire system is flushed at least once each year. In the event a sewage spill occurs, Rockville has developed a rapid emergency response capability that will restrict public access to the spill area, prevent the spill from reaching the City's waterways, and perform pathogen reduction and spill clean up and disposal actions.

The best method for addressing grease blockages is to reduce or eliminate the discharges into the sewers in the first place. Rockville has initiated a program to educate residents that fats, oils and grease should be disposed of as solid waste refuse rather than discharged down the drain to the sewers. The City has also embarked on a regulatory effort to inspect and ensure that all 450 restaurants, institutions and commercial kitchens in the City have appropriate grease management practices and technologies in place. Establishments with inadequate facilities and practices are ordered to upgrade and improve their grease management systems.

Preventing Incompatible Wastewater Discharges

Incompatible wastes like acids and caustics can harm the sewer system as well as Rockville personnel who from time-to-time are working in or near the system. Similarly, metals and organic chemicals also threaten harm, including the disruption or interference with the efficiency or effectiveness of the Blue Plains treatment facility. Finally, some pollutants may enter the Rockville sewers, travel the City and WSSC sewers, and pass through the treatment plant into the Potomac without any treatment at all.

Rockville has adopted several local ordinances that prevent incompatible pollutants from entering the sewer system. First, the City has adopted a sewer use ordinance (City Code Chapter 24, Sections 24.67 and 24.69) that prevents a person from taking any action that harms the City’s water and sewer systems. The local law also authorizes City staff to require pretreatment of industrial wastewater where warranted. Finally, the ordinance prohibits stormwater or groundwater discharges into the sewage collection system.

In addition to this general ordinance, Rockville adopted a very stringent ordinance (the Water Quality Protection Ordinance (see City Code Chapter 23.5) that restricts commercial and residential discharges into the sewer system that may compromise the safety of City personnel or harm the integrity of the City sewer system. The Water Quality Protection Ordinance also requires all food service establishments, regardless of ownership, to use appropriate grease management practices and technology. Noncompliance with these requirements subjects the discharger to potential fines.

Rockville Collection System Funding

Rockville’s share of expenses for both the WSSC conveyance system and the Blue Plains treatment facility were established in a 1958 Intermunicipal Agreement last modified in 1985. Rockville’s share of the WSSC conveyance system is based on the City’s actual flow (6.85 million gallons per day in 2009) whereas the City’s contribution to Blue Plains is based on its allocated share of treatment capacity (9.31 million gallons per day in 2009) whether that capacity is used or not.

In 2009, Rockville paid \$2,425,000 to WSSC for wastewater treatment service, including \$500,000 for WSSC to convey the Rockville sewage to Blue Plains and another \$1,925,000 for D.C. WASA to treat the flow. The City incurred additional cost for system improvements, maintenance, electricity to operate the two pump stations, and related personnel costs. The costs for WSSC and D.C. WASA are expected to increase sharply in near term, perhaps by more than 100% in each

Table 4.7 Rockville WSSC/WASA Wastewater Payments

| Fiscal Year | Payments |
|----------------------------|-----------------|
| 2007 | \$2,201,800 |
| 2008 | \$2,337,500 |
| 2009 | \$2,376,900 |
| Three Year Average Cost | \$2305,400 |

year for the next three years. These increases reflect Rockville’s share of the costs of installing enhanced biological treatment to further reduce nitrogen in peak system flows, and making energy efficiency upgrades that may save resources in the long-run.

As noted above, Rockville developers are required to pay for sewer upgrades that may be needed to support an infill or redevelopment project. In addition, developers pay fees to the City to evaluate their proposed developments and identify *downstream* upgrades of the City collection system needed to accommodate any additional wastewater flow.

Rockville currently charges its customers a flat fee of \$4.12 per 1,000 gallons of sewage per month. These funds are deposited in a sewer enterprise fund that is dedicated to financing the cost of providing the service. Rockville sells municipal bonds to raise funds for larger capital projects.

Table 4.8 Projected Rockville Wastewater Service Fees (per 1,000 gallons)

| FY 2009 | FY2010 | FY 2011 | FY 2012 | FY 2013 |
|----------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| \$3.97 | \$4.12 | \$4.28 | \$4.45 | \$4.63 |

In addition, the City is always interested in identifying grants and low-interest loans that make wastewater collection and treatment more affordable for residents. For example, in fiscal year 2010, the City received \$750,000 federal grant dollars for sanitary sewer rehabilitation projects, including reconstructing manholes and lining existing sewers to reduce I&I in one of our neighborhoods.

Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission Service in Rockville

Montgomery County is the planning authority for the availability and adequacy of sewer service for the portion of WSSC’s service area inside the County, including Rockville. Like Rockville, the County and the Maryland National Park and Planning Commission are developing a Water Resources Element and a Comprehensive Water Supply and Sewage System Plan for these areas. These initiatives are being coordinated with the City to ensure that the needs of the portion of Rockville’s population served by this system are appropriately addressed in these plans.

Recommended Actions

Although the City has adequate treatment capacity for the volume of sewage expected by 2030, there are still important actions the City should pursue to ensure both the integrity and capacity of its own collection system. These actions include the following steps:

1. Complete mapping and metering the entire system including privately owned sewers and the WSSC interconnections.
2. Continue to support the annual camera inspections of the sewer system.
3. Follow up on the results of the television inspections and the Rock Creek and Watts Branch I&I studies and undertake priority sewers rehabilitation and replacement.
4. Continue to implement commercial and residential fats, oils and grease management program to prevent grease buildups and blockages from occurring.
5. Maintain easement access to all portions of the wastewater infrastructure.
6. Develop a City-wide hydraulic model of the collection system.

Chapter Five: Stormwater Management

Clean, healthy streams are important to Rockville—not just to protect people and to preserve the quality of our open spaces, but also to protect the water for the plants, insects and other animals that call these streams home. Clean water in Rockville helps preserve the health of the City’s three local streams: Cabin John Creek, Watts Branch and Rock Creek, as well as the Potomac River and Chesapeake Bay. The City has established and maintains an active stormwater management program to preserve and protect Rockville’s water resources and to mitigate the harmful effects of urban runoff.

Stormwater refers to rain that falls on impervious surfaces such as paved streets, parking lots, and rooftops and flows into the stormwater drainage system and then into local water bodies. As the water runs over land it picks up pollutants like oil, fertilizer, pesticides, pet waste and sediment. These pollutants can quickly adversely impact a stream’s water quality. Stormwater also increases the volume and speed of stream flows during storm events causing stream bank erosion and harming aquatic insects, fish and animals that depend on the stream for their habitat and food.

Watershed imperviousness has been associated with a wide range of negative impacts to stream hydrology, stream morphology, biological habitat, and water quality. Research has demonstrated that sensitive stream elements are lost when impervious cover exceeds about 10 percent of the land. Once imperviousness reaches 25 to 30 percent, most streams become poor quality due to erosion, channel instability, severe habitat degradation, and decreasing biological integrity.

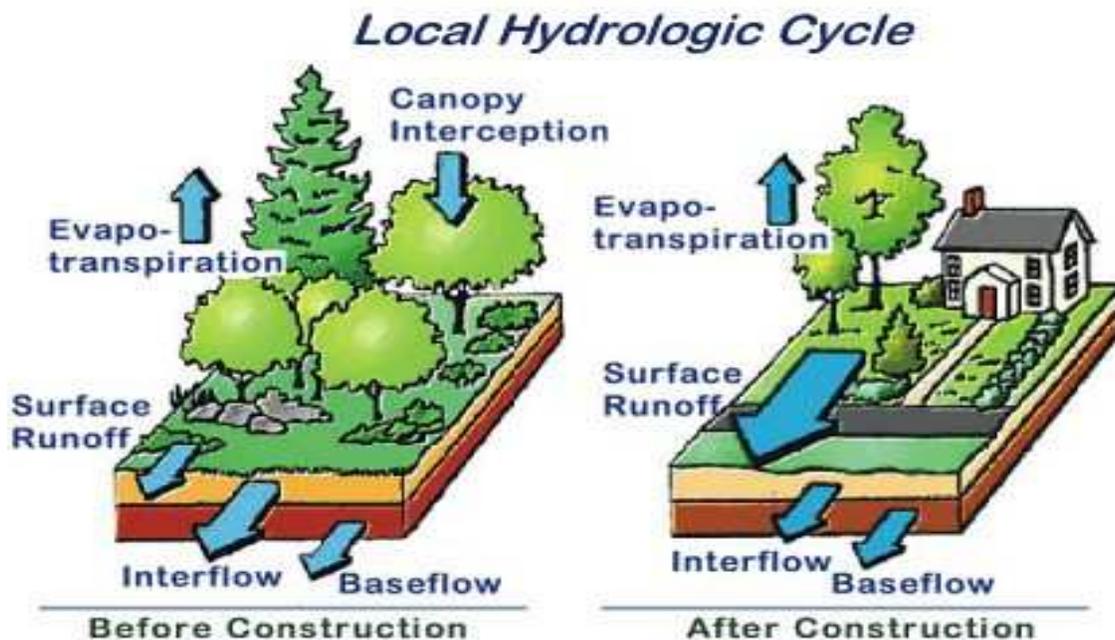


Image courtesy Maryland Department of Environment <http://www.mde.state.md.us>

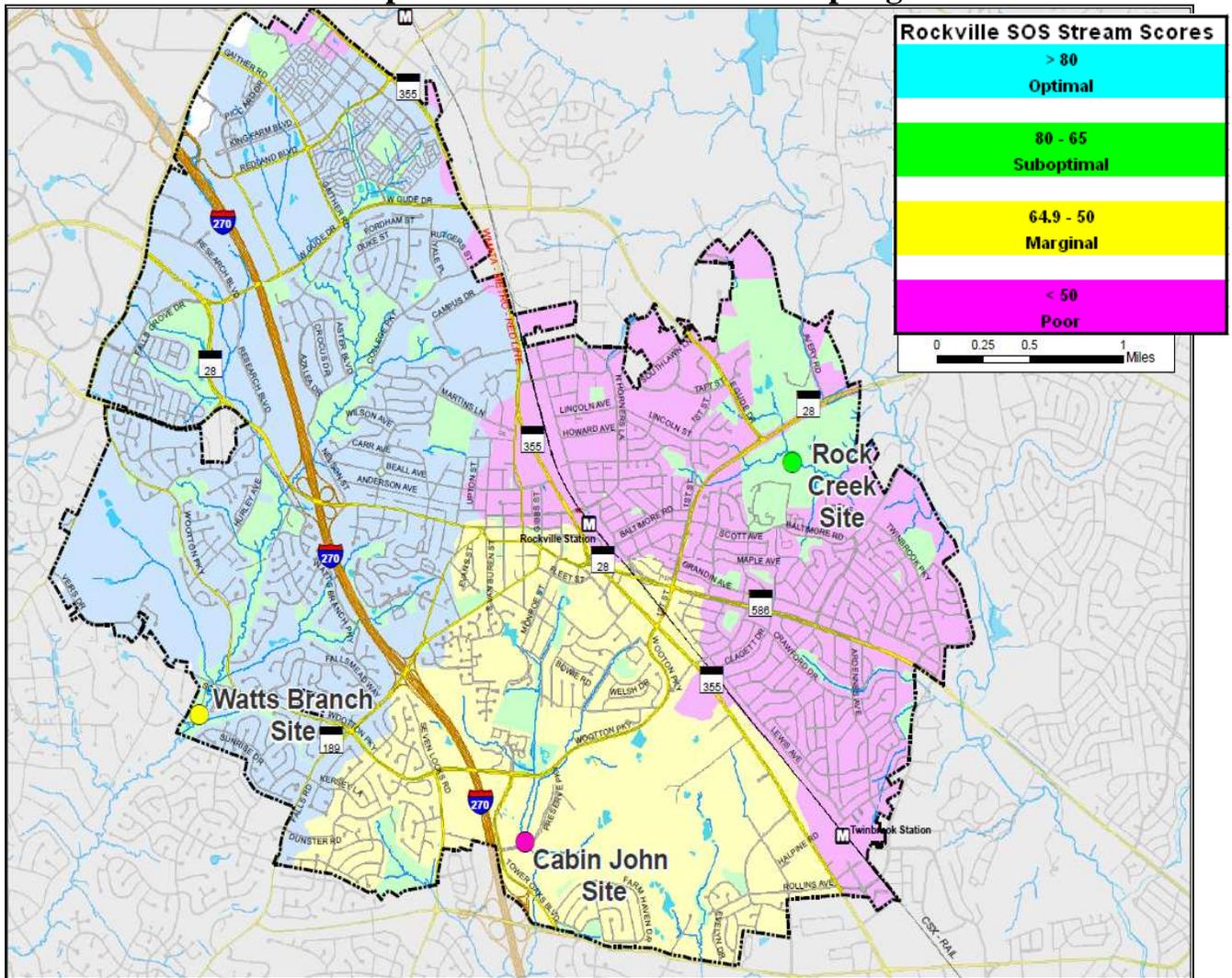
The following specific concerns are documented adverse impacts of unmanaged stormwater:

- Increased flooding intensity and frequency
- Increased stream flow velocities
- Increased streambank erosion
- Changed stream geometry
- Reduced groundwater recharge
- Impaired habitat for aquatic life
- Decreased water quality in local streams and the Chesapeake Bay

Water Quality in Rockville’s Streams

Cabin John Creek is polluted by fecal bacteria and sediments. The State had also previously listed Cabin John Creek as impaired by nutrients but removed this listing in July 2009. The Rock Creek watershed is impaired due to phosphorus and sediments. Total maximum daily loads (TMDLs are being developed for these waters. There are no State pollution warnings for the Watts Branch waterways, or its tributaries.

Map 5.1 Rockville Volunteer Sampling



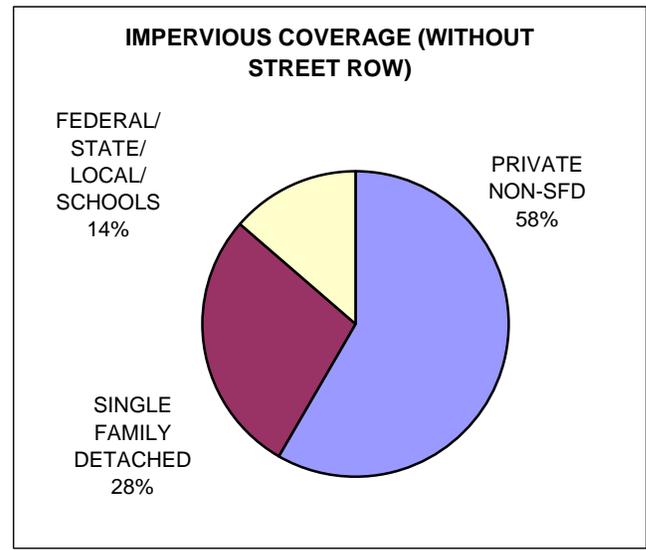
Rockville Stream Monitoring Results

Impervious Coverage, Population, and Land Use

According to analysis of 2007 aerial photography, the *City of Rockville is 35% impervious* (2,930 impervious acres out of 8,412 total acres).

Based on the population growth, staff estimates the total acres of impervious surface in Rockville will increase by 1.25% each year for the next ten years before leveling off. This projection considers the limited space for new development and increasing density to accommodate the projected rise in population and households.

Staff plans to reassess the amount of impervious surface in Rockville every two years. This data will allow the Stormwater Management program to better gauge the future growth of impervious surface in Rockville.



Nutrient Loading Analysis

The State requires a nutrient loading analysis for existing and 2030 land cover to estimate the amount of nutrients contributed by land uses to the City's watersheds. Nonpoint source pollution, including nutrients, flow cross jurisdictional boundaries and require regional coordination to assess the potential impacts associated with total regional growth. Rockville coordinated with Montgomery County and the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission to ensure that the City's forecasted growth and land use changes were factored in the County's 2030 land cover scenarios and nutrient loading analysis. Subsequently, Montgomery County's Water Resource Element provides a more comprehensive analysis of the region's total projected growth, and stormwater and nutrient loading analysis in order to assess potential impacts on the water quality of sub-watersheds.

The results of Montgomery County's nutrient loading analysis indicate only minor changes in nutrient loading between existing land cover and future land uses. These results were not unexpected because there is little vacant land left in the City, and therefore no significant land conversion scenario options remain.

Although alternative development patterns and stormwater management are usually considered in assessing the suitability of receiving waters, they will not be a significant factor in Rockville because there is so little vacant land left for development. Instead, questions will center on how Environmental Site Design, stormwater retrofits, pollution prevention, and redevelopment can be used to improve water quality and meet standards. For example, accommodating growth through concentrated redevelopment and infill will provide the opportunity to improve water quality, especially in areas built before stormwater management requirements. Measuring the benefits of these strategies will require analysis on a finer sub-watershed scale during Rockville's planned watershed studies, which can also account for the effects of various management practices.

Stormwater Management Efforts

Traditionally, national and state efforts to improve water quality focused on reducing pollutants from point source discharges such as industrial facilities and municipal sewage treatment plants. Congress amended the Clean Water Act 1987 to add a new focus on stormwater controls. According to EPA, stormwater pollution is currently the leading cause of water quality impairment in the United States. Similarly, stormwater from urban and agricultural land is one of several leading causes of watershed impairment in the Chesapeake Bay watershed. According to the Chesapeake Bay Program, urban stormwater contributes 17 percent of the phosphorus, 11 percent of the nitrogen, and 9 percent of sediment loads to the Bay. In more urbanized watersheds, such as the middle section of the Potomac River watershed where Rockville is located, stormwater runoff accounts for even higher levels of pollutant loads. The Maryland *BayStat model* estimates that stormwater runoff accounts for nearly 30 percent of nitrogen, 70 percent of phosphorus, and 47 percent of sediment loads entering the Middle Potomac.

The remainder of this Chapter provides a snapshot of the City's current stormwater program and identifies regulations, initiatives and strategies necessary to support the program through 2040.

Stormwater Regulations in Rockville

Rockville created the first stormwater management program in Maryland in 1978, primarily to address flood control. In 1982, the state of Maryland followed suit by requiring local jurisdictions to adopt local ordinances to control stormwater. These early programs focused on preventing major floods but did little to protect water quality in streams. Throughout the following decades, stormwater management techniques evolved to better protect water quality, with Rockville's program frequently leading the way. The City's progressive regulations allowed Rockville to gain stormwater treatment for redevelopment sites, test innovated treatment methods, and in 1996, pilot the State's proposed new channel erosion control (CPv) standard for water quantity treatment.

This progression of stormwater from a flood control issue to a water quality issue culminated with Maryland's adoption of the *2000 Development Design Manual*, which codified statewide stringent stormwater management requirements for water quantity, quality, and recharge. Development projects designed between 2002 and 2009 reflect these 2000 design standards, incorporating both centralized quantity control systems and multiple small water quality facilities to meet state and local requirements for quantity, quality and recharge. Maryland's experiences implementing these systems triggered a shift in stormwater treatment objectives away from simply capturing and treating stormwater to designing development that produces less stormwater runoff altogether.

To accomplish this objective, the Maryland legislature passed the *Maryland Stormwater Management Act of 2007*. The Act requires all local jurisdictions to revise their local ordinances to require stormwater management plans that implement *Environmental Site Design* (ESD) practices to the maximum extent practicable. The term *environmental site design* means implementing environmentally friendly planning techniques that reduce the amount of impervious cover and preserve natural infiltration to groundwater. Further, developers must install low impact stormwater management systems, such as green roofs, rain gardens and bioretention areas, to treat or use rainwater where it falls rather than conveying it to a neighborhood or regional treatment facility. Only after using these environmentally friendly design techniques to the maximum extent practicable may a developer consider installing a traditional stormwater facility like a retention pond. The Rockville Mayor and Council adopted this new ordinance (City Code Chapter 19) and implementing regulations on June 7, 2010.

The National Pollution Discharge and Elimination System

The federal Clean Water Act is the legislation that addresses water pollution throughout the United States. The law was originally passed in 1948 and has been substantially amended over the years. In 1972, Congress amended the law to add a regulatory program identified as the *National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System* (NPDES) permit program. The goal of the NPDES program is to restore, protect, and maintain the physical, chemical, and biological integrity of the nation's waters, including the restoration and recovery of the Potomac River and the Chesapeake Bay.

The NPDES program requires persons (including the City of Rockville) wanting to discharge pollutants from a point sources into navigable waters to first obtain a permit from the Federal or State government. In Maryland's case, the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) has implemented this program since 1974. Pollutants are anything beyond uncontaminated rainwater. Point sources are any discreet conveyance (a ditch, pipe, canal, conduit, storm drain, etc.). Navigable waters have been defined very broadly as waters that may have interstate commerce connections. This definition includes wetlands adjacent to navigable waters and tributaries of waters that only flow intermittently or ephemerally.

Initially, stormwater was not considered to be a point source, but in 1987, Congress expanded the definition to include discharges from *municipal separate storm sewer systems* (MS4s). The U.S. EPA enacted stormwater regulations in two phases: Phase I required that all storm drain systems owned by municipalities of 100,000 persons or more be to be permitted. Phase II required that smaller municipalities, generally communities of more than 10,000 persons in Maryland, obtain NPDES permits. Since 2003, Rockville has been permitted under the Phase II rules [See MDE's *General NPDES Permit No. MDR055500*].

To obtain its permit, Rockville prepared a description of its intended stormwater program and priorities and submitted them to MDE. These commitments were in turn incorporated into the City's permit as enforceable requirements. This initial permit, which expired in 2008, has not been reissued and continues in effect until a new one is issued.

The City's permit commits Rockville to engage in a variety of outreach and education activities, implement a sediment and erosion control program for construction, require post-construction stormwater management for development, inspect and ensure effective maintenance to both private and public stormwater facilities, conduct watershed studies and implement public stormwater and stream improvements from these studies' recommendations, identify and eliminate non-stormwater discharges from the storm drain system, and undertake best management practices such as street sweeping, stream cleanups, and storm drain labeling.

Future Federal initiatives that will impact Rockville's stormwater program include:

- The development of a Chesapeake Bay Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) - a pollution diet intended to restore the Bay.
- Executive Order 13508 on Chesapeake Bay Restoration and Protection.
- EPA's new stormwater rulemaking effort currently underway.

Rockville anticipates that its future NPDES permit will be more demanding and stringent as the State and Federal governments continue to work toward returning streams, rivers and the Chesapeake Bay to a healthy condition.

Watershed Plans and Studies

The centerpiece of Rockville's stormwater program is a commitment to undertake comprehensive watershed assessment studies of all three watersheds on a 10 year rotating basis. These studies inform the City and its residents on the health of the streams, the quality of habitat, and the diversity of aquatic life. They also identify problem spots such as areas that are severely eroded and in need of repair and restoration. Finally, they document the successes of Rockville's stormwater program efforts and indicate the amount of work still required to achieve the goals, including new pollutants of concern on which the City may focus its resources. Below are the dates for Rockville's existing watershed assessments:

- Cabin John Creek (February 1996)
- Rock Creek (April 2000)
- Watts Branch (August 2001)

The next round of assessments is scheduled as follows:

- Cabin John Creek (2010)
- Rock Creek (2011)
- Watts Branch (2012)

The City's Stormwater Management Infrastructure

Rockville's public and private stormwater system consists of more than 2,560 inlets, nearly 400 private and over 100 public stormwater management facilities, and approximately 100 linear miles of storm drain pipe. Rockville has also established stream buffers of 125 to 175 feet on either side of City streams, and requires landowners to manage these buffers to keep them trash and contamination free and allow the growth of natural vegetation.

Since substantial portions of Rockville were built prior to any stormwater management requirements, there are many older neighborhoods that either lack treatment or have outdated facilities with little or no water quality or channel erosion control benefits. In addition, many segments of Rockville's storm drain system are undersized to accommodate current and future discharges. Efforts to retrofit this infrastructure will be essential to protecting property and restoring water quality in Rockville's watersheds.

Maintaining the City's Existing Stormwater Management System

The Department of Public Works conducts regular inspections of the City's publicly-owned stormwater management facilities to ensure their structural and functional integrity. After each inspection, the City's private contractor performs cleanouts and any necessary maintenance to keep the City's stormwater infrastructure in good repair. The City is developing a comprehensive preventative maintenance program focused on routine clean-outs of these facilities along with periodic inspection and repair of City-owned storm drain pipes, inlets, outfalls and manholes. The Department of Public Works plans to inspect four and a half miles of storm drain and 250 storm drain inlets in Fiscal Year 2010 and each year thereafter.

Capital Improvement Projects

The Capital Improvement Program (CIP) fund pays for projects that provide for the preservation, restoration and care of the City's natural streams, stream banks and the City's stormwater infrastructure. These projects, which are planned to accommodate current and future needs, are an essential component of the City's stormwater program.

For Fiscal Year 2010-2014, the CIP is funding eleven projects costing an estimated \$9,281,000. These projects include installing five stormwater pond retrofits, four stream restoration projects and other improvements to the storm drain system. The retrofit projects incorporate state-of-the-art methods for stormwater treatment and stream channel erosion protection. Where feasible, the retrofits also bring treatment to older portions of the community historically lacking these facilities.

The City also constructs stabilization and restoration projects for Rockville's 32 miles of stream. These restoration projects incorporate increasingly ecologically-friendly bioengineering techniques. For example, instead of gabions, current projects employ natural rock for bank protection, native plantings and natural stream geomorphic principles.

Although most public stormwater pipes in Rockville consists of reinforced concrete pipe in good condition, approximately eight miles of corrugated metal pipe (CMP) storm drains installed in the 1950s through early 1970s exist. These pipes are nearing the end of their useful life and will need to be replaced. In 2005, the City embarked on assessment and rehabilitation of CMP storm drains. The City completed the first phase in 2009, which repaired large-diameter pipes (>48") by lining them with concrete. The City is now conducting the second phase to rehabilitate the smaller CMP storm drains. These projects, intended to prevent catastrophic pipe failures, protect streams from severe erosion and the public from sinkholes and local flooding.

The CIP program also includes \$10,389,811 to reline and expand the sanitary sewer system. These enhancements will extend the useful life of the system and prevent sewage from leaking and overflowing into Rockville's streams.

Stormwater Controls on Private Property

Development Review and Approval

The first line of defense in stormwater management is to ensure that development minimizes the amount of impervious surfaces and provides the most technologically advanced methods to control stormwater. The Rockville Department of Public Works' Engineering Division reviews and approves stormwater management plans for both new development and for redevelopment projects to ensure consistency with the *Maryland Stormwater Design Manual* (2000) and as of May 2010, will also require all development to implement Environmental Site Design to the maximum extent practicable.

Sediment and Erosion/Construction Controls

The removal of natural vegetation and topsoil during the initial phase of construction makes the exposed area particularly susceptible to erosion and sedimentation. Rockville requires that all development disturbing greater than five thousand (5,000) square feet or greater than one hundred (100) cubic yards of earth must apply for a sediment control permit and implement a sediment control plan for the site. The *1994 Standards and Specifications for Soil Erosion and Sediment* serve as the official guide for erosion and sediment control principles, methods, and practices on construction sites.

Rockville's Department of Public Works (DPW) reviews all sediment and erosion control plans for consistency with these technical requirements and issues Sediment Control Permits. DPW's Contract Management Division is responsible for conducting inspections of construction sites to ensure conformity with the approved plans and the maintenance of all sediment control practices.

Currently, three inspectors conduct sediment control inspections in addition to inspections for construction of new stormwater management facilities, storm drains, water, sewer and roads.

MDE initiated a comprehensive review of the State's erosion and sediment control standards in early 2009 and has developed an initial draft of the *2010 Maryland Standards and Specifications for Soil Erosion and Sediment Control*. These are expected to be final in 2011. Areas that were evaluated include: environmental site design requirements, the use of coagulants, revised stabilization standards, new standards for best management practices, and new technology. MDE has been working with all stakeholders including the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) and the Maryland Association of Soil Conservation Districts (MASCD) through a technical review workgroup as part of this development and update process. Once the State adopts these new regulations, Rockville will update Chapter 19 of the Rockville City Code to reflect any new requirements.

Inspection of Private Stormwater Facilities

In 2009, Rockville initiated an inspection program for the approximately 400 privately-owned stormwater management facilities in the City. The facilities vary widely in age, protectiveness and capacity. The inspections ensure the owners are properly maintaining these facilities. The City plans to complete a baseline assessment of all these facilities within the next two years (FY 2010 and 2011). The Department of Public Works Environmental Management Division employs one full time compliance inspector for private stormwater management facilities. The City also contracts with outside technical experts to perform all inspections that require work in underground or confined spaces. When warranted, City of Rockville staff handles compliance and enforcement follow up to all inspections.

The inspection program consists of two types of inspections: routine maintenance and structural inspections. Routine inspections occur once a year and target sediment accumulation, trash accumulation, mowing and other maintenance needs. The inspector also reviews the property owner's maintenance records to ensure that required maintenance protocols are being followed. The City is considering the need to increase the frequency of these site visits to biannually for bio-retention and other ESD techniques.

The City performs structural inspections once every three years to assess the structural effectiveness of the facility. Inspectors evaluate structural effectiveness by investigating whether the facility is functioning as it was designed. While routine inspections do not focus on structural assessments, the Rockville inspectors require correction of any structural failings observed during the inspection.

Fats, Oils, and Grease Management Program

The discharge of fats, oils and grease (FOGs) from both resident and commercial kitchens into the sanitary sewer system and storm drains is a rapidly increasing problem that results in the unnecessary expenditure of thousands of tax dollars each year to remove obstructions and blockages. Once in the sewers, FOGs cool and solidify to form hard deposits that decrease sewer line capacity and cause blockages and breaks. These blockages frequently result in raw sewage overflows from manholes or sewer backups into homes and businesses. Since sewers are often located along streams, the overflow can quickly reach these waterways and cause contamination. Similarly, FOGs placed in storm drains also end up in City streams causing contamination and possible adverse health effects to people and creatures living in or near the stream. The Water

Quality Protection Ordinance precludes residents and businesses from pouring cooking fats, oils and grease down their drains.

City representatives conduct ongoing inspections of over 450 food service establishments to ensure proper FOG management. These inspections involve education and outreach to spread the word about best practices for FOG management and may result in Notices of Violations and fines under the Water Quality Protection Ordinance. In addition, the City routinely distributes residential focused outreach materials up-pipe from blockages caused by FOG.

The City's Water Quality Protection Ordinance

On July 16, 2007, the Mayor and Council adopted a Water Quality Protection Ordinance as part of the City's effort to comply with its NDPES MS4 Permit. The Ordinance has the following objectives:

- Protecting surface and ground waters within the City
- Prolonging the useful life of the City's storm drains and sanitary sewers
- Safeguarding the City employees working in the storm drains and sanitary sewers
- Ensuring that the City remains in compliance with its Clean Water Act requirements

The Ordinance establishes a series of "prohibited discharges" for pollutants such as oil, sediment, nutrients, pesticides, fertilizers and grease. The ordinance also establishes a duty to report, cleanup and mitigate these discharges, and clarifies the City's ability to conduct inspections and enforce the Ordinance. Noncompliance is subject to civil penalty of \$1,000 per violation per day. The Water Quality Protection Ordinance is codified in Chapter 23.5 of the Rockville City Code.

Other Regulations Affecting Stormwater Management

Several City policies, ordinances and programs support water quality in Rockville and play an important role in stormwater management.

Forest and Tree Preservation Ordinance

As of 2010, 44% of Rockville is covered by tree canopy. Maintaining and expanding the tree canopy is an essential element of the City's stormwater program because trees reduce the overall runoff volume and improve the quality of the runoff entering City streams. Amended in 2008, the Forest and Tree Preservation Ordinance (FTPO) has the following objectives:

- Encourage the preservation and enhancement of Rockville's urban forest
- Replace tree cover in non-forest areas within the City

The amended FTPO meets the requirements of the Natural Resource Article, Sections 5-1601 through 5-1613 of the Annotated Code of Maryland.

Zoning Ordinance

Zoning codes regulate the uses of privately and publicly-owned lands. Zoning creates a development review process where environmental concerns can be discussed and addressed. The Planning and Zoning Division works with surrounding property owners, businesses and the applicant during development review to help assure the health and welfare of citizens and to achieve high-quality development that complies with the design regulations of the City Code and addresses the needs of the surrounding community, including environmental concerns. This review requires compliance with the City's stormwater, forestry, and sediment control laws and

promotes water quality by placing limits on the amount of impervious surface on residential yards.

Green Building Ordinance

The City of Rockville revised Chapter 5 of the City Code, “*Buildings and Building Regulations*” on May 10, 2010. These revisions include local amendments to create an innovative, demanding yet flexible system protective of health, safety and the environment. The City is also included several “green” provisions, such as increased energy and water efficiency requirements, as well as adding a new article, Article XIV, titled “*Green Building Regulations.*”

These changes, in combination with the implementation of Maryland’s Environmental Site Design requirements, encourage developers to try innovative design techniques that will decrease the stormwater impact of development. These techniques include green roofs, permeable pavement, and better site layout.

Outreach and Education on Stormwater and Public Involvement and Participation Opportunities

Rockville is implementing the following education and outreach programs designed to inform residents and businesses about the importance of controlling stormwater and maintaining stormwater control facilities.

Adopt-A-Stream and Regional Stream Cleanups

The Adopt-A-Stream Program allows local groups (civic associations, scout troops, church and synagogue groups, school groups, local businesses, neighbors, families, etc.) to get directly involved in improving local water quality by "adopting" one or more stream segments within Rockville. The Adopting Group agrees to hold at least two stream cleanup events per year (typically one in the spring and another in the fall). The City of Rockville provides all necessary materials and collects all of the debris from the cleanups.

Storm Drain Marker Program

The Storm Drain Marker Program educates the public about the storm drain system and how pollutants enter our City’s waterways. Citizen volunteers attach small, colorful signs to the sidewalk on top of storm drain curb inlets where urban runoff first enters the storm drain system. The storm drain marker program enhances water quality by reminding the public that pollution in the storm drain travels to a local stream and eventually the Chesapeake Bay.

RainScapes Rewards Program

The RainScapes Rewards Program is designed to help residential owners improve stormwater runoff conditions on their property by utilizing approved stormwater management techniques. The City offers rebates for rain barrel installations and the replacement of turf grass with conservation landscaping techniques utilizing native plants. Residents can get a rebate of \$50 per rain barrel for up to four (4) rain barrels; and up to \$500 for using conservation landscaping techniques that may include replacing 500 square feet of turf grass and removing non-native invasive plants on their residential property.

Rockville Save Our Streams Program

The Save Our Streams Program uses volunteers to help the City of Rockville gather quantitative and qualitative data to guide the City’s water quality efforts. The quantitative data (benthic macroinvertebrates, habitat conditions and water chemistry parameters) help City staff create a

“report card” to describe the health of the City’s streams. The qualitative data, (physical and habitat conditions) help explain the trends in the quantitative data. Other data (outfall locations and their condition, trash and litter, and invasive plants) help City staff to identify stream sections that may be candidates for future invasive pulls, trash clean-ups and further investigation of illegal dumping.

Currently, the City monitors three sites and hopes to expand to six in the near future. In October 2009, the Save Our Streams program completed an assessment of biological, habitat and chemical conditions in downstream locations of the three waterways. The results are available online at <http://www.rockvillemd.gov/environment/volunteer/sos.html>.

Citizen Reports of Pollution and Illegal Dumping

The City of Rockville relies on and responds to calls from citizens regarding water quality concerns. The City maintains a Pollution Hotline **(240) 314-8348** to report pollution, spills and illegal dumping. Examples of problems recently reported include:

- Oil and other chemicals draining into storm drains and streams
- Dumping construction waste
- Erosion of a storm drain or stream
- Leaks and spills of automobile fluids
- Paint in the storm drain or creek
- Pet waste discharging bacteria

Once a complaint is reported, the City investigates. The responsible party is notified and advised how to contain and cleanup the pollution or spill. Depending on the location and severity of the spill, a Notice of Violation is issued and the responsible party may be fined up to \$1,000 a day for each pollution incident. If no responsible party is found, the City acts to mitigate the impact of the pollution.

Residential Fats, Oils and Grease Management

As noted above, Rockville, like many other communities, battles an ongoing problem with discharges of fats, oils and grease into the sanitary sewer. The City has undertaken a modest effort at communicating proper grease management to our residents. In the future, the City should do more to make its citizens aware that **these materials should be discarded with their refuse** rather than put down the sink where they can eventually cause a pipe to block resulting in a sewerage backup or overflow.

Additional Public Outreach

Rockville conducts outreach on water quality programs through numerous media sources and events. Channel 11, Rockville's own cable television station regularly broadcasts a "Sustainable Rockville" segment that often includes watershed related stories. The City webpage <http://www.rockvillemd.gov/environment> offers interested residents information regarding watershed related topics and volunteer opportunities. The City publishes a monthly newspaper called *Rockville Reports* that also frequently contains information and articles on water pollution and prevention. The City also offers several targeted brochures (e.g., pet waste management) on several water quality related topics. Finally, the City hosts several environmental outreach events associated with Earth Day and Earth Month every year.

Other Stormwater Improvement Practices

Leaf Collection and Street Sweeping

Each fall and spring, the Department of Public Works offers leaf collection services for Rockville residents. Removing leaves prevents accumulations of debris in the storm drainage system and decreases the amount of nutrients entering our streams. Similarly, Rockville's street sweeping program helps reduce the amount of grit, sand, trash, debris, and other contaminants on the City's roadways and prevents them from washing into waterways during storm events. Street sweepings occur as frequently as two times per week in some commercial areas, to biannually in residential neighborhoods.

Trash Free Potomac Watershed Initiative

Since March 2006, the City has been a signatory and active member of the *Potomac River Watershed Trash Treaty*. The Trash Treaty solidifies the City as a partner in the Trash Free Potomac Watershed Initiative to make the regional watershed trash free by 2013. The program uses stream clean ups and education and awareness techniques to discourage people from littering or dumping in the area.

Winter Deicing Efforts

If used to excess, road salts and many other deicing chemicals will runoff roadways, driveways and sidewalks and pollutant local streams. Rockville personnel engaged in these activities have been trained on the concerns with the over application of road salts. Rockville has also invested in salt dispensers that more precisely meter the deicing product out. Further, the City has experimented with new, non-salt, non-toxic deicing products with some success and will continue to pursue solutions to this *intersection of public safety and environmental protection*.

Stormwater Program Funding

Rockville's *Stormwater Management Fund* pays for many aspects of the City's stormwater management program. The fund is a dedicated enterprise fund consisting of moneys from several sources including administrative fees, stormwater management monetary contributions, penalties collected under the Water Quality Protection Ordinance, and Stormwater Management Utility Fees. The goal of the Stormwater Management Fund is to provide a stable and sustainable source of money to pay for the programs and services discussed in the previous section. Below is a brief description of the primary sources of stormwater revenues in this fund.

Regulatory Fees

The City charges customers for all application reviews, permits and inspections performed by City personnel. The fees are designed to recover the costs of administering these City services. Developers may also be required to pay a fee-in-lieu of providing on-site stormwater treatment.

Stormwater Management Utility Fee

The City adopted a stormwater utility fee ordinance and regulations in April, 2008. Rockville's Stormwater Management Utility Fee is based upon the amount of impervious surface on every parcel of land in the City. The amount of impervious surface is directly related to how much stormwater runoff that parcel produces and therefore represents the property's "use" of the stormwater system. The City measures each property's impervious surface from aerial photos (updated every two years), and has a fee credit provision for owners maintaining private stormwater management facilities on-site.

Owners of all types of property, including governments, tax-exempt entities and the City itself, pay the utility fee. All utility fees go to the City's Stormwater Management Fund and support the City's ongoing water resources-related operations and CIP costs. The utility fee does not support stormwater management or sediment control permit reviews and inspections since these are paid by the developer's fees.

Other Revenue Sources

From time to time, the City receives revenue from State, Federal or private grants or below market loans to conduct specific studies or construction projects. Until the money is spent, interest income is also produced by the stormwater management fund itself.

Recommended Stormwater Actions

1. Develop and Implement Regulatory Updates

Ensure that the City of Rockville implements a holistic, up-to-date stormwater program by staying informed about federal and regional regulatory initiatives and modifying existing City ordinances to reflect these changes. Specifically, the City should undertake the following:

- Participate in the public involvement process to influence development of Chesapeake Bay total maximum daily loads (TMDLs) being developed by U.S. EPA, new federal and state stormwater regulations, revised State of Maryland updated sediment and erosion control requirements and the reissuance of NPDES general permits for Phase II MS4 communities.
- Develop and adopt any required changes to City of Rockville ordinances or regulations resulting from anticipated future State and Federal laws and regulations.

2. Improve the City's Stormwater Enforcement Program

The City of Rockville believes one of the many tools of a successful stormwater management program is effective enforcement and is committed to identifying resources to fully enforce all regulatory requirements. Specifically, the City should undertake the following:

- Evaluate current enforcement programs to ensure they have the regulatory foundation, funding, staff, implementation tools/process and management support to be effective.
- Programs to be evaluated include: sediment and erosion control inspection; stormwater management facility construction inspections; public and private stormwater management facility inspection; and illicit discharge detection and elimination.
- Develop and implement improvements identified during the evaluation.

3. Implement an Effective Preventative Maintenance Program

The City should review its preventative maintenance program and ensure it is effective at identifying, prioritizing and tracking cleaning and repair/maintenance actions for both storm drains and treatment facilities.

- Use an adaptive management methodology to develop a preventative maintenance program. Elements of this program include: inspection equipment and tools; inspection data management and analysis; action prioritization; cleaning and repair methods; performance tracking; performance measures identification; evaluation; and program modification if needed.

4. *Construct Capital Improvement Projects, including Stream Restoration (CIP)*

The City will continue its strong commitment to investments in CIP projects to improve its watersheds.

- Use the watershed studies to identify potential stormwater management facility retrofits, both regional and on-site, and stream restoration.
- Use capacity studies to identify and prioritize large-scale storm conveyance projects, both maintenance and capacity.
- Work with engineering staff, design consultants and communities to identify which projects are most feasible and prioritize accordingly.

5. *Identify and Implement Effective Information Management*

The City is striving to use GIS technology to its fullest extent in order to manage assets, identify issues and changing conditions, set priorities track progress and measure success.

- Inventory all public and privately owned stormwater assets, including streams, stormwater management facilities and storm conveyance infrastructure, and update GIS attribute tables.
- Using data management software record and analyze inspection results.
- Update impervious surface data every two years to inform Stormwater Utility Fee billing levels.
- Track stormwater related enforcement actions and drainage complaints by frequency and location.
- Use information to make informed program decisions.

6. *Perform Program Assessment and Planning*

The City believes that the stormwater program cannot be successful without assessment used to inform program planning.

- Conduct timely watershed studies designed to look at the entire watershed in a holistic manner linking upland sources with stream impacts. Use these watershed studies to evaluate stormwater program initiatives such as targeted outreach and enforcement. Modify these programs if needed. Use the study results to identify the highest priority CIP projects.
- Develop a baseline of stream health from a physical and biological standpoint.
- Perform updated storm drain capacity studies in order to inform stormwater conveyance CIP projects.

- Develop and implement a long-term monitoring strategy across the City based on chemical and physical parameters and use it for two purposes: (1) to evaluate effectiveness of specific stormwater management facilities or techniques, and (2) to assess stream quality changes over time and attempt to relate them to operational changes and CIP projects in that drainage area. This ongoing data will also support the in-depth analysis in each watershed study update.

7. Participate in Regional Improvement Efforts

Water quality issues know no jurisdictional boundaries. In order to be successful the City needs to coordinate with other regional water quality and stormwater management efforts.

- Continue to be active participants in the Trash Free Potomac Initiative.
- Share watershed assessment results with County and State.
- Participate in regional watershed planning efforts through the MWCOG and State Tributary Teams.

Appendix A

City of Rockville Water Conservation Plan



February 2010

Rockville Water Conservation Plan

Background

This document constitutes the water conservation plan for Rockville, Maryland. Rockville is the second largest city in the State of Maryland and has a resident population of approximately 62,500. In addition, our daytime population is substantially larger since we have more jobs located in Rockville than we have residents. Rockville is served by two separate public drinking water systems. One is owned and operated by the City. This system serves approximately 46,500 residents (74% of our population) and is the subject of this conservation plan. The remaining 16,000 residents (26% of our population) are served by the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission (WSSC).

The source water for the Rockville-owned drinking water system is the Potomac River. Each year, Rockville withdraws nearly 2 billion gallons of water from the River. Our current peak (summer) daily demand withdraw frequently rises to 8 million gallons. This amount is well within our authorized allocation of up to 12.1 million gallons a day. While we do anticipate upgrades and expansion of our treatment plant and potential finished water storage projects, we believe our river allocation is sufficient to meet the demands of our growing population well into the future. For more detail, please see the attachment (Worksheet 4-4) that was prepared to calculate a basic water demand forecast.

In addition to increasing our plant's production capabilities, Rockville has long embarked on a successful initiative to make our water system as efficient as possible. This plan briefly describes the major features of this plan as well as conservation improvements already being considered for near-term implementation. Rockville's water conservation plan is characterized as a combination of educational and regulatory approaches supplemented by incentive programs to encourage water conservation in our system and by our customers. This document describes those approaches in place as well as those planned for the near future.

Program Goals and Objectives

Water is a valuable commodity and Rockville wants its customers and residents to understand and appreciate their drinking water system and the importance of keeping our source water pure and clean. Rockville's water conservation goals and objectives include:

- Actions to decrease the volume of lost water in the distribution system, and
- Actions aimed at reducing our customer's demand for water, particularly during peak times.

These actions are intended to help prevent significant disruptions during cyclical lowriver flow periods and periodic regional droughts. It will also position Rockville to address any short-term consequences of global climate change and its likely effects (i.e., more severely reduced future river flows).

In addition to conserving the volume of water, Rockville is working to ensure the ongoing quality of the Potomac River as well as in the three sub-watersheds located in the City.

Rockville's Ten Approaches to Conserving Water

Rockville has historically taken a proactive approach to water conservation through annual water accounting, consumer education, accurate metering and tiered pricing incentives.

1. Water Distribution System Audit

Rockville has already conducted a water-loss audit of our drinking water distribution system. As shown in the attached spreadsheet, the net lost/unmeasured water for calendar year 2007 was 73.01 million gallons. This equates to 3.9% of the total water produced. The Maryland Department of Environment (MDE) guidelines indicate that well operated systems should not lose more than 10% of the total water. Even though Rockville's distribution system losses are minimal, we continue to further reduce the amount of lost water in the system. For example, in fiscal year 2009, we are initiating a major capital campaign to replace much of our aging water line infrastructure that has reached the end of its useful life. This will help to minimize water loss due to water main breaks.

2. Water Metering

Rockville has already embarked on a program to replace all of our service meters, both residential and commercial, including installing meters in city-owned facilities and buildings where no meters had historically been located. We are using *Sensus* meters. These meters have *remote radio read* capability that will allow the City to maintain more efficient and accurate records of water usage across the system.

The meter replacement program has occurred in three phases: Replacement Meters, Commercial Meters and Residential Meters. Since 2005, the City has replaced all broken meters with the new radio read models. In 2006 and 2007, the City replaced about 600 commercial meters, including meters for the city connections. In 2008 and 2009, we replaced nearly 12,000 meters for our residential customers. All meters were replaced by August 18, 2009.

These new meters allow us to efficiently and accurately collect and analyze losses and water usage and determine cost effective methods for reducing water demands across the system.

3. Water Line Maintenance

Rockville has approximately 180 miles of water distribution lines. Nearly 115 miles (64%) of these pipes were installed before 1970 and are typically made of cast iron.

Substantial parts of these older water lines have or will shortly reach their useful life. The City has embarked upon a 20-year capital campaign to replace the worst 34 miles of aging water lines. These actions will prevent or significantly reduce future water loss due to leaks and breaks. In addition, Rockville has spent a considerable effort performing maintenance on some 4,177 valves and three storage tanks totaling 12 million gallons.

4. Drought and Spill Controls

Contamination of the City Water Treatment Plant and distribution system by spilled material would require Rockville to discard finished water and spend time and resources cleaning up the system. Rockville has taken several steps to prevent this situation from arising. Rockville's water source will only be adversely affected by extreme drought conditions. 2009 was a very dry year that resulted in some area jurisdictions declaring mandatory water restrictions. At the lowest flow during this dry period, the top of the screens protecting Rockville's drinking water intake was still 2 feet below the surface of the Potomac River.

In the event that a spill threatens the Potomac in the vicinity of the City's water supply, Rockville has the ability to immediately and remotely close the intake and allow a spill to pass by, without harming the system. The system will continue to operate and provide approximately six hours of short-term water demands. If the spill will be passing the intake for a longer period of time, the intake will remain closed and the nine emergency (backup) WSSC connections can be opened to provide additional water needs. Further, for surface spills, our Water Treatment Plant is fully equipped to prevent the spill from gaining access into our treatment system, using a series of booms and other devices to prevent this material from contaminating the system.

5. Local Drinking Water Partnerships

Rockville is an active partner in the *Wise Use* water program coordinated by the Metropolitan Council of Governments and the Interstate Commission on the Potomac River Basin. This program monitors the quality and quantity of the Potomac River and alerts the membership to low-flow conditions and the presence and travel time of upstream spills. The partnership has also agreed in advance to regional voluntary and mandatory conservation measures in the event the river flow drops beyond certain points. The program additionally has a public education component to warn residents of the drought conditions.

Rockville is also a signatory on an emergency management, mutual aid agreement between all of the political jurisdictions in the D.C. area. This agreement allows Rockville to call upon other non-impacted jurisdictions to assist us in an emergency situation, including a significant drought. Similarly, Rockville has agreed to assist our neighboring jurisdictions to the extent we can. We are currently considering signing a similar agreement that would extend this mutual aid arrangement to the area water utilities.

In addition, Rockville is a member of a regional partnership sponsored by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. The purpose of the partnership is to provide coordination and technical assistance to ensure the continued viability of the drinking water systems in the area.

6. Water Use Regulations

Rockville is currently developing comprehensive green building standards for new and renovated residential and commercial development that will, over time, require water conservation features in all buildings and structures in the City. These City ordinances will also address exterior landscaping practices and stormwater controls to protect the source water in area streams. The City expects to have these new requirements in place and effective by April 1, 2010.

7. Actions to Encourage Landscape Water Efficiency

Through Rockville's property development review process and newly revised zoning laws, functional landscapes are encouraged. These include the use of native vegetation and the integration of on-site stormwater management components.

Rockville has also started a *Save Our Streams* volunteer monitoring program for residents, so they can become more involved and concerned with their local streams and creeks. The program trains residents to monitor stream conditions and stream-side habitat and sponsors periodic monitoring events in the three sub-watersheds.

In addition, we have initiated a *Rainscapes* program that will bring rain barrel, rain garden and other low-impact development (LID) approaches to our residents and businesses and will encourage them to turn to on-site stormwater controls and rain harvesting techniques, rather than relying on potable water for lawn and garden watering. The City currently offers a significant rebate program for residents that install rain barrels or plant conservation landscaping on their property.

8. Incentive Pricing

The City of Rockville uses a 3-tiered water rate structure. The more water used by the customer, the higher the rate. The rates for fiscal year 2010 are as follows:

- 0-12,000 gallons: Rate charge \$2.78/1,000 gallons
- 12,001 – 24,000 gallons: Rate charge \$4.00/1,000 gallons
- Over 24,000 gallons: Rate charge \$4.30/1,000 gallons

These tiered rates make our customers think about the amount of water they are using and provide an incentive for them to reduce water that may be considered non-essential.

In addition to the tiered rate structure, Rockville imposes an additional *Ready-to-Serve* charge (\$4.77 for FY 2010) that is designed to provide money to maintain and repair the system.

This charge is based on meter size. The charge is a flat fee and does not vary with usage. Our commercial customers often take this fee into account before upgrading to a larger water service line when constructing or renovating a building.

9. Other Rockville Actions to Protect Source Water

Local Stormwater Laws

Rockville already has some of the largest stream buffer laws in the State (125-175 feet on either side of the stream) as well as effective local laws addressing stormwater discharges. The City is currently in the process of comprehensively revising our existing stormwater controls, including updates to our state-of-the-art stormwater utility fee based on impervious surfaces. These revisions will prescribe mandatory environmental site design practices as well as structural controls to ensure that runoff from private property is not contaminated by sediments, nutrients and bacteria. Adoption is expected by May 2010. Similarly, we plan to revise our soil and erosion (stormwater construction management) ordinance in the spring of 2011.

Inspections of Public and Private Stormwater Facilities

The City is in the process of inspecting over 400 privately owned stormwater management facilities and is working with the owners of these systems to repair and maintain them in the future. Similarly, the City has undertaken a review of all 108 publicly-owned stormwater facilities to ensure they are all functioning properly.

Stormwater Facility Retrofits

The City has recently completed a major stormwater facility retrofit in the College Gardens neighborhood. This publicly-owned facility collects and treats runoff from approximately 70 acres of residential and light commercial neighborhood that previously discharged directly into a tributary of Watts Branch.

Fats, Oils and Grease Management Program

The City has a very aggressive fats, oils and grease (FOG) program aimed at keeping these materials out of sewers, thereby preventing sanitary overflows from entering the City storm drains and City waterways. Over the next several years, Rockville will complete first round inspections of all 400 food service establishments in the City.

Watershed Assessment

Every ten years, Rockville conducts a comprehensive assessment of our sub-watersheds to determine the health and condition of our three sub-watersheds. Stream areas suffering adverse impacts from stormwater are identified. Chemical testing is performed and stream condition is documented. We are currently working on the Cabin John Creek assessment and anticipate beginning the Rock Creek assessment in 2011. These detailed evaluations are supplemented by the *Save-Our-Streams* volunteer monitoring effort described above and a stream walk examination to identify any immediate threats, including illicit discharges.

10. Rockville Information and Education Programs

Information and education of consumers is a critical component of a successful water conservation plan. We want to put our water consumers in a position to make informed water-use choices and change poor water-use habits. Although difficult to quantify, these savings play an important role in the demand-side management of the water system. There are several components to the City of Rockville's Information and Education Program:

An Understandable and Informative Water Bill. Customers must first be aware of their own water usage and costs, before they can begin to consider investing in methods designed to reduce their water usage and therefore their costs. Rockville's water bill contains information on the amount of water used in the current usage period, and for comparison, the last usage period, last year's usage period and the same usage period from two years ago. However, currently, our bill only indicates usage in units of 1,000 gallons. We know we can make conservation decisions easier for our customers if we provide them with their actual usage and information on their average daily consumption over the billing period. We intend to make these changes in our future invoices.

Newsletters, Television and the Web. Rockville currently uses a multi-media approach to informing consumers about water conservation. Conservation tips are put in *Rockville Reports*, the City's monthly newsletter sent to all residences and available to all businesses; tips are aired on *The Rockville Channel*, the City's cable TV station; the City has an educational pamphlet on water conservation that is handed out at community events or by request.

The City's website provides a more detailed description of the charges appearing on the water bill, the full rate schedule, and contact information for additional questions or water emergencies (water line breakage, drinking water quality issue, etc.). There are also descriptions of conservation practices and actions our residents can take to reduce the volume of water they use. Since the City relies on these other methods, we have stopped the practice of including conservation tips in water bill inserts.

Near-Term Implementation Strategy

As noted above, the City is already implementing a comprehensive approach to water conservation. We continuously improve these approaches and techniques, by:

- **Following through on our campaign to replace 34 miles of water lines over the next 20 years**
- **Continuing to decrease the water losses from our existing drinking water infrastructure**
- **Improving the content of our water bills, including providing customers with water conservation tips and household consumption data**
- **Adopting water-use requirements as part of the *Green Building* program, and the updated, enhanced stormwater controls**
- **Continuing meaningful public education activities.**

Conclusion

Rockville has done much in recent years to reduce its water consumption and obtain more accurate usage information. We have taken advantage of mass outreach vehicles including print, television and the web. We are working with our neighboring jurisdictions and utilities to leverage resources and standardize key public message points. We have taken major steps to safeguard the source waters within our borders.

Rockville will continue to look for innovative and creative methods to make significant strides in water conservation.

Appendix B – State of Maryland Water Allocation Permit



MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT
2500 Broening Highway • Baltimore, Maryland 21224
(410) 631-3000 • 1-800-633-6101 • <http://www.mde.state.md.us>

Parris N. Glendening
Governor

Merrylin Zaw-Mon
Acting Secretary

Susan, it came but...
HGJ

May 15, 2002

CERTIFIED MAIL - P 7001 2510 0009 0590 2694
Return Receipt Requested

CITY OF ROCKVILLE
EUGENE H CRANOR
111 MARYLAND AVE
ROCKVILLE, MD 20850

RE: State Water Appropriation
Permit No. MO1958S001(04)
Revision 04

Dear Permittee:

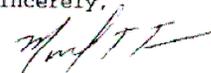
Enclosed is your State Water Appropriation Permit. The permittee is responsible for complying with all permit conditions. Accordingly, you are advised to carefully read the Permit and become thoroughly familiar with its requirements.

AN ANNUAL WATER AUDIT IS NOW REQUIRED FOR WATER SYSTEMS SERVING GREATER THAN 10,000 PEOPLE. Requirements are explained in conditions 17 & 18 of this permit.

Semi-annual Water Withdrawal Reports are required by this permit. Forms for making these reports will be mailed to you in June and December of each year.

If you have any questions, please contact this office at (410) 631-3591.

Sincerely,


MARK T. FILAR
Water Rights Division

cc: MONTGOMERY COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

TV Users 1-800-735-2258
in Maryland Relay Service

"Together We Can Clean Up"



STATE OF MARYLAND
DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT
WATER MANAGEMENT ADMINISTRATION

WATER APPROPRIATION AND USE PERMIT

PERMIT NUMBER: MO1958S001(04)

EFFECTIVE DATE: MAY 1, 2002
EXPIRATION DATE: MAY 1, 2014
FIRST APPROPRIATION: JANUARY 1, 1958



CITY OF ROCKVILLE

HEREINAFTER REFERRED TO AS THE "PERMITTEE", IS AUTHORIZED BY THE WATER MANAGEMENT ADMINISTRATION, HEREINAFTER REFERRED TO AS THE "ADMINISTRATION" PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF TITLE 5 OF THE ENVIRONMENT ARTICLE, ANNOTATED CODE OF MARYLAND (1996 REPLACEMENT VOLUME) AS AMENDED, TO APPROPRIATE AND USE WATERS OF THE STATE SUBJECT TO THE FOLLOWING CONDITIONS:

1. ALLOCATION - THE WATER WITHDRAWAL GRANTED BY THIS PERMIT IS LIMITED TO:
A DAILY AVERAGE OF 7,100,000 GALLONS ON A YEARLY BASIS AND A MAXIMUM DAILY WITHDRAWAL OF 12,100,000 GALLONS.
2. USE - THE WATER IS TO BE USED FOR A MUNICIPAL WATER SUPPLY FOR THE CITY OF ROCKVILLE.
3. SOURCE - THE WATER SHALL BE TAKEN FROM AN INTAKE ON THE POTOMAC RIVER.
4. LOCATION - THE POINT(S) OF WITHDRAWAL SHALL BE LOCATED ON THE EAST BANK OF THE POTOMAC RIVER, 0.8 MILE SOUTHEAST OF SWAINS LOCK, 5 MILES SOUTHWEST OF ROCKVILLE, MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

5. RIGHT OF ENTRY - THE PERMITTEE SHALL ALLOW AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ADMINISTRATION ACCESS TO THE PERMITTEE'S FACILITY TO CONDUCT INSPECTIONS AND EVALUATIONS NECESSARY TO ASSURE COMPLIANCE WITH THE CONDITIONS OF THIS PERMIT. THE PERMITTEE SHALL PROVIDE SUCH ASSISTANCE AS MAY BE NECESSARY TO EFFECTIVELY AND SAFELY CONDUCT SUCH INSPECTIONS AND EVALUATIONS.
6. PERMIT REVIEW - THE PERMITTEE WILL BE QUERIED EVERY THREE YEARS (TRIENNIAL REVIEW) REGARDING WATER USE UNDER THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THIS PERMIT. FAILURE TO RETURN THE TRIENNIAL REVIEW QUERY WILL RESULT IN SUSPENSION OR REVOCATION OF THIS PERMIT.
7. PERMIT RENEWAL - THIS PERMIT WILL EXPIRE ON THE DATE INDICATED ON THE FIRST PAGE OF THIS PERMIT. IN ORDER TO RENEW THE PERMIT THE PERMITTEE SHALL FILE A RENEWAL APPLICATION WITH THE ADMINISTRATION NO LATER THAN 45 DAYS PRIOR TO THE EXPIRATION.
8. PERMIT SUSPENSION OR REVOCATION - THIS PERMIT MAY BE SUSPENDED OR REVOKED BY THE ADMINISTRATION UPON VIOLATION OF THE CONDITIONS OF THIS PERMIT, OR UPON VIOLATION OF ANY REGULATION PROMULGATED PURSUANT TO TITLE 5 OF THE ENVIRONMENT ARTICLE, ANNOTATED CODE OF MARYLAND (1996 REPLACEMENT VOLUME) AS AMENDED.
9. CHANGE OF OPERATIONS - ANY ANTICIPATED CHANGE IN APPROPRIATION WHICH MAY RESULT IN A NEW OR DIFFERENT USE, QUANTITY, SOURCE, OR PLACE OF USE OF WATER SHALL BE REPORTED TO THE ADMINISTRATION BY THE PERMITTEE BY SUBMISSION OF A NEW APPLICATION.
10. ADDITIONAL PERMIT CONDITIONS - THE ADMINISTRATION MAY AT ANYTIME (INCLUDING TRIENNIAL PERMIT REVIEW OR WHEN A CHANGE APPLICATION IS SUBMITTED) REVISE ANY CONDITION OF THIS PERMIT OR ADD ADDITIONAL CONDITIONS CONCERNING THE CHARACTER, AMOUNT, MEANS AND MANNER OF THE APPROPRIATION OR USE, WHICH MAY BE NECESSARY TO PROPERLY PROTECT, CONTROL AND MANAGE THE WATER RESOURCES OF THE STATE. CONDITION REVISIONS AND ADDITIONS WILL BE ACCOMPLISHED BY ISSUANCE OF A REVISED PERMIT.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3

11. DROUGHT PERIOD EMERGENCY RESTRICTIONS - IF THE DEPARTMENT DETERMINES THAT A DROUGHT PERIOD OR EMERGENCY EXISTS, THE PERMITTEE MAY BE REQUIRED UNDER THE DEPARTMENT'S DIRECTION TO STOP OR REDUCE WATER USE. ANY CESSATION OR REDUCTION OF WATER USE MUST CONTINUE FOR THE DURATION OF THE DROUGHT PERIOD OR EMERGENCY, OR UNTIL THE DEPARTMENT DIRECTS THE PERMITTEE THAT WATER USE UNDER STANDARD PERMIT CONDITIONS MAY BE RESUMED.
12. NON-TRANSFERRABLE - THIS PERMIT IS NON-TRANSFERRABLE. A NEW OWNER MAY ACQUIRE AUTHORIZATION TO CONTINUE THIS APPROPRIATION BY FILING A NEW APPLICATION WITH THE ADMINISTRATION. AUTHORIZATION WILL BE ACCOMPLISHED BY ISSUANCE OF A NEW PERMIT.
13. FLOW MEASUREMENT - THE PERMITTEE SHALL MEASURE ALL WATER USED UNDER THIS PERMIT BY A METHOD WHICH SHALL BE APPROVED BY THE ADMINISTRATION.
14. WITHDRAWAL REPORTS - THE PERMITTEE SHALL SUBMIT TO THE ADMINISTRATION, SEMI-ANNUALLY (JULY-DECEMBER, NO LATER THAN JANUARY 31 AND JANUARY-JUNE, NO LATER THAN JULY 31), PUMPING RECORDS. THESE RECORDS SHALL SHOW THE TOTAL QUANTITY OF WATER PUMPED EACH MONTH UNDER THIS PERMIT.
15. PERMIT SUPERSESSION - THIS PERMIT HAS BEEN REVIEWED AND REVISED AND SUPERSEDES THE APPROPRIATION AND USE GRANTED BY THE FOLLOWING PRIOR PERMIT ISSUED TO:
CITY OF ROCKVILLE ON DECEMBER 1, 1998 (MO58S001(03))
16. LOW FLOW USE RESTRICTIONS - THE PERMITTEE MAY BE REQUIRED BY THE ADMINISTRATION TO REDUCE WITHDRAWALS FROM THE POTOMAC RIVER WHEN THE RESTRICTION STAGE IS DECLARED IN THE WASHINGTON METROPOLITAN AREA (WMA) UNDER PROVISIONS OF THE POTOMAC RIVER LOW FLOW ALLOCATION AGREEMENT. WHEN NOTIFIED BY THE ADMINISTRATION THAT THE RESTRICTION STAGE HAS BEEN DECLARED IN THE WMA, AND THAT THE PERMITTEE IS REQUIRED TO REDUCE WITHDRAWALS FROM THE POTOMAC RIVER, SUCH WITHDRAWALS SHALL BE REDUCED TO A LEVEL THAT CORRESPONDS TO THE AVERAGE DAILY WITHDRAWAL BY THE PERMITTEE DURING THE PREVIOUS JANUARY, FEBRUARY AND MARCH.

17. WATER AUDIT - THE PERMITTEE SHALL CONDUCT A YEARLY WATER USE AUDIT OF THE WATER SYSTEM, TO DETERMINE THE AMOUNT OF UNACCOUNTED WATER. UNACCOUNTED WATER IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN WATER PRODUCED AT THE PLANTS AND WATER SOLD TO METERED CUSTOMERS, WHICH COULD BE DUE TO UNAUTHORIZED USE, AUTHORIZED UNMETERED USE, OR WATER LOST THROUGH LEAKS IN THE DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM. THE PERMITTEE MUST REPORT THE RESULTS OF THE WATER AUDIT FOR THE PREVIOUS CALENDAR YEAR TO THE ADMINISTRATION NO LATER THAN JULY 1 OF EACH YEAR.
18. WATER LOSS REDUCTION PLAN - IF THE AMOUNT OF UNACCOUNTED WATER REPORTED IN THE ANNUAL WATER AUDIT IS GREATER THAN 10% OF THE TOTAL WATER SYSTEM USE, THE PERMITTEE MUST SUBMIT A PLAN TO IDENTIFY AND REDUCE WATER LOSSES. THE PLAN SHOULD INCLUDE BUT NOT BE LIMITED TO BETTER WATER ACCOUNTING, ELIMINATING UNMETERED CONNECTIONS, DISTRIBUTION IMPROVEMENTS AND OTHER RELATED IMPROVEMENTS TO REDUCE LEAKAGE.
19. WATER CONSERVATION BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES - THE PERMITTEE SHALL SUBMIT TO THE ADMINISTRATION A DESCRIPTION OF BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES FOR IMPROVING WATER CONSERVATION CURRENTLY IN USE, OR PLANNED FOR IMPLEMENTATION. THE PERMITTEE SHALL INCLUDE A SCHEDULE FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF ANY PLANNED PRACTICES. BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES MAY INCLUDE ANY OF THE PRACTICES LISTED IN TITLE 5, SUBTITLE 5B, OF THE MARYLAND ENVIRONMENT ARTICLE (THE MARYLAND WATER CONSERVATION ACT), OR ANY OTHER MEASURE DESIGNED TO IMPROVE WATER CONSERVATION AND THE EFFICIENCY WITH WHICH WATER IS USED, TREATED, STORED, OR TRANSMITTED. THE DESCRIPTION OF BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES AND SCHEDULE SHALL BE SUBMITTED NO LATER THAN OCTOBER 1, 2002.

BY AUTHORITY OF THE DIRECTOR
WATER MANAGEMENT ADMINISTRATION

Matthew G. Pajerowski 5/15/02
MMG Matthew G. Pajerowski, Chief
WATER RIGHTS DIVISION

Appendix C – Stormwater Capital Improvement Projects

Rockville Dept. Public Works - Water Resources CIP Projects 1996 - 2010

Water Resources Capital Improvement Program (CIP) project spending by City of Rockville in this time period.

List does not include:

- projects built by private developers and turned over to City for future operation and maintenance
- onsite SWM facilities built by City for Dept. of Recreation and Parks development
- ancillary costs unrelated to water resources improvements (such as park improvements)

Stormwater Management Projects

| Project Name | Drainage Area (acres) | Year Built | Design Cost | Construction Cost | Total Cost |
|--|---|------------------|------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| Hungerford-Stoneridge Pond | 457 | 1998 | | | \$0 |
| Dover Road/WGL Pond | 205 | 1998 | \$0 * | | \$0 |
| Aintree Pond | 51 | 1998 | | | \$0 |
| Aintree Bioretention | < 3 | 1998 | | | \$0 |
| Potomac Woods Pond | 77 | 1999 | | | \$0 |
| Mount Vernon Place Pond | 64 | 2003 | \$68,196 | \$453,804 | \$522,000 |
| Northeast Park Pond | 51 | 2004 | 117000? | 160000? | \$0 |
| Redgate Golf Course - Irrigation Ponds and Southwest Pond | 64 (Irrigation Ponds) and 143 (SW Pond) | 2005 | 160568? | \$751,410 | \$751,410 |
| Carnation Drive Pond and I-270 Industrial Park Pond (2 ponds in series) | 352 | 2008 | \$116,000 | \$243,000 | \$359,000 |
| Maryvale II Pond (& 600 LF of storm drain for flood control) | 96 | 2008 | \$162,100 | \$721,500 | \$883,600 |
| College Gardens Park Pond (Concept Design and Final Design costs combined) | 79 | 2009 | 235500 + concept | | \$0 |
| W. Montgomery Alley Pervious Paving | < 1 | 2009 | | | \$0 |
| Lakewood Country Club Pond | 45 | 2010 | \$0 * | 198000?? | \$0 |
| Horizon Hill Park Ponds (3 ponds in series) | 186 | expected in 2012 | \$245,000 | | \$245,000 |
| Total Spending on Stormwater Management | | | | | \$2,761,010 |

Stream Restoration Projects

| Project Name | Length of Stream (linear feet) | Year Built | Design Cost | Construction Cost | Total Cost |
|--|--------------------------------|------------------|-------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| Elwood Smith Trib. - East Lynfield Dr. | 250 | 1996 | | | \$0 |
| Bogley Branch (with Potomac Woods?) | 1,030 | 1999 | | | \$0 |
| Frost Middle School Trib. | 2,000 | 2004 | \$0 * | \$310,000 | \$310,000 |
| Upper Woottons Mill Park | 2,400 | 2005 | \$125,000 | \$1,013,549 | \$1,138,549 |
| Middle Woottons Mill Park | 1,600 | 2005 | \$110,000 | \$818,266 | \$928,266 |
| Twinbrook Trib. - Alsace Ln. | 550 | 2007 | \$0 * | \$292,000 | \$292,000 |
| FEMA Storm Damage Repair - (stream & SD outfall damage from 2006 floods) | | 2007 | | | \$157,420 |
| Rockcrest Trib. | 4,000 | 2008 | \$153,000 | \$906,000 | \$1,059,000 |
| College Gardens Trib. | 500 | 2009 | | | \$0 |
| Watts Branch - Woodley Gardens Park | 3,400 | 2010 | \$293,740 | | \$293,740 |
| Bouldercrest Trib. | 1,100 | expected in 2012 | \$100,000 | \$590,000 | \$690,000 |
| Total Spending on Stream Restoration | | | | | \$4,868,975 |

Storm Drainage Projects (funding provided by Capital Projects - General Fund prior to FY2009)