

Missouri's Approach to Public Participation

Making Opportunities



Missouri Department
of Natural Resources

Missouri Situation

- **Missouri does not have NPS regulations**
- **Only effective way to really address NPS is through public engagement**
- **Therefore, we MAKE opportunities**

Avenues for Public Participation

- Solicit available data
- Public meetings
- Public Notice of documents
- Presentations and displays at meetings and conferences
- Internet Web pages
- Written outreach material
- Media coverage
- PAC & WQCC

TMDL Policy Advisory Committee

- **Composition (30): Regulated community, ag/silva, enviros, Fed & state agencies, legal field**
- **To obtain stakeholder input into TMDL decision making**
- **To foster stakeholder support for MO's TMDL policies**
- **Avenue for folks to get accurate info and then disseminate to constituents**

Public Meetings

- **For a specific water body (TMDL)**
 - Invite SWCD, mayor(s), local reps, CWC, Stream Teams, agencies
 - Advertise in paper, radio, P.O.
- **For a specific county (one or more TMDLs)**
 - General education about TMDLs
 - SWCD/NRCS, Co. Commissioners, City council/gov't entity

First Public Meeting (or How to Start a Watershed Group)

- Present study results, if app.
- PowerPoint primer on TMDLs, CWA, WQS
 - Go into particulars on TMDL
 - Why on List
 - Possible solutions
- Rouse interest in forming group (hopefully)

What *does* TMDL stand for?

- A. Tangled Mass of Disjointed Letters
- B. Total Madness Devoid of Logic
- C. Too Many Darn Lawsuits
- D. Total Maximum Daily Load
- E. All of the Above

What is a TMDL?

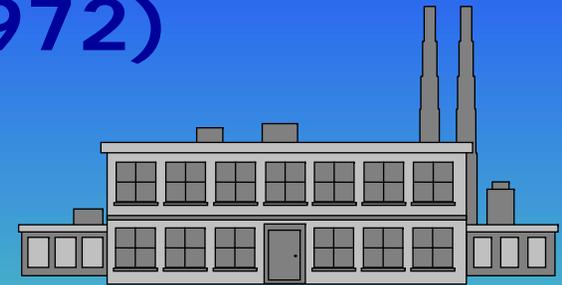
The Maximum Amount of a
Pollutant (the "Load")
That a Water Body Can
Assimilate and
Still Meet Water Quality
Standards



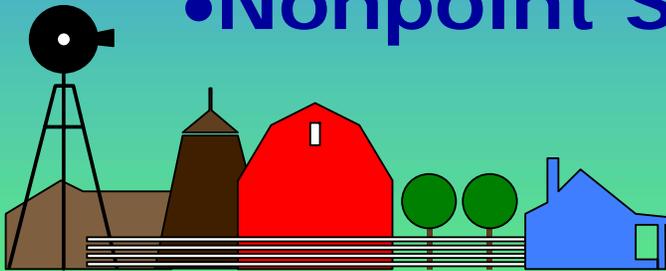
TMDLs - Current Buzzword

➤ Have been around since the Clean Water Act was passed (1972)

- Point Source Pollution



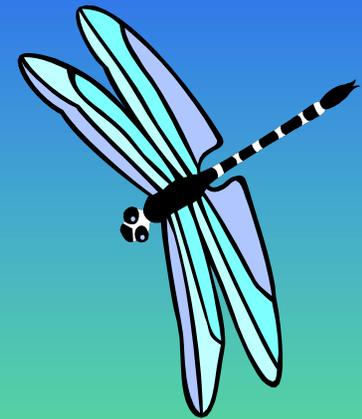
- Nonpoint Source Pollution



➤ The TMDL Approach Fundamentally Changes How Water Concerns are Addressed (Watershed Basis vs. End of Pipe)

Missouri's TMDL Lawsuit

- EPA Was Sued Regarding TMDLs in 39 States (Including MO)
- Settled By Consent Decree
 - Amer. Canoeists & Sierra Club
- MOU Between EPA and Dept. of Natural Resources
 - Sets Schedule for Some TMDLs, including Big River
 - TMDLs for 11 Waters to be Developed in 2007



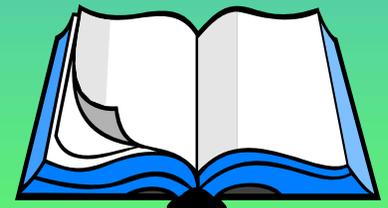
The 303(d) List of Impaired Waters

- Named for Section 303(d) of the Clean Water Act
- Identify Impaired Waters
 - All waters failing to meet WQS
- Use "Existing and Readily Available Water Quality Data..."
- Calculate Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) for waters on the list
 - 2004-2006 303(d) list on PN until 1/17/07



It All Comes Back to Water Quality Standards

- Define the Water Quality Goals for All Waters of the State
- Assigns Designated Uses for all Waterbodies
- Set Criteria Necessary to Protect Public Health or Welfare and Enhance the Quality of Water



Developing a TMDL

- Gather more data if needed
 - May need 2 or 3 years
- Identify possible sources
- Use data to model the stream
- Calculate how much pollutant the stream can handle without being impaired (target)
- Divide Load (TMDL) among sources
- Develop implementation plan



Subsequent Public Meetings

- Have brainstorming session
- Obtain speaker on pertinent subjects
 - On-site septic (Co. health dept)
 - Local hydrology
- Bring in someone skilled in organizing watershed groups

Watershed Groups

- **First NPS TMDL – already three thriving watershed groups**
- **About 30 watershed groups in whole state**
 - **1/3 citizen-started**
 - **14 Stream Team Associations**

Stream Team Program Started 1989

- **Open to anyone who is interested in water quality**
- **Goals:**
 - **Inform and educate**
 - **Establish a monitoring network**
 - **Enable citizens**
 - **Halt degradation**
- **Sponsored by three agencies**
 - **DNR, MDC, Conservation Federation**

Stream Team Program

- 4,000 Stream Teams → Over 60,000 individuals
- Volunteer WQ Monitoring – four levels of free training
- 6,685 Trained volunteers (VWQM)
 - Readily available group of informed citizens who are concerned about water quality in their community
 - No direct economic stake in WQ concerns
 - Repeatedly show willingness to spread WQ info and help decision making

Stream Team Program

- 60 awards given for 10 years of collecting and submitting data
- Stream Team Web site:
www.mostreamteam.org/
- EPA Web site:
www.epa.gov/owow/monitoring/volunteer/

Outreach Material

- TMDL video *"Keeping Our Waters Clean"*
- TMDL Brochure: Watershed Protection
- Information Sheets for 303(d) Listed Waters
- Watershed Maps for Individual Counties

State Web pages

- Department website for TMDL info:
www.dnr.mo.gov/env/wpp/tmdl/index.html
- TMDL schedule, progress and PNs
- Approved TMDLs
- Information Sheets
- Links to 303(d) info, watershed maps, lawsuit details and much more