

Alice Ferguson Foundation Trash Free Potomac Initiative

Environmental Response Data Collection Standard Workshop Coastal Response Research Center University of New Hampshire

Tracy Bowen
Alison Mize

September 26, 2007

Trash Free Potomac Initiative

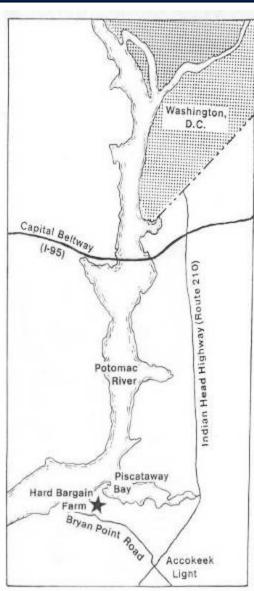
Presentation Overview

- Background of AFF and Potomac Cleanup
- Getting Beyond Cleanups Overview of Initiative
- Monitoring is key to success
- Our Monitoring Needs

Where is the Alice Ferguson Foundation?



- •Hard Bargain Farm 330-acre education facility along the Potomac in State of Maryland
- •Ten-miles south of Washington, DC -- just opposite of Mount Vernon





Three Core Programs:

- Hard Bargain Farm Environmental Center onsite education program
- Bridging the Watershed offsite in National Parks
- Trash Free Potomac Watershed Initiative including the Annual Potomac Watershed Cleanup

Educate Thousands of Students..

















...And Hundreds of Teachers













Potomac River Watershed Cleanup

• The cleanup began in 1989 when the Alice Ferguson Foundation wanted to clean the Hard Bargain Farm and the Piscataway Park shoreline.

Why AFF Cares About Trash



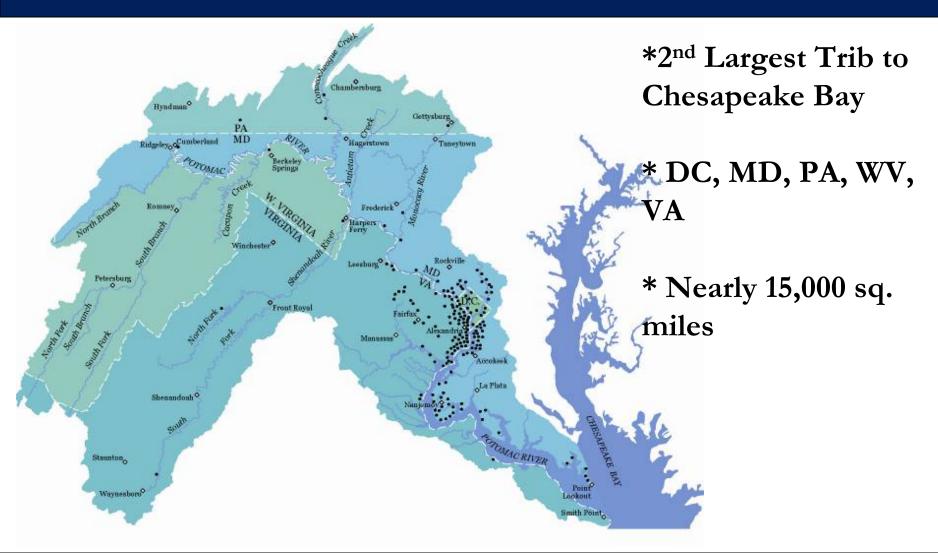


Potomac Shoreline at Hard Bargain Farm

Trash Issue Leads to Environmental Stewardship



Potomac Watershed



EXTRAORDINARY REGIONAL PARTNERSHIP

60+ Major Partners

350 + Community Organization

45 Educational Institutions

22 Federal, State and County agencies

40 Corporate sponsors & donors

An Extraordinary Regional Partnership

The success of the Potomac River Watershed Cleanup testifies to a magical truth: a few people, with a some of responsibility and persistence, can generate powerful currents of caring that lead to change. Today, like the Potomax flowing toward the Chesapeake Bay, this immunitive, diverse, community-hased partnership grows larger and stranger each step of the mey.







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Thank You 2004 Volunteers!

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Results of 19th Potomac Watershed Cleanup

March 31 to April 22 2007



Congressman Steny Hoyer pitches in at the 18th Potomac Watershed Cleanup, April 8, 2006!

- 400+ Cleanup Sites
- 8,140 Volunteers
- 291 Tons
- 124,000 +Recyclable
 Beverage Containers
- 10,600 Plastic Bags
- Top Brands:
 - •7-11
 - •Budweiser
 - •Coca-Cola/ Pepsi
 - •McDonalds

Annual Cleanups - 19-Year Grand Total

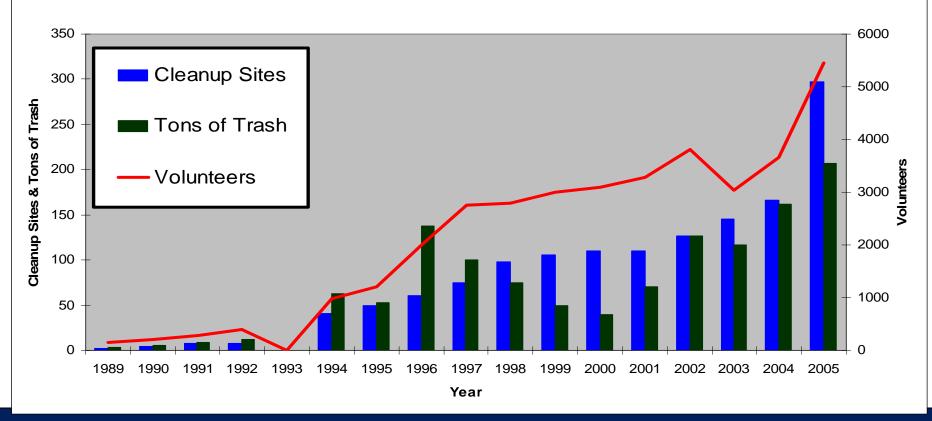


1989 to 2007

- 1,738 Tons (3,476,000 lbs.) of trash
- 50,683 Volunteers
- Hundreds of Partners Maryland, Virginia,
 Pennsylvania, West Virginia and DC

Cleanup Grows & Expands Each Year

Potomac Watershed Cleanup History



After 19 Years of Cleanups...



We want out of the Trash Business!

• Let's get to the source!

Trash Free Potomac Watershed Initiative

How Do We Get to a Trash Free Potomac by 2013?



Getting to Trash Free -- a Holistic Approach

Public Education & Awareness



- Research
- Legislation & Enforcement
- Economic Incentives & Disincentives

Framework for Trash Free Initiative



Elected Officials Sign Trash Treaty





Potomac Riber Watershed Trash Treaty

AS discret officials in the Washington Morrogolitan Airs and as residents of the Piannae Broar Waranshall, we recognize the importance of the Postonia River and as reflectances on the region's quality of life. These waters provide visal environmental, semionic and social benefits to the circums within star constituencies. Those benefits, however, are severely impaired by the many binns of tradcontest by the Principal and its restrictions such as the Amaconna River.

We agree that trails:

- Seniority degrades the viscod backings:
- In a significant senses of pollution,
 Seconds degrades the quality of life for our citizens and visitors.
- Is a major expense for our communities and businesses, and in largely presumable through greater indicated newardship.

We extend our granteade to the many thousands of craces volunteees, communicies, businesses, agencies and reinprofit enganizations who participane such spring in the Posomic River Watershot Cleaning. This effect and the many others that occur at after sizue of the year in this region. have a major positive effect. They do not, however, address the trask problem at the source

T. O dramatically improve the enjoyment of the rivers and serious of the Princisal sourceshoot, we are committed to a Yearh Feet Potomac by 2013. We pludge to work with regional leaders, bestorous, greetiment agencies, conquestion and communities to forms efforts on.

- Supporting and implementing regional strategies aimed at reducing trash and increasing
- Increasing otherwises and assurences of the trask issue throughout the Fotomac Watershed. Representing annually to discuss and evaluate measures and actions addressing trash reduction

It is with petite that my, the elevand efficials of the Personal River Watershed, sign this agreement on this the Twomy-sightly Day of March, in the year Two Thousand and Fire.

ANCHORSON WILLIAMS

District of Columbus

WAYNE CONTENT

President, Sound of County Communication

GERALD E CONNOLLY

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President, Street, of Circuity Commissioners St. Mars's Crants

Committed to a Trash Free Potomac by 2013



Potomac Watershed Trash Treaty

 71 elected officials have currently signed (Federal, State and Local)

 Representing 20 major jurisdictions in the Potomac Watershed



Congressman Chris Van Hollen signing Trash Treaty – February 2006

2nd Annual Trash Summit

Hosted by The World Bank June 14, 2007



2nd Annual Trash Summit

300+ participants

• Federal, state & local leader

- Business leaders
- Non-profit leaders
- Media
- Concerned citizens
- Students
- Baltimore Partners



Bringing Attention to Trash!

Bringing Attention to Trash!

Treaty could end cleanups

Cleanup to Take Analytical Turn

Volunteers to Collect Data on Tras-

WASTE NEWS

continued even after EPA officials ap-

proved the Los Angeles River TMDL in

2002. That river flows 52 miles from the

to the Pacific Ocean at Long Beach. The

studies, palls, time, lawsuits and advocacy

John Bishop, executive officer of the Lac

Angeles Regional Water Quality Control

Board, said the project cost could drop sig-

milicantly because trash-removal technol

agreed, is resounding evidence of a

groundswell of support for river cleanup that

had not manifested in Southern California. Bishop recommended that Washington

proceed with a two-pronged approach: Build

on the goodwill generated by the summit

but continue pressing for the Anocestia to be declared impaired because of trush.

pression that this is an easy task to take

"I don't want to leave you with the im

The trush summit, Mints and Bishop

watershed is 871 square miles "At first we thought TMDL stood for

to let the political will evolve."

ogy advances so rapidly.

vestern end of the San Fernando Valley

Crain's News Source for Businesses that Generate and Manage Waste

Groups intensify effort to clean up D.C. river

Three county fi

A speciale to Section's In Prince George's Page A31

Thursday March 23, 2086

Thursday, March 23, 2005 of

. Summit held at World Bank Headquarters to bring awareness to campaign.

> BY EYEN HIENK STAFF WHITER

For Tracy Bowen and everyone else at the Alice Ferguson Foundation in Account, 25 years of picking up millions of pounds of trash along the shoes of the Potomac Biver

watershed is going to be enough. For the past 17 years the nonprofit has conducted annual cleanups where volunteers gather up tires, old refrigerators and even alt fitte eas against bandonida hope of eliminating the excess much they say is stranging the Potomac

Year ofter year, however, the trash problem has remained, and By Elizabeth McGowan

Wesseron - Two dozen organizations County ringing the nation's capital are looking 3,000 miles west for a possible solution to

> Advocates for the Anacostia River, a thutary of the more famous Potomac, are ging Maryland to rocket the lessernown river to the top of its cleanup re-er by declaring it trash-impaired. Such on would mimic an effort in Southern alifornia, where the belenguered Los Ansoles River was the first and only - thus to achieve that dubious status. Yes, that's the same trickle of water Hollywood. emblagened into moviegoers' minds with the image of a certain actor-com-governor barreling along its paved channel as a me-

Foundation calls Environmental group Heat the Bay was driven to the Bay was strained to the Bay was strained to the Bay was strained to the Bay was driven up what is known as a trash Total to the Bay was strained to the Ba Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) for the Los Maximum Bully Loud CMBLs for the Los politic completency. A experience River Watershed. TMDLs are seemed in grows said to one spelle out as 10-year plan to progress the director of the Al sicely reduce treat discharged to the river Foundation. In an ell y 10 percent aroundly, about charge through. Leaders from the 24 groups signed a Free Peternies thirthy.

Free Petermic Initiativ March 1 letter asking the Maryland depart-datase has set 2013 as ments of the Environment and Natural Rethe region to be 110th sources to design a trash TMDL for the Anastar embraciare and so costin. Every year at least 20,000 tons of

Michael Herrian, chief of staff

on behalf of County Executive lack

Johnson said that Johnson is

'absolutely committed to this

process, and noted that Inhospe's

office has been partnered with the Altor Ferguson Foundation as part

comparign and to gain him leaden and community meet then in the DC-area initially signed can only do this by working togethhers from the session, the foundathe treats. Tirengy-two government tion hold their first Potomac Waterleaders have now signed on. shed Insh Summit on March 16 at for the county executive, who came the World Bank Housequarters in the

This cleanup is enabling the community to accept the problem and not change it." Bowen used, "We needed someone to step up to the place and no one did so we needed

of Johnson's livable communities The foundation first desired a Potomac River Watershed Trash Congressman Chris Van Hollen

trush ends up in the Anapostia's waterways. according to statistics from the National anographic and Atmospheric Administrotion. Some years, its streams average more than one piece of debris per fact.

More than 90 percent of the Anacostia's 178-square-mile watershed is in two Maryland counties. The remainder is in

the District of Columbia. "Beauty may be in the eye of the behold-or," the signers wrote in their 24-page doument complete with photographs, "but these photos make clear that — in Mary-land — the Assesstia watershed is often

anything but beautiful to behold." The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the D.C. Water and Sewer Authority, the Earth Conservation Corps and numerous nonprofit groups regularly fish tons of rubbish and thousands of hypodermic needles, tires and our parts from the waterways. As is the case in Les Angeles, trush pours in from multiple sources, including combined sower everflows,

stormwater outfalls and direct dumping Most of the 19,000 Environmental Protection Agency approved TMDLs are direct-ed at reducing bacteria, nutrients, sediests and texic pollutants in a watershed, said John Capacasa, director of the water protection division in the EPA's Philadelphin office. Copacasa led a TMDL discussion at the Patemac Watershed Trash Sum-

"A TMDL is a tool, not a panasea," Ca-

er, it requires partnerships." Van Hullen was also one of the many who noted that the conference was not test a one-day blitz. but a call to create concrete action plane to bring about results.

In addition to public owneness campaigns, Bowen and Wender Peurson, the frundation's program rearrager for the initiative, said that laws and economic incentives are going to have to play a part in trush reduction. They said similar things pacasa said, adding that the Anacestia might be just as well-served if advocates build off the momentum of the trush summit to create cleanup mechanisms.

Jim Connolly, executive director of the Anacustia Watershed Society, said the coali-tion is pursuing a trash TMDL because it's Too Many Damn Lawyers," joked Leslie Mintx, legislative director for Heal the enforceable and requires accountability and measurable results. Maryland is now creating a bacteria TMDL for the Anacastia. Boy, about the contentiousness. "It took

"Voluntary efforts aren't enough" Connolly soid. 'Yes, first you need to get psycholog-ical buy-in from political officials and the public. Then we get down to the tough part of making it happen. How else are you going to make all of those promises and good feelings that everybody signed on to happen?

District authorities are also sooking trosh-impaired status for their section of the Anacostia from the EPA. Two TMDLs, one for hacteria and the other for sediment, are already in place. Mayor Anthony Williams has made river cleanup a priority partly be couse the city is planning commercial and residential development near its banks. A centerpiece will be a Major League Baseball

studium for the Washington Nationals. Connelly said he didn't know how the copital region would fund a cleanup plan. Los Angeles city voters approved Proposition O, a \$500 million general bond men-

sure in November 2004. What has amounted to a decade of legal wrangling on the state and federal levels

There hasn't been a concerner

effort to get people involved and

responsibility," said Cynthia Cox of the National Park Service, "So were

hoping this will make a difference."

mained them of their environmen

Many said they were optimistic

that the surrent would bring after-

tion to the issue and feater more it is transit.

Govern at elicabethterron@hotesail.com

oo," he said. "But without a regulation hammer we wouldn't have gotten to this next step." Contact Waste News correspondent Elizabete Mic-

> Volunteers include Scoats and schoolchib óre, fundes, religious orpaisations and entire offices. If you're not once you're up to lift-ing, bending and toting trush all morning, but son still want to help, less alreasures wikestors solts are consistin. Check with the aire coord-

The event is only three hours," Bower upo.



but it's a fed-good opportunity that last much larger. It's a very to get involved with your community, to meet neighbors and spend

cations across the area. What they beard might surprise you. "We came up with except staff a build and furnish at entire bouse." Bower says the Berns included 880 tires, 10 religiosators, 4 Comme tests stated for the party of t 3 couches, 11 shopping carts, 23 aerosol cars 3 fire entinguishers, a From task and a hot

Volunteers also retrieved 200,000 plantiments beverage containers and 13.5 torus of recyclabless and trush. At the end of the day, 217.8 torus of trush

Through education and volunteer on races such as the Watershed Cleanup, the ho bdacoquer lancered bent berth a litteri ut ei

oward the environment. "We'd like to get out of the garbage but ness," Bowen sups, adding that the pion is to make the Potomac Watershed trush free h 2013. "That will be 25 years of hosting dear ups. By that time, we would like to have a awareness and to have solved the problem rush in the watershed once and for all."

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ng Into Action for a Cleaner Potomac

to take out the trush. From 9 more than 300 locations in in and Moreland, volunteers t geringe during the 18th ershed Clessego.

set earther way of soring el," because doming up a orbood or local park helps and debris before it finals its

acutive director of the Alice ation, a Maryland suspendi orbeaded the annual cleanur find the location near you scrilinator and then show up

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sove trusk from the river.

Together We Have Made Progress!

- 1) Acknowledgment that trash is an issue!
- 2) Created framework for multi-jurisdictional collaboration!
- 3) Garnered Political Will!
- 4) Developed process for accountability!
- 5) Engaged thousands in Citizen Action!
- 6) Creative Partnering and Leveraging of Resources!
- 7) Bringing Greater Attention!

Next Step -- Regulating Trash!!!

•Anacostia River has been "Listed as Impaired for Trash" -- 2nd river in U.S. to have this designation by EPA

• Establishing a "Trash TMDL" - Total Maximum Daily Load

•Monitoring is necessary and key!



What's Needed...

Identify and Track Trash Hot Spots

 Agree upon Regional Monitoring Instrument and Implement Volunteer and Jurisdictional Monitoring of Hot Spots

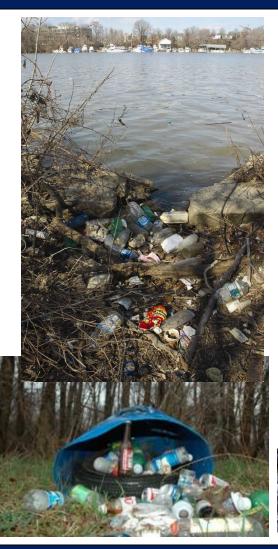


 Leverage and Apply Data to garner greater political and public will – Regional Public Education Campaign

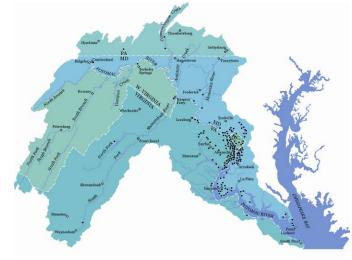
Thank You for Working Together



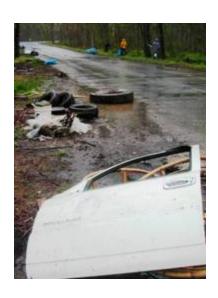
...it leads to many opportunities ahead



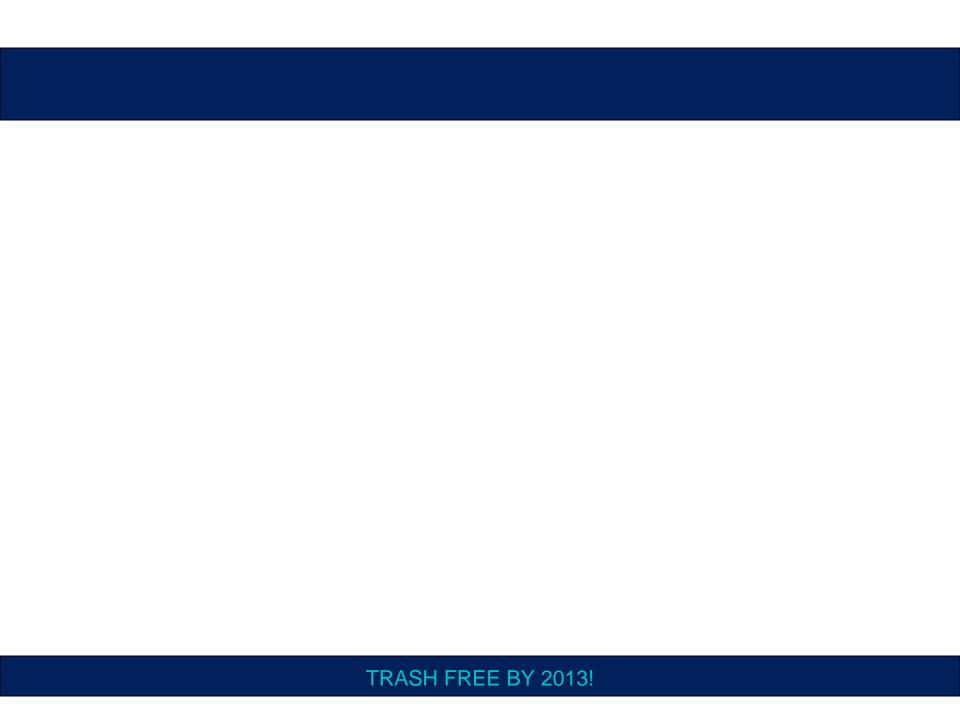












Next Step – Enlist Citizens & Businesses

Actions:

- •Development Framework to Engage and Network Citizen Leaders
- •Engage Business Leaders in Visioning and Problem-Solving and Public Education

Next Step - Regional Public Education

Actions:

•Regional Message with Materials that Subwatersheds Can Customize

•Incorporate Non-Traditional Methods to Reach Targeted Audiences

Leverage Resources of Region for Support

Trash TMDL - Measuring the Load

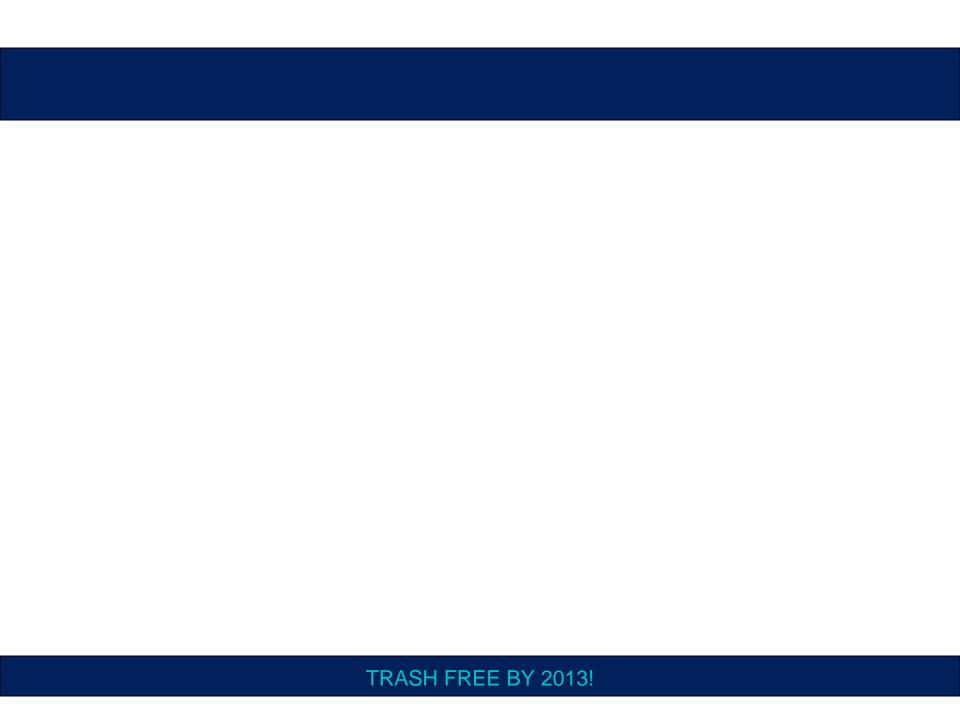
- TMDL = Total Maximum Daily Load
- TMDL establishes the load reductions from point and nonpoint sources that MUST be made to allow water quality standards to be attained.
- Monitoring is required to determine the load.

Regulating Trash --- TMDL

- TMDL = Total Maximum Daily Load
- TMDL establishes the load reductions from point and nonpoint sources that MUST be made to allow water quality standards to be attained.
- Monitoring is required to determine the load.

Brand Names Most Often Found...

• 7-Eleven, Anhueser Bush, Budweiser, Burger King, Capri Sun, Clorox, Coca Cola, Dairy Queen, Dasani Water, Deer Park Water, Doritos, Dunkin Donuts, Gatorade, Giant, Heineken, Jolly Rancher, Lean Cuisine, McDonalds, Milwaukee's Best, Popeye's, Red Bull, Rite Aid, Safeway, Starbucks, Twix, Vaseline Lipbalm, and Wendy's



Case Study - Los Angeles

• Improved Water Quality through Trash!

Consider what happened in Los Angeles:

- •Public overwhelmingly supported passage of Proposition O in Nov. 2004
- •Resulted in issuance of \$500 million bond to fund removal of trash from storm water *in addition to other water quality measures*

Anacostia is a Model Subwatershed

A Potomac Success Story!

- Formalized Governance Process for Environmental Restoration
- Anacostia Trash Reduction Strategy
- Federal/State Agencies investing
- Local Jurisdictions and Active Citizen Groups Stepping up to the Plate
- Maryland and DC Listed Anacostia as Impaired for Trash!

Governments Taking Action

- Montgomery County building improved internal collaboration amongst key departments to ensure implementation of 2006 Action Agreement
- **District of Columbia** is listing the Anacostia River as "Impaired" for trash
- State of Maryland considering listing the Potomac and Anacostia as "Impaired" for trash