

**1. Question: Will it add another step to the plan review process?**

Answer: The services of the Authority are not anticipated to add an additional step to the plan review process. Interest has been expressed in having a uniform Stormwater ordinance county-wide, but that is not a service anticipated at this time.

**2. Question: Will it morph the Stormwater Consortium into the Stormwater Authority?**

Answer: The Authority is envisioned to provide services that will integrate all of the efforts to clean up our waterways in a strategic and comprehensive way. This would include absorbing the responsibility of the Consortium to fund and implement the projects in the Regional CBPRP.

**3. Question: Will what we do here influence what other counties do?**

Answer: The efforts York has undertaken to collaborate on a regional basis for the CBPRP is already influencing other Counties. A county stormwater authority would integrate all the sectors efforts and provide an example of how an integrated strategy is the most cost effective way to reach our water quality goals and avoid backstops and penalties.

**4. Question: If we go to a county stormwater authority, will municipalities be released from their MS4 permit obligations?**

Answer: Whether or not a municipality is relieved of its MS4 permit depends on whether the Authority would be a co-permittee with the municipalities, or an individual permittee. Permit options and how they work with municipal obligations is being explored. More information will be provided at a later date.

**5. Question: How do we show what we are doing is working?**

Answer: The effectiveness of the Authority will be evident through improved water quality or streams becoming unimpaired. One of the key services proposed for the Authority is water quality monitoring. This would provide local data that would be useful in county and state planning efforts. Improved mapping and data of the stormwater system would allow for quicker response for repairs, illicit discharge clean up.

**6. Question: Will there be a written document?**

Answer: Yes, there will be a written document for presentation and consideration by the York County Board of Commissioners.

**7. Question: Will municipalities be able to charge a stormwater fee to their residents on top of the County SWA fee?**

Answer: Yes, if a municipal code enables a municipality to enact a stormwater fee, a municipality can charge a fee in addition to the fee levied by the County stormwater authority.

**8. Question: Who is ultimately responsible for stormwater issues?**

Answer: The responsibility for stormwater runoff is with the landowner. It is the landowner's responsibility to manage the runoff from their own impervious services on their own property. Local municipalities enact ordinances to enforce this. The State and Federal governments

require permit compliance for stormwater. However, the ultimate responsibility is with the landowner.

**9. Question: What is considered “impaired” and who decides that?**

Answer: A stream is considered impaired when it does not meet its designated use and DEP decides that. Here is a link to online resources/procedures.

<http://www.dep.pa.gov/Business/Water/CleanWater/WaterQuality/Integrated%20Water%20Quality%20Report-2016/Pages/default.aspx>

Quick example, bacteria sampling: DEP staff take 5 water samples over a 30-day period between May 1 and Sept 30. A 5-day geometric mean is calculated and compared to the standard of 200 CFU/100mL and if exceeded, the water is impaired. There is a similar sampling program for all impairments

In addition, the scientific standard for water impairment can be found at the link below:

<http://files.dep.state.pa.us/Water/Drinking%20Water%20and%20Facility%20Regulation/WaterQualityPortalFiles/Methodology/2015%20Methodology/BacteriaAssessmentMethodology.pdf>

The details of how the data are assessed are at this link:

[http://files.dep.state.pa.us/Water/Drinking%20Water%20and%20Facility%20Regulation/WaterQualityPortalFiles/Methodology/2015%20Methodology/Physicochemical\\_Bacteriological.pdf](http://files.dep.state.pa.us/Water/Drinking%20Water%20and%20Facility%20Regulation/WaterQualityPortalFiles/Methodology/2015%20Methodology/Physicochemical_Bacteriological.pdf)

**10. Question: Can there be a sub-allocation fee back to municipalities?**

Answer: That has not been determined yet. We are aware that the Wyoming Valley Sanitary Authority is implementing such a program. We are learning about their program and evaluating if a sub-allocation is a service this Authority could offer.