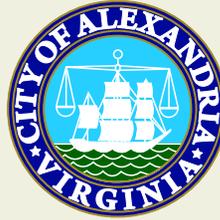


THE CITY'S TMDL APPROACH

Implementation of the TMDL is carried out by the City. The City performs the following in support of this effort:

- Special Use Permits (SUPs) for new developments require screening for PCBs as part of the site characterization.
- Municipal properties are assessed for sources of PCBs. Stormwater runoff is evaluated from properties that have a high risk of PCB contamination.
- Construction sites are monitored and inspected for erosion and sedimentation control.
- Dry weather outfall screenings are performed annually for sources of illicit discharges.



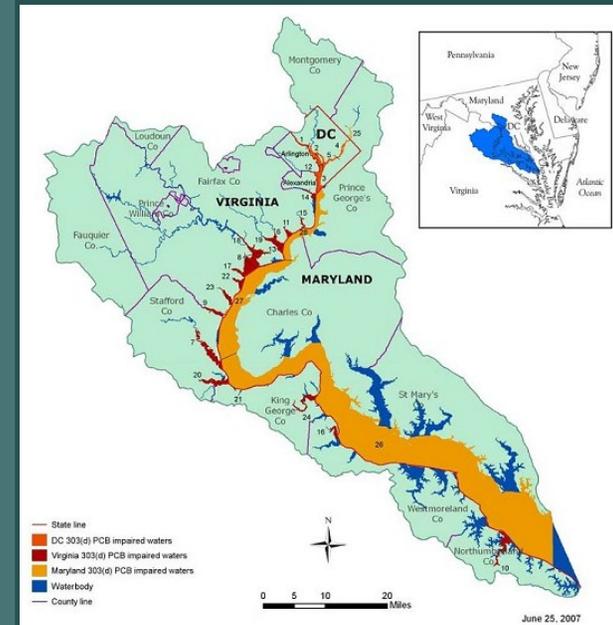
For more information contact::

The City of Alexandria
Department of Transportation & Environmental
Services
Stormwater and Sanitary Infrastructure Division
2900-B Business Center Drive
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Phone: 703-746-4014
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The Virginia Department of Environmental Quality
[http://www.deq.state.va.us/Programs/Water/
WaterQualityInformationTMDLs/TMDL.aspx](http://www.deq.state.va.us/Programs/Water/WaterQualityInformationTMDLs/TMDL.aspx)



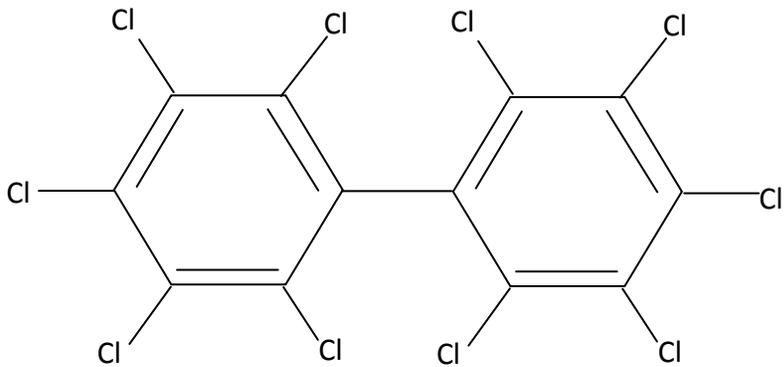
Publication date 6/18/2014



PCBs POLYCHLORINATED BIPHENYLS

Tidal Potomac River PCB
Total Maximum Daily Load
(TMDL)

City of Alexandria, VA



PCBs

Polychlorinated Biphenyls

What are PCBs?

PCBs are part of a family of man-made organic chemicals known as chlorinated hydrocarbons. PCBs were manufactured in the United States from 1929 until their manufacture was banned in 1979.

Due to their non-flammability, chemical stability, high boiling point, and electrical insulating properties, PCBs were used in many industrial and commercial applications. PCBs were used as lubricants and coolants; in electrical and hydraulic equipment; as plasticizers in paints, plastics, and rubber products; in pigments, dyes, and carbonless copy paper; and in many other applications.

Where are PCBs found?

Before the 1979 ban, PCBs entered the environment during its manufacture and use.

Although they are no longer produced in the United States, PCBs may be present in products and materials produced before 1979.

PCBs can be released into the environment from poorly maintained hazardous waste sites, illegal or improper dumping of PCB wastes, leaks or releases from electrical transformers, and disposal of PCB-containing consumer products into landfills not designed to handle hazardous waste. PCBs may also be released into the environment by the burning of some wastes in incinerators.

Why are PCBs Harmful?



Once in the environment, PCBs do not break down quickly and may remain for long periods of time in the air, water, and soil. In surface waters, PCBs adhere to particles in sediments. They can remain buried in sediments for a long time and be slowly released into the water and then evaporate into air.

PCBs can accumulate in the leaves and above-ground parts of plants and food crops. They also accumulate in the bodies of small organisms and fish. As a result, people who ingest fish that have been exposed to PCBs may also be exposed to the PCBs that are found in the fish they are eating.

PCBs have been known to cause cancer, and have other adverse health effects on the immune system, reproductive system, nervous system, and endocrine system.