



PATUXENT RIVER COMMISSION

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John Hartline, Executive Director, Tri-County Council for Southern Maryland, Chair

Christopher Perry, Bourn Environmental, Vice-Chair

We, the Patuxent River Commission, envision a Patuxent River ecosystem as vital and productive in 2050 as it was in the 1950s. We therefore commit to be stewards and advocates for the Patuxent River and to lead and inspire actions to protect, enhance, and restore living resources and the natural, cultural, economic, and recreational values of the Patuxent River and its watershed.

PATUXENT RIVER COMMISSION

MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, April 8, 2026

Members: John Hartline, Chair; Chris Perry, Vice-Chair; Frank Allen, Stacy Clements, Mary Dolan, Lynda Eisenberg, Solange Filoso, Kim Finch, D'Real Graham, Les Knapp, Ron Marney, David Michael, Erik Michelsen, Byron Petrauskas, Paula Proctor, Shelby Johnson, Joanna Smith, Mark Symborski, John Tarr, Malcolm Taylor, Fred Tutman, Jason VanKirk, Tiffany Wright

Staff: Debbie Herr Cornwell, Adam Snyder

Guests: Chris Murphy, Christopher Bolander

Announcements, Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the March 11, 2026 meeting were approved.

Updates from Local Jurisdictions (Anne Arundel, Bowie, Howard and WSSC) – Wastewater Infrastructure

Chris Murphy provided an update from Anne Arundel County on converting the Piney Orchard WWTP to a pump station and directing flow to the Patuxent WWTP. The Piney Orchard WWTP had been damaged by a power surge and explosion that resulted in the emergency bypass of the plant. Erik Michelsen added they are planning to host a forum on 'Lessons Learned from Potomac' this fall.

The Bowie update was provided by Chris Bolander. They are working to upgrade pumping stations that date back to the 1960's and developing annual pipe replacements plans.

Lynda Eisenberg reported that Howard County has one ENR WWTP in the Patuxent watershed. This plant accepts dumping of septic pump outs.

Malcolm Taylor with WSSC noted that they have been monitoring for PFAS since 2020 and are looking at innovative treatments. The WSSC has over 5,000 miles of collection system running through many

jurisdictions. To improve the system, they are undergoing an extensive I & I (inflow and infiltration) study. Malcolm offered to provide the Commission with a WWTP tour.

Open Floor

Fred Tutman reported on a joint MNCPPC – Chesapeake Biological Laboratory – Riverkeeper project that will install remote sensors near outfalls in the Patuxent River.

Meeting was adjourned at 5:37 pm.