

FACT SHEET: Water Pollution Control Plant Solids Master Plan

April 2016

Summary

Arlington County's Water Pollution Control Plant protects public health and the environment through reliable performance, quality customer service, and economic sustainability. The last master plan was developed in 2001 and upgrades completed in 2011. These plant upgrades have provided for aggressive removal of nutrients and greatly reduced the potential for negative environmental impacts to the Chesapeake Bay. With the previous upgrades focusing on liquid treatment, Arlington County is now developing a master plan for the solids generated during the water reclamation process for delivery by 2026. The new treatment processes will provide "smarter solids for sustainability" by improving plant facilities to ensure biosolids meet regulations and prevents risk of disease by treatments. These treatments may include high temperature, pressure and/or pH to kill bacteria, viruses, and parasites.

Project Overview

Main Goal of the Solids Master Plan

The Solids Master Plan will provide for the modernization of plant facilities (solids treatment) while creating opportunities for sustainability and resource recovery.

The objectives of the plan are to:

- Replace aging infrastructure – identify immediate, short-term and long-term needs.
- Weigh the possibility of regulatory changes with other criteria to determine treatment options.
- Make better use of valuable resources.
- Perform cost and risk analyses.
- Select long-term solids treatment solution and prepare capital funding program.

Project Timeline

The project timeline is a phased approach, to maintain reasonable utility rates:

Ongoing

- 2015 – 2026: Outreach to stakeholders to discuss progress and obtain community input

Phase I

- 2015 – 2017: Study Phase
- 2016 – 2020: Design and construction of immediate needs

Phase II

- 2017 – 2020: Design and construction of short-term improvements

Phase III

- 2019 – 2026: Design and construction of long-term improvements

Identified *Immediate Needs* and Future Planning

- The County identified *Immediate Needs* projects where replacement or rehabilitation is necessary in the short term, including: bar screens, primary scum collection, scum concentration, and motor control center in the preliminary treatment building.
- The condition assessment and alternatives analysis for these facilities are complete.
- Draft business cases to meet the *Immediate Needs* projects are developed.
- The next step is to create a conceptual design and begin the design engineer procurement process.

- There may be some changes to the *Immediate Needs* projects as further analysis is performed during the Master Plan.

Changes to Biosolids Regulations

- At this time, there are no changes to Federal Regulations expected.
- Changes to State Regulations with respect to nutrient management are taking place.
- Additional nutrient reduction strategies may be incorporated as promotion of complete restoration of the Chesapeake Bay by 2025 takes hold.

Next Steps

- The County will continue to hold quarterly meetings with external stakeholders, including Civic Associations bordering the facility and other organizations that have an interest in the topic, to discuss the progress on the Solids Master Plan and obtain community input.
- Continue work on refining the Phase I *Immediate Needs* projects.
- Continue work on the Solids Master Plan study.

For More Information:

More information about the Water Pollution Control Plan Solids Master Plan can be found on the County's website at www.arlingtonva.us, search "Solids Master Plan."