EPA’s Approach to Water Quality and Watershed Policy

David M. Webster
Director, Massachusetts State Program Office
EPA – New England Region 1
EPA’s Watershed Programs

- Most Programs Implemented with States and Others
- Programs are Based on Clean Water Act (CWA) and Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA)
- Mindful of Hydrologic Cycle
Clean Water Act Approach

- Water Quality Standards
- Assessments / Monitoring
- Impairment Determinations
- TMDLs (Total Max Daily Loads)
- Permits
- Non-Point Source Practices
- Other Actions
Resource Protection

- Wetlands Protection
- Wetlands Restoration
- Sole Source Aquifer Program
- Source Water Protection
- Dredging Program
- NEPA/ MEPA Reviews
A Dozen Hot Surface Water Issues (1 of 3)

- Total Maximum Daily Loads as Watershed Plans
- Trading Programs
- NPDES Backlog and Delegation (National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System)
- National Watershed Program – year 2
A Dozen Hot Watershed Issues (2 of 3)

- Stormwater Phase 2 NPDES Permits
- Infrastructure and Security Maintenance
- Flow Alterations
- Monitoring and Assessment
- Nutrient Pollution Prevention and Control
A Dozen Hot Water Program Issues (3 of 3)

- Beaches
- CSOs (Combined Sewer Overflows)
- Power Plant Cooling Water
Stormwater Permits - types

MS4 – Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems Permits
- Large (phase 1) >500,000 individual permits
- Medium (phase 2) general permits for:
  a) municipal, b) non-traditional
Construction (phases 1 and 2) - general
Industrial (phase 1) - general multi-sector
EPA FY 2002 Funds to MA*

Total: $171,809,000

Leaking Underground Storage Tanks
$900,000

Superfund & Brownfields
$36,213,000

Special Projects
$3,380,000

Drinking Water SRF
$28,788,000

Clean Water SRF
$52,263,000

National Estuary Program
$1,285,000

PPG & Categorical Grants
$17,266,000

Other Grants
$11,714,000

* All amounts shown are approximate and rounded to the nearest $1000. Numbers represent the approximate amount of EPA Grant Assistance to MA DEP, other State Agencies, municipalities and other entities in FY2002. In addition, the superfund section includes site-specific expenditures at 82 sites in MA in FY2002.