



# Triennial Review of Water Quality Standards

## Final Rulemaking Update

Water Resources Advisory Committee  
July 22, 2008



*Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection  
Bureau of Water Standards and Facility Regulation*

The Clean Water Act requires states to periodically, but at least once every three years, review and revise as necessary their water quality standards - **Triennial Review of Water Quality Standards**

Pennsylvania's WQS are contained in 25 Pa Code Ch. 93 and portions of Ch. 92 (relating to NPDES Permitting, Monitoring and Compliance)

Other WQS provisions and criteria are also contained in Chapters 16 (Toxics Mgmt Strategy - Statement of Policy) and 96 (WQS Implementation)



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## **Revise and update water quality criteria:**

- Revise and update water quality criteria found in Chapters 93 and 16 to reflect the latest scientific information and new Federal guidelines for criteria development.
- Revisions based in part on the most recent complete compilation of nationally recommended WQ criteria, as published in November 2002 (EPA-822-R-02-047), and as updated in December 2002 (67 FR 79094).



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- EPA's 2002 compilation includes recommended WQ criteria for 126 priority pollutants and 17 other compounds or chemicals.
- New methods for deriving human health WQ criteria includes change in the national recommended fish consumption rate to 17.5 g/day, which is currently 6.5 g/day



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- Move revised, updated and other criteria currently contained in Chapter 16 (Statement of Policy) into new criteria tables in Chapter 93 WQS (regulation)
- Also propose to add new statewide ambient water quality criteria to new Chapter 93 Table 5 for Molybdenum, Metolachlor, and Diazinon.



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- Clarify definition of “conventional treatment” for Potable Water Supply (PWS) use protection.

*Conventional treatment* – Filtration for the removal of solids, followed by the addition of disinfection for the removal of pathogenic organisms, to produce water for drinking and other human consumption.

- Adding that other intervening, sensitive uses may apply if the specified critical use does not afford adequate protection.



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- Add reference to Drainage List X to indicate the US EPA's 2004 Beach Act federal promulgation at 40 CFR 131.41\* for bacteriological water quality criteria apply to these Lake Erie coastal recreational waters within Pennsylvania.

(\* as published on Nov. 16, 2004 at 69 FR 67218)



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- Add migratory fishes (MF) use to the mid-Atlantic slope drainage basins – the Delaware, Susquehanna & Potomac Rivers.
- Reconfirm the removal of water contact (WC) protected use on selected waters within Pennsylvania's WQS for portions of the Delaware Estuary and for the outer Erie Harbor and Presque Isle Bay.



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## **Updates and Corrections for Missing items, typos or errors:**

- Updates, revisions, and corrections for typos, translation errors and missed references associated with prior rulemaking and/or publication activities.
- Describe that notations will need to be added to the stream drainage lists to identify where previously approved site-specific water quality criteria apply.



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## **Revise / Update Portions Retained in Ch. 16:**

- The Department proposes to rename Chapter 16 Appendix A, Table 1 , “SITE-SPECIFIC WATER QUALITY CRITERIA FOR TOXIC SUBSTANCES”. Specific criteria that are developed or approved by the Department will be housed in Appendix A, Table 1 until there is a need or opportunity for proposal by the Board to be incorporated into Chapter 93.



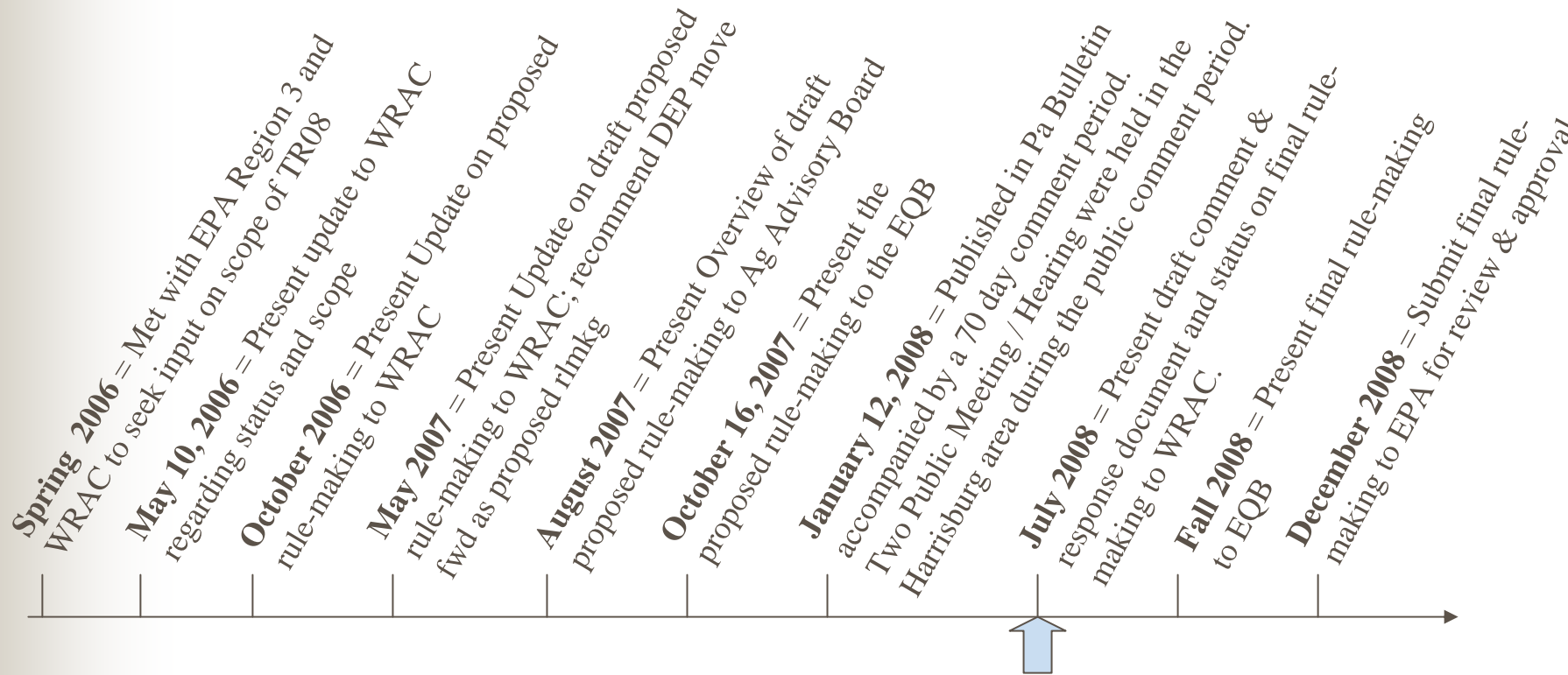
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- Update approved analytical methods and detection limits in Tables 2A and 2B to reflect the EPA approved methods that were recently updated and published as final in the Federal Register (72 FR 11199) on March 12, 2007, which were effective on April 11, 2007.



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## Timeline for Triennial Review of Water Quality Standards - 2008



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