

Questions Related to Nutrients and Water Quality

Day 1: What is the Problem?

1. Why are nutrients in water a problem? Which ones?
2. Who is collecting and analyzing nutrient data?
3. How wide-spread and significant is the problem?
4. How is the problem defined? Concentrations, Loads, Other?
5. What are the primary sources and contributors?
6. How should we identify or mitigate sources?
7. Do scientists agree on the answers to these questions?
8. What are the consequences of nutrients in water at present levels and in the future, without controls?
9. Should, can, and how should these levels be modified on a watershed-by-watershed basis?

Day 2: What is Being Done About the Problem?

1. Which agencies, institutions, or groups are addressing the problem?
2. What are they doing to address the problem?
3. What tools are they using to address the problem?
4. What tools could be refined or made available to them?
5. Are there currently any regulations about nutrients in water?
6. What are the regulations?
7. Are there likely to be regulations in the future?
8. What is the legal framework behind the regulations?
9. How would/could regulations about nutrients in water be implemented?
10. How will nutrient contributors find the resources to solve or manage the problem if maximum nutrient level regulations are adopted?
11. To what extent should society as a whole participate in paying?
12. What are the consequences of nutrients in water at present levels and in the future, without controls?

Day 3: How Can Stakeholders and Agencies Work Together in Managing the Problem?

1. How can we accurately identify which sources contribute to the problem?
2. What non-regulatory ways have been tried to deal with the problem?
3. How will nutrient contributors find the resources to solve or manage the problem if maximum nutrient level regulations are adopted?
4. How can we engage contributing stakeholders to work with regulators and administrators in developing and implementing approaches for solving or managing the problem?
5. How can we preserve other stakeholder values while addressing this problem?