

BY adding to

Article - Environment
Section 4-302.1 and 4-313.1
Annotated Code of Maryland
(1987 Replacement Volume)

Preamble

WHEREAS, In December 1981 a consensus was reached for reversing declining water quality in the Patuxent River; and

WHEREAS, This consensus was reached between the State and the 7 Patuxent River Counties to substantially reduce the flow of phosphorus and nitrogen from sewage treatment plants to the Patuxent River; and

WHEREAS, This nutrient control policy provided that all facilities discharging over 500,000 gallons a day of wastewater must remove phosphorus to 1.0 mg/l of wastewater and plan for a possible 0.3 mg/l phosphorus limit; and

WHEREAS, After over 6 years, several of the 9 sewage treatment plants served by this requirement are not meeting the 1.0 mg/l standard; and

WHEREAS, The nutrient control policy also required that all facilities must plan for nitrogen removal to the 3.0 mg/l limits, and that certain facilities must remove nitrogen to the 3.0 mg/l limit under certain conditions; and

WHEREAS, Except for the Maryland House of Correction plant, no plants are presently removing nitrogen on the Patuxent; and

WHEREAS, The living resources of the Patuxent have not been restored due in part to the failure to meet these nutrient removal standards; now, therefore,

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article - Environment

4-302.1.

(A) (1) EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION, FOR PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION, CONCENTRATIONS AND WEIGHTS OF PHOSPHORUS AND NITROGEN SHALL BE CALCULATED ON A MONTHLY AVERAGE BASIS.