

practices of public water systems ~~and sewage treatment plants.~~

BY adding to

Article - Environment

Section 5-5B-01 through 5-5B-05, inclusive, to be under the new subtitle "Subtitle 5B. Maryland Water Conservation"

Annotated Code of Maryland

(1996 Replacement Volume and 2001 Supplement)

Preamble

WHEREAS, Greater efficiency in water use and conservation can reduce the financial costs associated with treatment, storage, and transmission of water ~~and wastewater~~ necessary for Maryland's growing population, thus making better use of the limited financial resources available for such improvements; and

WHEREAS, Data compiled by the State and published by the United States Environmental Protection Agency show that in the next 20 years, more than \$2,000,000,000 will have to be invested by public water systems, ~~wastewater treatment plants,~~ and State agencies in order to accommodate growth and to improve the quality of drinking water ~~and the treatment, storage, and transmission of wastewater;~~ and

WHEREAS, Improvements in efficient use of water and overall water conservation measures will limit negative environmental impacts on Maryland's aquatic resources, which are associated with withdrawing surface water and groundwater and discharging wastewater; ~~and~~

~~WHEREAS, More efficient use of limited financial resources available for improving wastewater treatment will accelerate achievement of water quality goals, including the goals of the Chesapeake Bay Agreements; now, therefore,~~

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

Article - Environment

SUBTITLE 5B. MARYLAND WATER CONSERVATION.

5-5B-01.

(A) IN THIS SUBTITLE THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS INDICATED.

(B) "PUBLIC WATER SYSTEM" HAS THE MEANING STATED IN § 9-401 OF THIS ARTICLE AND IS A WATER SYSTEM LOCATED IN THE STATE.

~~(C) "SEWAGE TREATMENT PLANT" MEANS ANY PUBLICLY OR PRIVATELY OWNED FACILITY CONSTRUCTED TO RECEIVE AND TREAT HUMAN SEWAGE THAT IS SUBJECT TO A STATE DISCHARGE PERMIT AND DISCHARGES AT LEAST 1,000,000 GALLONS PER DAY.~~