



# Schuylkill Action Network (SAN)

## Pathogens & Compliance

### 2016 Workplan

**Strategic Goal: Facilitate and strengthen communication and coordination among regulatory agencies, downstream water users, and basin stakeholders regarding the Clean Water Act and Safe Drinking Water Act goals.**

Strategic Actions	Timing	Lead
<b>Strategy 1:</b> Improve discharger/water supplier communication of events and use of the Early Warning System.		
<i>Strategic plan alignment:</i> Objectives 3, 4		
<u>Actions:</u>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue discussions with PADEP regional offices on reporting events to the EWS and water suppliers.</li> </ul>	Ongoing	All
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promote use of the EWS at workgroup meetings, workshops, and outreach events.               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Conduct EWS Training Session for DEP and other water users/discharges</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	Ongoing	All
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Conduct EWS Training Session for DEP and other water users/discharges</li> </ul>	4Q 2016 <i>(tentative)</i>	PWD/PDE
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promote PA WARN.</li> </ul>	Ongoing	All
<b>Strategy 2:</b> Identify priority wastewater discharges/issues in the watershed and formulate action plans to address them.		
<i>Strategic plan alignment:</i> Objectives 2, 5, 6 and Strategies 2, 3, 6, 8, 9		
<u>Actions:</u>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Inspect all major wastewater treatment facilities annually; monitor compliance with SSO/CSO regulations.</li> </ul>	Ongoing	DEP/EPA
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Investigate blending/recombining in the watershed.</li> </ul>	Ongoing	DEP/EPA
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue to investigate/document all unsewered communities (“Wildcat” sewers) and establish communication with communities to address.</li> </ul>	Quarterly	DEP/EPA/PWD
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Schedule and conduct targeted diagnostic inspections.</li> </ul>	2/year	EPA
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discuss minor facility SNC compliance screen data when necessary at meetings.</li> </ul>	3Q 2016	DEP
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Require POTW’s to meter and sample flows that are not fully treated and develop model SOP.</li> </ul>	Ongoing	EPA/DEP
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work with PWD to implement action items from Watershed Control Plan for the Schuylkill.</li> </ul>	Ongoing	All
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Track WWTP upgrades, new facilities, and community sewer improvement projects through DEP Regional Offices, Part II Permits, media releases, and review of government-funded projects.</li> </ul>	Ongoing	DEP/PWD

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Track status of Act 537 Plan statuses and provide assistance or action if needed.</li> </ul>	4Q 2016	DEP
<p><b>Strategy 3:</b> Provide support (financial, information, expertise, collaborative problem-solving) for partners/communities to implement projects that reduce priority discharges.</p>		
<p><b>Strategic plan alignment:</b> Objectives 1,3,4 and Strategies 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 9</p>		
<p><u>Actions:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Organize a water utility workshop to address emerging contaminant issues and source water protection strategies.</li> <li>Investigate funding opportunities for pathogen reduction projects throughout watershed</li> </ul>	<p>April 2016</p> <p>Ongoing</p>	<p>DEP/EPA</p> <p>PDE/PWD</p>
<p><b>Strategy 4:</b> Provide a forum for partner and agency communication and coordination around discharge issues and the formulation of creative new ideas and approaches for solving pathogen related problems.</p>		
<p><b>Strategic plan alignment:</b> Objective 3 and Strategy 8</p>		
<p><u>Actions:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Convene quarterly meetings of the Pathogens/Compliance workgroup, incorporate educational opportunities with experts in the field of pathogen research, whenever appropriate and feasible.</li> <li>Clearly define and communicate agency lead for inspections and enforcement actions.</li> <li>Better utilize Chapter 94 and Act 537 planning tools through continued communication and coordination; maintain WWTP information from these reports for future watershed planning efforts.</li> <li>Develop an annual/final report of workgroup accomplishment (present at SAN annual workshop in fall) and create an annual work plan</li> <li>Participate in Berks County Water and Sewer Association Activities.</li> <li>Provide workgroup information for posting on SAN website and social media sites.</li> <li>Host tours of waste water and drinking water treatment plants.</li> </ul>	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>Nov 2016</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>1/year</p>	<p>EPA</p> <p>EPA/DEP</p> <p>PWD/DEP</p> <p>DEP</p> <p>All</p> <p>All</p> <p>All</p>
<p><b>Strategy 4:</b> Promote pathogen successes and understanding of pathogen water quality issues and solutions to target audiences in the watershed.</p>		
<p><b>Strategic plan alignment:</b> Objectives 1, 3, 4 and Strategies 1, 4</p>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cultivate and take advantage of opportunities for press and other “free-media” coverage of pathogens issues/problems/solutions</li> <li>Coordinate the use of the SAN display to have a presence at local/regional events to promote awareness of pathogen issues and document/track use of display (# events, people, etc.).</li> <li>Provide presentations and education to key stakeholder groups on</li> </ul>	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p>	<p>All</p> <p>PDE</p> <p>All</p>

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effective wastewater and drinking water treatment. • Develop a short fact sheet for WWTPs to distribute.	Summer 2016	PDE
<b><i>Objectives: How will we measure success?</i></b> • Track progress of projects addressing unsewered communities (on-lot malfunctions and wildcat sewer discharges). • Increase wastewater treatment operators' participation in the SAN. • Increase discharger/water supplier communication of events by using the Delaware Valley EWS to minimize threats to drinking water in the event of a discharge.		

*Notes:*

- CSO – combined sewer overflow
- EPA – Environmental Protection Agency
- ESC – Executive Steering Committee
- EWS – Early Warning System
- NPDES – National Pollutant Detection Elimination System
- PA DEP – Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection
- PA WARN – Pennsylvania Water/Wastewater Agency Response Network
- PDE – Partnership for the Delaware Estuary
- POTW – publically owned treatment works
- PWD – Philadelphia Water Department
- SNC – Significant Noncompliance
- SOP – standard operating procedure
- SSO – sanitary sewer overflow
- WWTP – wastewater treatment plant