

**SUSQUEHANNA RIVER BASIN COMMISSION**  
1721 North Front Street • Harrisburg, PA 17102-2391 • [www.srbc.net](http://www.srbc.net)

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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**GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT PLAN**  
**PUBLIC WORKSHOPS TO BE HELD**

**Workshops To Brief Public On Draft Plan and Receive Comments**

HARRISBURG, Pa. – The Susquehanna River Basin Commission (SRBC) today reminded the public that three public workshops will be held to brief participants on the draft Groundwater Management Plan, released June 9, and to receive their comments about it.

The workshops will be held from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. on the following dates, and at the following places:

- July 15 – Wildwood Conference Center, Harrisburg Area Community College, Harrisburg, Pa.
- July 21 – The Atherton Hotel, State College, Pa.
- July 22 – Owego Treadway Inn, Owego, N.Y.

Persons interested in attending a workshop should contact Patricia Adams at SRBC, (717) 238-0423, x302 or by e-mail at [padams@srbc.net](mailto:padams@srbc.net).

The 160-page draft plan, Groundwater Management Plan for the Susquehanna River Basin, includes: (1) an assessment of the current groundwater problems and management issues, and (2) a series of 37 recommended actions needed to ensure the sustainability of the basin's groundwater resources and to address impacts on the resource, including those from growth and development, droughts, current and past mining, transfers out of watersheds, unknown and unregulated uses, and management measures.

In particular, SRBC wants to raise awareness of the important relationship between groundwater resources and the 32,000 plus miles of streams in the Susquehanna basin. These workshops relate to the part of the plan that emphasizes the need for increased public outreach and education.

SRBC Executive Director Paul Swartz said, "As concentrated growth and rapid development in many areas of the basin continues to increase the demand for groundwater, we need to manage this importance resource through proper planning. We encourage people to participate in our three workshops to learn about the draft plan and

let us know what changes may be needed to ensure that we provide an excellent tool for planners and water managers throughout the basin.”

The draft plan is available on SRBC’s web site at [www.srbc.net](http://www.srbc.net), and on CD-Rom or in hard copy format upon request. Persons interested in providing written comments in addition to attending the workshops should direct their written comments by September 9, 2004 to Paula Ballaron, Section Chief, Project Review and Compliance, Susquehanna River Basin Commission, 1721 N. Front St., Harrisburg, PA, 17102, phone: (717) 238-0423, x222 or e-mail: [pballaron@srbc.net](mailto:pballaron@srbc.net)

The draft plan, which is a comprehensive update to SRBC’s 1993 groundwater management plan, was developed by SRBC with guidance from its Water Resources Management Advisory Committee. The committee is comprised of representatives from SRBC’s four members – the federal government and the states of New York, Pennsylvania and Maryland – and SRBC staff.

SRBC is the governing agency established under a 100-year compact signed on December 24, 1970 by the federal government and the states of New York, Pennsylvania and Maryland to protect and wisely manage the water resources of the Susquehanna River Basin. The Susquehanna River starts in Cooperstown, N.Y., and flows 444 miles to Havre de Grace, Md., where the river meets the Chesapeake Bay.

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