What Does Atmospheric Deposition Mean for Stormwater?

Geoff Brosseau California Stormwater Quality Association (CASQA) When we try to pick out anything by itself, we find it hitched to everything else in the universe – John Muir In the beginning... the development and legacy of 1970s environmental protection regulations

Marching to a Different Drummer – Regulatory

Air

Clean Air Act
HAPs / TACs
Ozone, VOCs
NOx, SOx
Nutrients

Dimensions – ppm (ng/m³) – Human health-driven

Water

- Clean Water Act
- POCs / PBTs
 - Heavy metals
 - Pesticides
 - Toxics (OCs, PCBs, PAHs, Dioxins/Furans)
- Dimensions
 - ppm, ppb, ppt (ng/l)
 - Aquatic life-driven

Lost in the Translation? – Terms

Air

- PM (Particulate matter)
- Emissions / Deposition
- Stationary vs. Mobile / Fugitive
- Airshed

Water
Sediment
Discharges
Point vs. Non-Point

Watershed

Scoping out the AQ / WQ Connection / Disconnection – San Francisco Bay

• 1987 - Loading of Toxic Contaminants, AHI

- 1991- Status and Trends, SFEP
- 1991 Site-specific water quality objectives, San Jose
- 1992 State of the Estuary, SFEP

 1997 - Metals Control Measures Plan, SCVURPPP
 1998 - Scoping Study of Air Deposition Monitoring Information Relevant to Water Quality, BASMAA

BASMAA Scoping Study of Air Deposition Monitoring Information Relevant to Water Quality

- Prompted by increasing concern about air pollution being a "source" of POCs
- Conducted preliminary review of both air pollution monitoring and air quality / water quality work

 Showed that air monitoring network was unsuited for water quality POCs and source control work

Subsequent work by stormwater agencies

Research

- Copper in brake pads (wear debris characterization / generation and whole environment modeling)
- Mercury in fuels (sample and analyze fuels)

California Air Resources Board Mobile Laboratory



Subsequent work by stormwater agencies

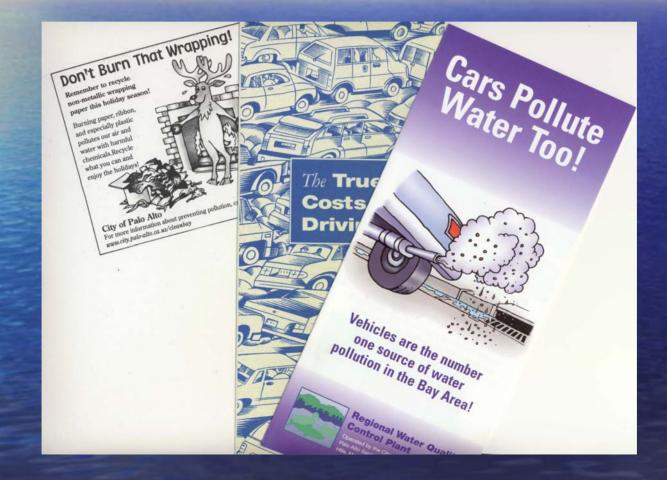
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Education

- General Public
 - Advertising campaigns (Air pollution=water pollution)
 - Media pitches and public outreach (*Cars pollute water too— Spare the Air-Protect the Bay*, Wood burning, Wrapping paper)

AQ=WQ Public Education Items



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- Institutional
 - Informal staff-level meetings (AQ and WQ agencies)
 - Conference presentations
 - CASQA Workshops (2001 and 2005)

How the Gaps Affect Stormwater Quality Management – Regulatory

- NPDES stormwater permit provisions
 - Copper
 - PAHs
- TMDLs Air deposition significant "source" to stormwater load
 - San Francisco Bay Mercury (~1/3 of load; ~2/3 of WLA) (1/2 load reduction required)
 Los Angeles River and Ballona Creek Metals (Copper, Lead, and Zinc)

Recommendations for Addressing the Gaps

- Institutionalize vertical integration literally and horizontal integration functionally
 - Early / easy actions
 - Funding (State / Federal)
 - Systematic review and recommendations Science, Regulations, Institutional
 - Cal/EPA Cross-media program / Partnerships with other organizations
- Rally around true source control shared interest / benefit
 - Water quality agencies Significant concerns with original pollution sources
 - Vehicles (Copper, PAHs)
 - Coal-fired plants, crematoria (Mercury)
 - Air quality agencies Significant authority and experience with product control
 - Lead in fuel
 - USEPA Growing involvement and influence with international sources

Close the gaps vs. bridge the gaps or hitch anything itself to everything else

