

# Chemical Monitoring QAPP Guidelines

# How DEQ Uses Volunteer Data

- There are three levels of volunteer data
- Higher levels have increasing QA and are closer to DEQ protocols
- Level III data is treated the same as DEQ data



# Level I

## QA/QC Protocols

- No QAPP or SOP required
- Monitoring and/or laboratory analysis does not follow DEQ protocols
- There is no Virginia water quality standard

## Uses

- Education
- Baseline Data
- Pollution Red Flags
- Local Land Use Decisions
- Special Studies

# Level II

## QA/QC Protocols

- DEQ approved QAPP and SOP
- Method may deviate from DEQ methods. (ex. A method with a higher detection limit)
- Field and/or laboratory audit required

## Uses

- All uses as stated in Level I
- Assessment information to determine waters of concern in 305/303 report. (Category 3C, 3D)

# Level III

## QA/QC Protocols

- DEQ approved QAPP and SOP
- Methods have no deviation from approved methods (EPA, Standard Methods, APHA, etc)
- Field and/or laboratory audit required

## Uses

- All uses as stated in Level II
- Assess water quality (305b report)
- TMDL impairment listing (303d report)

# The Road To Level III

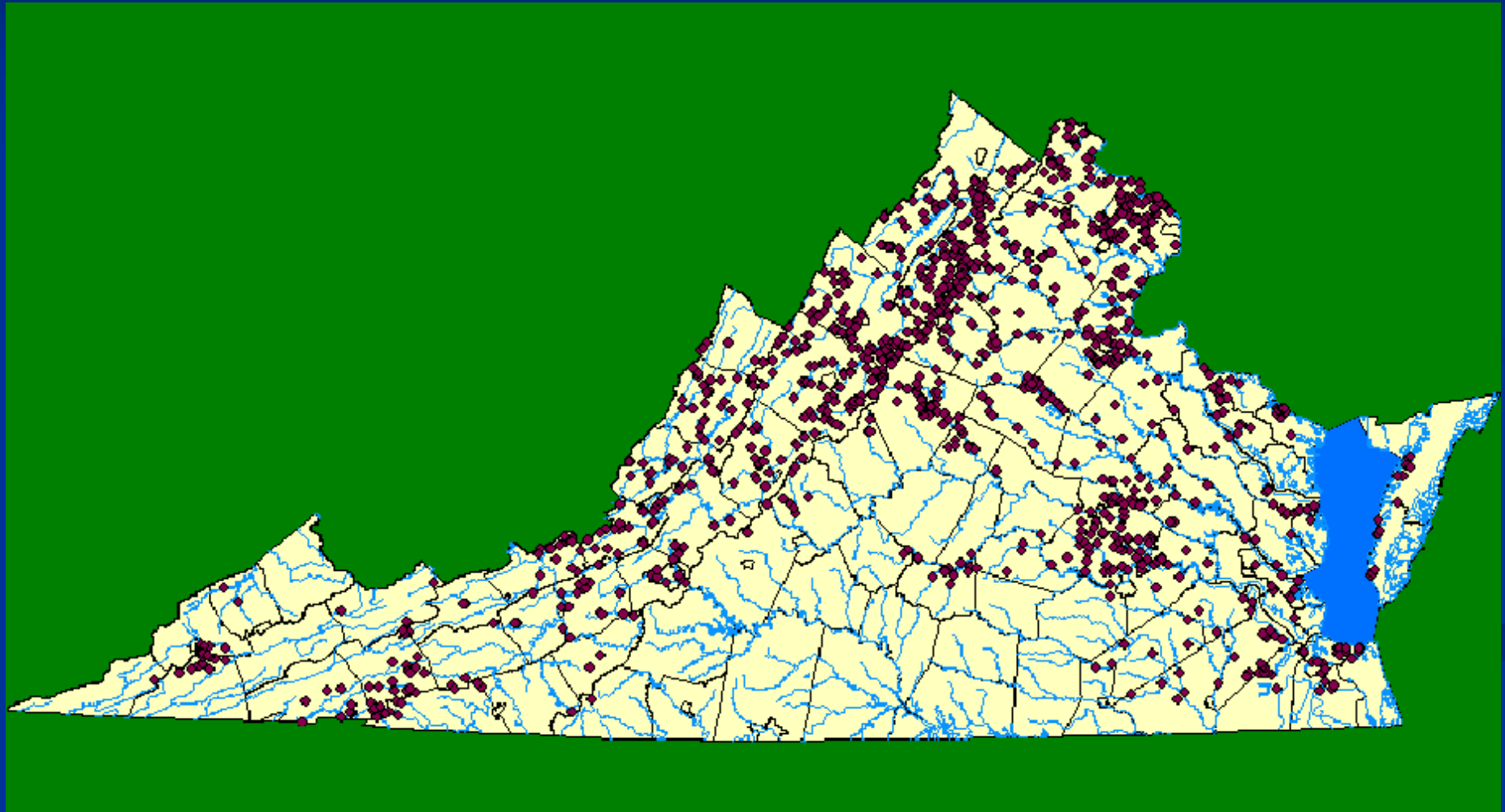
- Group fills out a QAPP application found at the DEQ website  
[www.deq.state.va.us/cmonitor](http://www.deq.state.va.us/cmonitor)
  - DEQ staff reviews the QAPP application and provides comments
  - Group submits a final QAPP and SOP to DEQ
  - DEQ performs a site visit
- Reference materials available online at  
[www.deq.state.va.us/cmonitor/guidance.html](http://www.deq.state.va.us/cmonitor/guidance.html)

# 2006 305(b)/303(d) Report

- DEQ received data from 81 volunteer groups monitoring at 1072 sites
  - Level I- 219 sites
  - Level II- 497 sites
  - Level III- 356 sites
- This is the highest level of volunteer data used by DEQ to date



# Where Level II And III Volunteer Monitoring Occurs



# How Does Virginia Stack Up To Other States

- DEQ surveyed other states in 2006
  - Received 15 responses
  - 12 states use volunteer data in 305/303 report after QA/QC review.
  - 3 states do not use citizen data
- Virginia ranked equal or better than other states in using volunteer data.

# For More Information

Citizen Monitoring Website:

[www.deq.virginia.gov/cmonitor](http://www.deq.virginia.gov/cmonitor)

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