

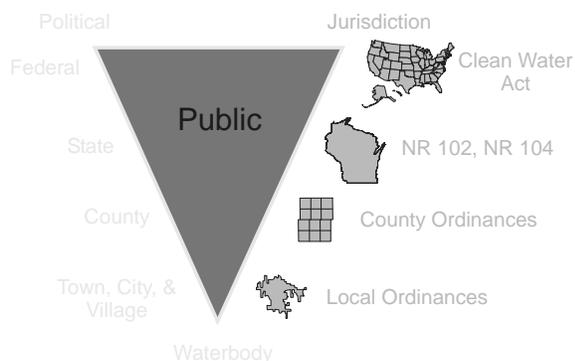
MANAGING POLLUTANT SOURCES

Laypersons' Participation and
Partnerships
[Chapter 11.5]

Laypersons' Participation

- Public (or Stakeholder) involvement and participation is essential for:
 - Developing effective laws, and
 - Implementing practicable plans

Political and Jurisdictional Hierarchy



Laypersons' Participation

- Public vs Stakeholders
 - "Public" comment typically is based on residency with specific jurisdictions
 - "Stakeholders" include anyone (including corporations and other legal persons) having an interest in the issues under discussion



Laypersons' Participation

- Involvement vs Participation
 - "Involvement" can simply mean the conduct of an informational meeting or conduct of a regulatory public hearing
 - "Participation" invokes not only consultation but an active role in formulating policies, plans, and practices

Laypersons' Participation

- Informational Programming
 - Easy to implement
 - Frequently entail synergies with ongoing programs being conducted by public health and sanitation departments
 - Examples: anti-littering campaigns, recycling, mosquito prevention programs
 - Can build on existing initiatives
 - Example: University Extension programs

Laypersons' Participation

- Educational Programming
 - Classroom-based initiatives
 - Can entail synergies with traditional curricula
 - Examples: inclusion of watershed studies within environmental studies curricula, inclusion of environment in arts and sciences curricula
 - May be more difficult to initiate and integrate, depending on school-year, school-administration, and cost considerations

Laypersons' Participation

- Combining Educational and Informational Efforts
 - Citizen volunteer monitoring programs for lakes and streams
 - Can encourage inter-generational contact and enhance community cohesion
- Examples include: "pontoon classrooms", "send your legislator down the river", and "demonstration projects"
- Build synergies with existing programs, such as recycling, anti-littering, and public health programs

Laypersons' Participation

- Determining appropriate levels of participation
 - Informational and Educational (I&E) efforts are best suited to creating and maintaining a general level of awareness
 - Public Participation efforts contribute to a greater sense of "ownership" in a community
 - Stakeholder Participation places greater demands on public officials, may be more time-consuming, but generally leads to a "better"/"sustainable" result

