

LAKE TANEYCOMO WATERSHED MANAGEMENT PLAN

GLOSSARY

BMP: (Best Management Practices) structural, vegetative or managerial practices used to treat, prevent or reduce water pollution

DO: (dissolved oxygen) is a measure of how much oxygen is dissolved in the water - the amount of oxygen available to living aquatic organisms. The amount of dissolved oxygen in a stream or lake can tell us a lot about its water quality.

Eutrophication: excessive richness of nutrients in a lake or other body of water, frequently due to runoff from the land, which causes a dense growth of plant life and death of animal life from lack of oxygen.

HUC: Hydrologic Unit Code (hydrologic regions) The area of land surrounding a hydrologic feature, such as a stream, river, or lake, and includes all of the land area that drains into that feature. For example, the Missouri River hydrologic unit includes the Missouri River, all tributaries to it, and the entire surface area of land that drains into it.

Non-Point Source Pollutant: caused by rainfall or snowmelt moving over and through the ground. As the runoff moves, it picks up and carries away natural and human-made pollutants, finally depositing them into lakes, rivers, wetlands, coastal waters and ground waters. Farm fields, streets, parking lots are three common types of non-point sources.

Nutrients Pollution: the process where too many nutrients, mainly nitrogen and phosphorus, are added to bodies of water and can act like fertilizer, causing excessive growth of algae.

Point Source Pollutant: any single identifiable source of pollution from which pollutants are discharged, such as a pipe, ditch, ship or factory smokestack. Factories and sewage treatment plants are two common types of point sources.

STEP-L Modeling: (Spreadsheet Tool for Estimating Pollutant Loads) an EPA approved methodology for reviewing water quality and how to identify areas needing improvement

TDS: (Total Dissolved Solids) any minerals, salts, metals, cations or anions dissolved in water. They are comprised of inorganic salts (principally calcium, magnesium, potassium, sodium, bicarbonates, chlorides, and sulfates) and some small amounts of organic matter that are dissolved in water.

TMDL: (total maximum daily load) a regulatory term in the U.S. Clean Water Act, describing a plan for restoring impaired waters that identifies the maximum amount of a pollutant that a body of water can receive while still meeting water quality standards.

TN: (Total Nitrogen) The sum of the different forms of nitrogen found naturally in the water including nitrate, nitrite, and ammonia. Nitrogen enters surface waters naturally through the air and surface runoff, or through human activities like wastewater discharges and agricultural practices. Elevated concentrations can result in excessive growth of algae and aquatic plants.

TP: (Total Phosphorous) Phosphorous is an essential nutrient for plants and animals. It is naturally limited in most freshwater systems because it is not as abundant as carbon and nitrogen; introducing a small amount of additional phosphorus into a waterway can have adverse effects such as excessive growth of algae and aquatic plants.

Watershed: any surface area from which runoff resulting from rainfall is collected and drained through a common point. It is synonymous with a drainage basin or catchment area. May be only a few hectares as in small ponds or hundreds of square miles as in rivers.

WQS: (Water Quality Standards) provisions of state, territorial, authorized tribal or federal law approved by EPA that describe the desired condition of a water body and the means by which that condition will be protected or achieved. Water bodies can be used for purposes such as recreation (e.g. swimming and boating), scenic enjoyment, and fishing, and are the home to many aquatic organisms. To protect human health and aquatic life in these waters, states, territories and authorized tribes establish WQS. WQS form a legal basis for controlling pollutants entering the waters of the United States.

303(d) List: a state's list of impaired and threatened waters (e.g. stream/river segments, lakes). EPA reporting guidance provides a way to keep track of a state's water bodies, from listing as impaired to meeting water quality standards. When a water body is added to this list, depending on the priority designated, a TMDL is then required to be developed.

