

<b>Presenter</b>	Kelly Brennan Parsons Brinckerhoff
<b>Type</b>	oral presentation
<b>Category</b>	<b>Innovative watershed and stream restoration approaches/methods</b>
<b>Title</b>	<i>Big Things Come in Small Packages – The Importance of Small Watershed Action Plans in Maintaining Stream Health</i>
<b>Abstract</b>	<p>The development of small watershed action plans (SWAP) are an effective and essential tool for the maintenance and improvement of stream health, particularly in urbanized areas. SWAPs are strategies that outline how we can improve water quality in our stream systems while considering the past, present and future conditions of the watersheds. The plans include a characterization of watershed resources, identification of potential pollution sources, assessment of neighborhoods and special areas and identification of stream geomorphic and habitat instabilities. They examine alternative ways to enhance the watershed and clean up the stream channels, provide conceptual costs and identify appropriate parties for implement restoration options. The key to a successful SWAP is active participation by local stakeholders who include local residents, leaders from community, business associations and government agencies. Coordination between the stakeholders is essential in the development and full implementation of a SWAP. Parsons Brinckerhoff (PB) will present case studies for two tidal SWAPs from Baltimore County, Maryland and Prince William County, Virginia. The Tidal Back River Watershed will be highlighted in Baltimore County and the Marumsco and Farms Creek Watersheds will be highlighted in Prince William County. Each study consists of watershed characterizations, GIS data analysis, rapid stream assessment, stormwater management facility assessment, and tidal area assessments. The Baltimore study takes the analysis one step further by utilizing protocols developed by the Center for Watershed Protection including neighborhood source assessments (NSA), hot spot investigations (HIS), pervious area assessments (PAA), street and storm drain assessments (SSD) and institutional site investigations (ISI). In addition, PB will highlight community and stakeholder coordination efforts and demonstrate the effectiveness of public involvement when combined with environmental science.</p>