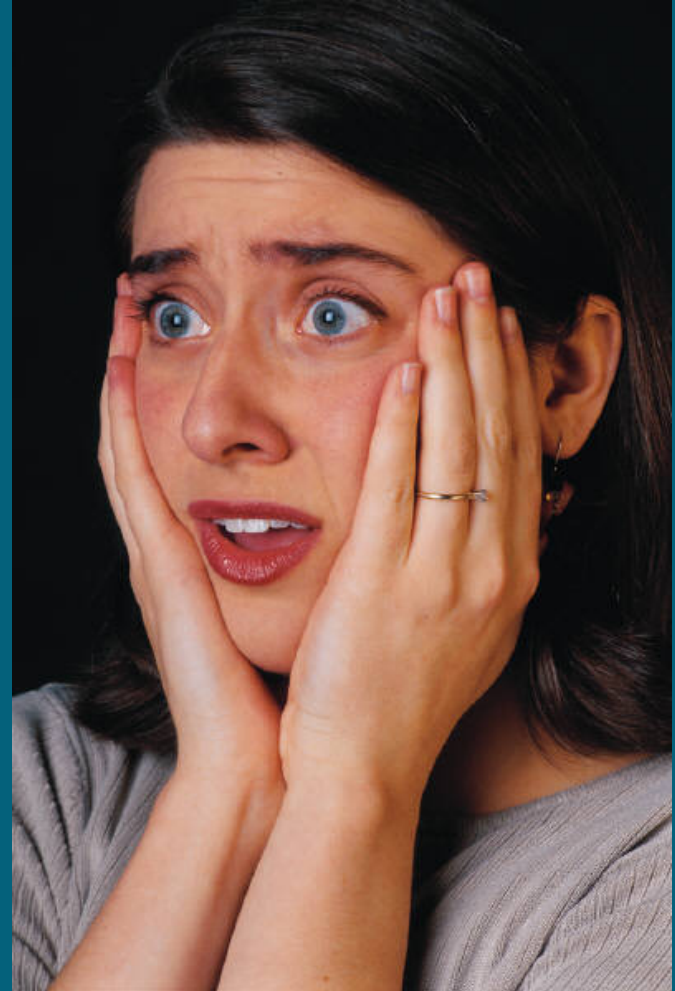
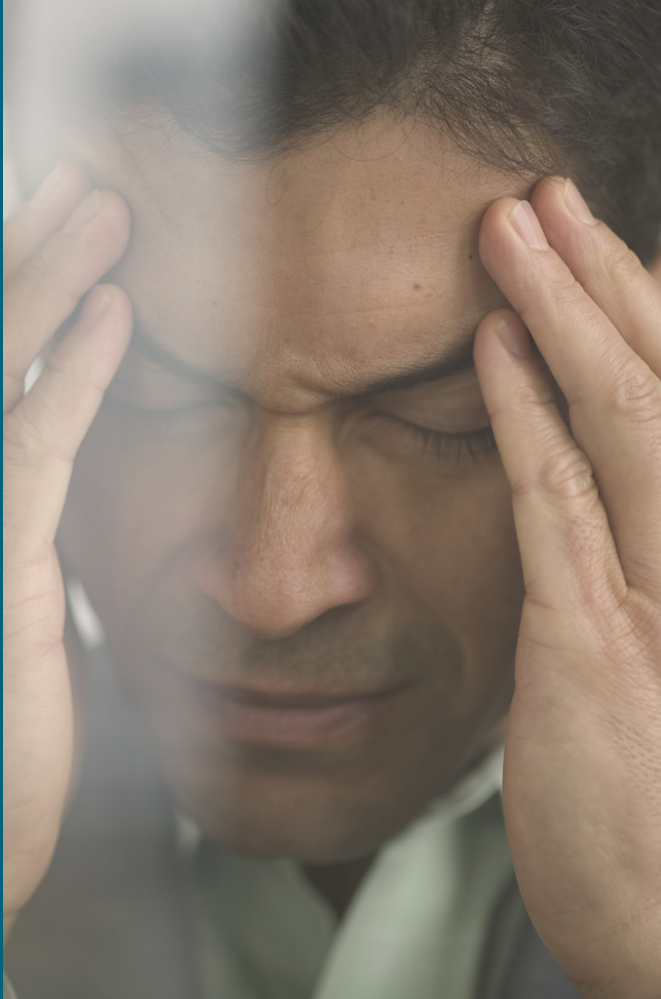


SO, I HAVE A TMDL



NOW WHAT

The Good News

- It **probably** will not be the cause of your death
- You can still pick up a 6-pack at the local liquor store
- Malaria is not yet a concern in Minnesota
- I will be retired by the time we understand exactly what to do about TMDLs



The Bad News

- TMDLs are just another thing I have to do
- I ask people to explain TMDLs and they turn the other way
- This could cost me a lot of money
- They tell me to reduce my pollutant loading, then pat me on the back and say good luck
- Even though I don't know what to do, if I don't do it I might get fined or sued



TMDLs are just another thing I have to do

Federal law requires water bodies meet their intended uses

- Water bodies that do not meet intended uses are out of compliance with the law
- TMDL is the process we use to get back to compliance
- Federal law requires permittees to meet TMDL requirements

- A TMDL will give stormwater a specific pollutant load that it must meet
- If the permittee meets the load, then we assume the water body will meet its intended use
- Permittees have to determine their pollutant loading and if necessary, reduce it by implementing Best Management Practices

Gaining acceptance for TMDLs

- Public education
- Public participation
- Lake associations or other groups
- Watershed districts or WMOs

I ask people about TMDLs and they turn
the other way

Why?

- It is a new program
- It is a confusing program
- We are writing TMDLs even as we struggle with our understanding
- The permitting programs are disconnected from the TMDL program

What can I do about it?

- Get informed
 - Training opportunities
 - MPCA or other outreach
- Get involved
 - Monitoring
 - TMDL stakeholder groups
 - Implementation Plan
- Demand answers

This could cost me a lot of money

Keep costs down

- Develop your stormwater program
 - Fund it
 - Get necessary resources
 - Get necessary legal tools
- Map out your stormwater management efforts
 - Other TMDLs and permit requirements
 - Other requirements
 - Develop a long-term strategy

Get Funding

- Internal funding sources
 - Stormwater utility
 - Taxes
 - General funds
- External funding sources
 - Clean Water State Revolving Fund
 - Clean Water Legacy \$\$
 - 319 Funding

They tell me to reduce my pollutant loading, then pat me on the back and say good luck

Why?

- We don't understand pollutant loading from urban stormwater very well
- We don't understand which BMPs are best
- We don't understand that the infrastructure to meet load requirements is not fully in place

What to do?

- Participate in monitoring efforts
- Support research efforts
- Build your infrastructure and long-term strategy
- Participate in the Implementation Plan process

Even though I don't know what to do,
if I don't do it I might get fined or sued

On the Plus Side

- It is acknowledged that most TMDLs will use an adaptive management approach
- Stormwater infrastructure will take a long time to develop
- New information keeps coming out
- Funding should increase with time

Cautions

- Currently BMPs are considered an acceptable form of effluent limits
- New and expanded discharges
- Must demonstrate progress
- Water quality may not improve for decades

Update on MPCA Efforts

- MS4 mapping tool
- MS4 data management
- Pollutant tracking system
- Outreach
- Training and education
- TMDL policy
- Implementation/stakeholder guidance