Bacteria TMDL Monitoring

Other states are using alternate indicators to address TMDLs. In Maryland, alternate indicators are being used to assist in identifying non-point source pollution and to determine bacterial loadings. Alternate indicators have also been used successfully in Virginia as a component of a TMDL and are being made a component of routine water quality monitoring. Similarly, New Jersey is applying these alternate indicators to develop more meaningful microbial TMDLs. In 2004, for example, the BFBM and BMWM jointly began a statewide bacterial source trackdown study for the Department's TMDL program, using the RNA Coliphage and MAR indicators in addition to the more traditional bacterial indicators. During 2004 and 2005, 152 sites were sampled statewide as part of this study. In 2006 and 2007 an additional 69 sites will be sampled.

