



DC Stench No Longer Metaphorical

February 20, 2026

Matt Walsh says that “one of the worst ecological disasters in American history is currently unfolding. A river of sewage is flowing into the Potomac. When you dig into this story, and who is responsible for it, you start to see why the media doesn’t want to talk about it.”

He’s not wrong, the disaster began January 19th but we’ve heard little about it. On his podcast, [No. 1736](#); Mr. Walsh goes all into a “Diversity, Equity and Inclusion” explanation.

According to *The Daily Wire*’s most socially conservative host, the responsible agencies are filled with hires based not on qualifications or competence or conscientiousness, but based on their color.

He highlights, specifically, two individuals in the current muck:

one, DC Water CEO David L. Gadis, partly responsible for the Flint, Michigan, water crisis, and the other, the current head of DC Water Board of Directors, Dr. Unique N. Morris-Hughes, a doctor in philosophy. Walsh regales us with her inanities and her over-spending on departmental entertainment junkets.

While there may be a detectable odor to Walsh’s relentless critique of hiring blacks, specifically, under DEI, the odor from the Potomac, right now, is *much less* metaphorical.

In between retches, ask the question: Why would there be a general incompetence rising in public utilities *now*?

Is it race as such? Of course not.

Is it DEI putting race over competence? Maybe in part.

But the general trend for a long time has been to put more and more domains of everyday life under direct government control. There’s a principle lost on the Mamdanis of this world: the more tasks set for government to govern, the less capable it becomes to manage even its core tasks. And, as that capacity declines, so goes even the will to bother trying.

Besides, if there is any apter metaphor for Washington, DC, than hundreds of millions of gallons of untreated sewage sloshing into the Potomac ... I can’t think of it.

This is Common Sense. I’m Paul Jacob.