

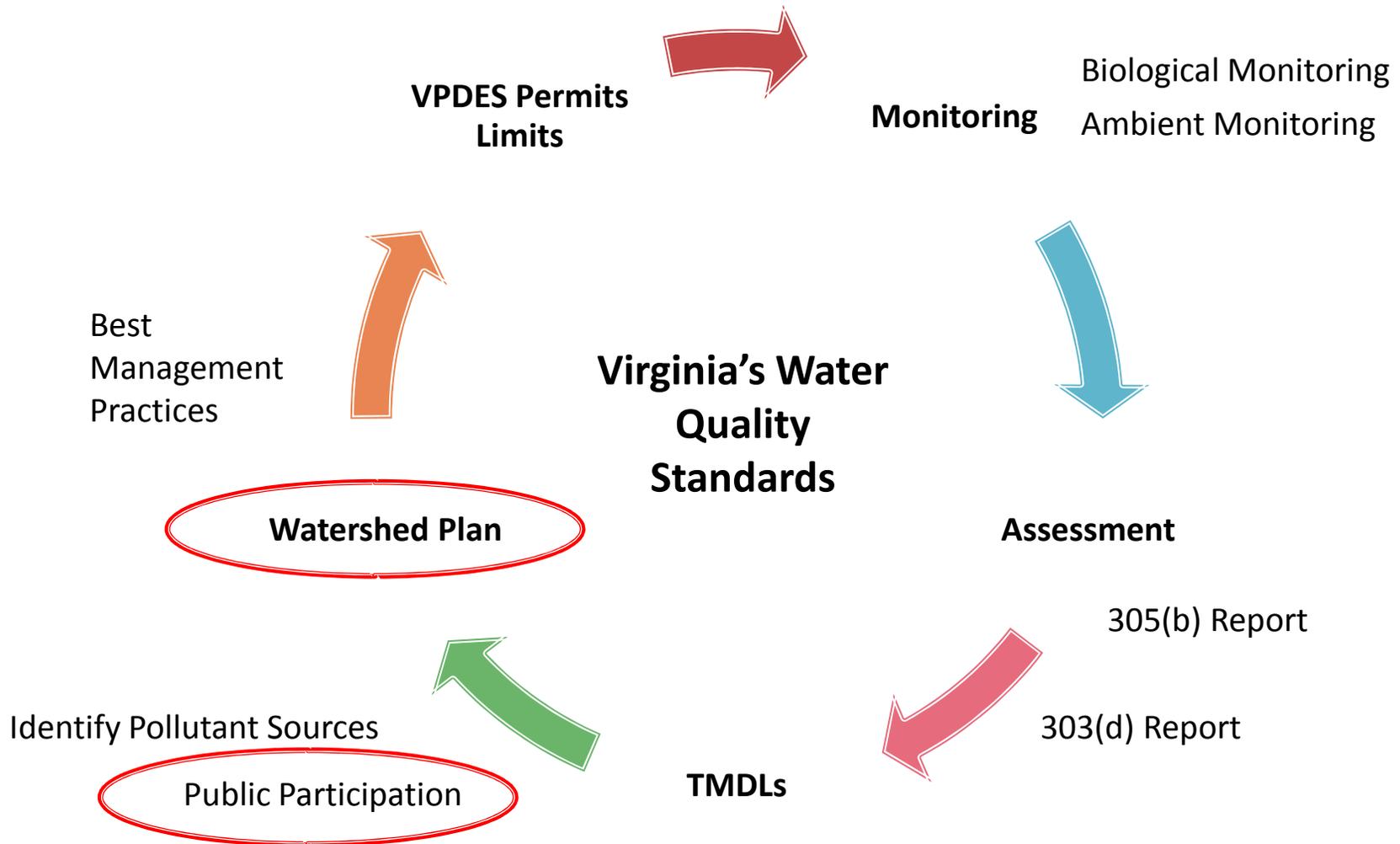
# Planning for Clean Water Clinch River & Cove Creek Watershed

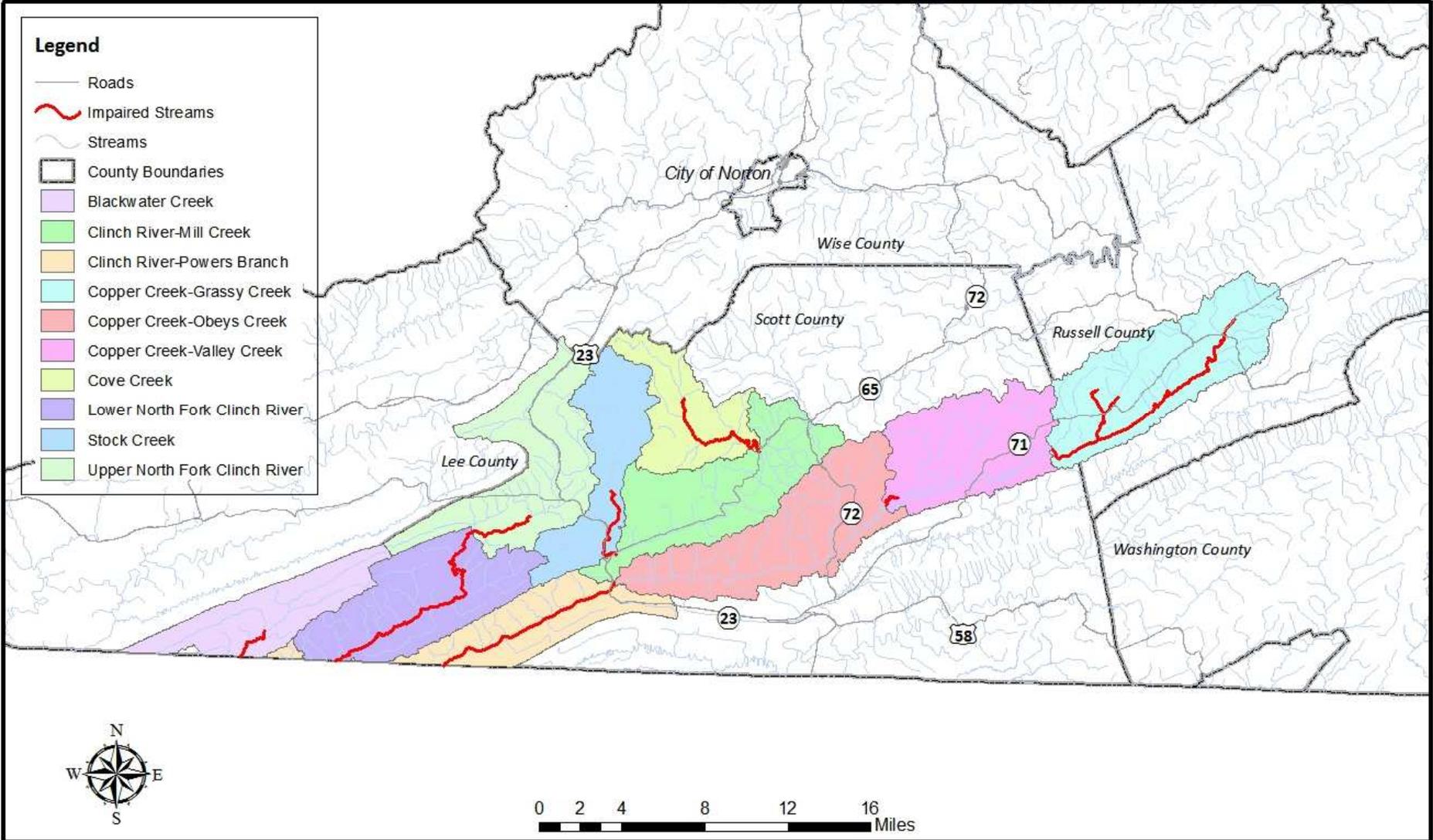
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**March 10, 2016**

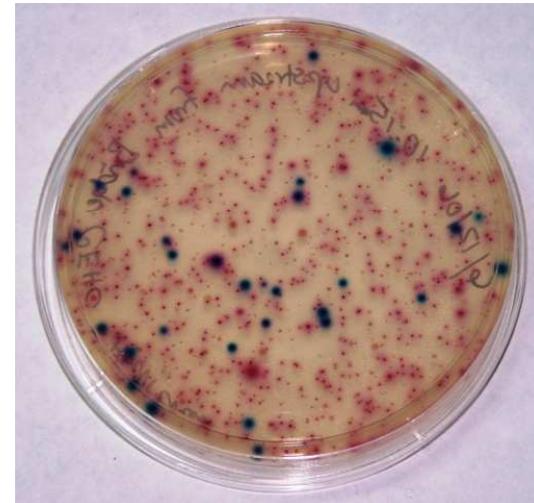
# Why Are We Here?





# Why do we need a plan for clean water?

- Too much *E. coli*
  - Human health concern
  - Indicator of pathogens in the water
  - Impacts on livestock
    - > 50% of cattle diseases in the Mid-Atlantic transmitted through fecal oral pathway



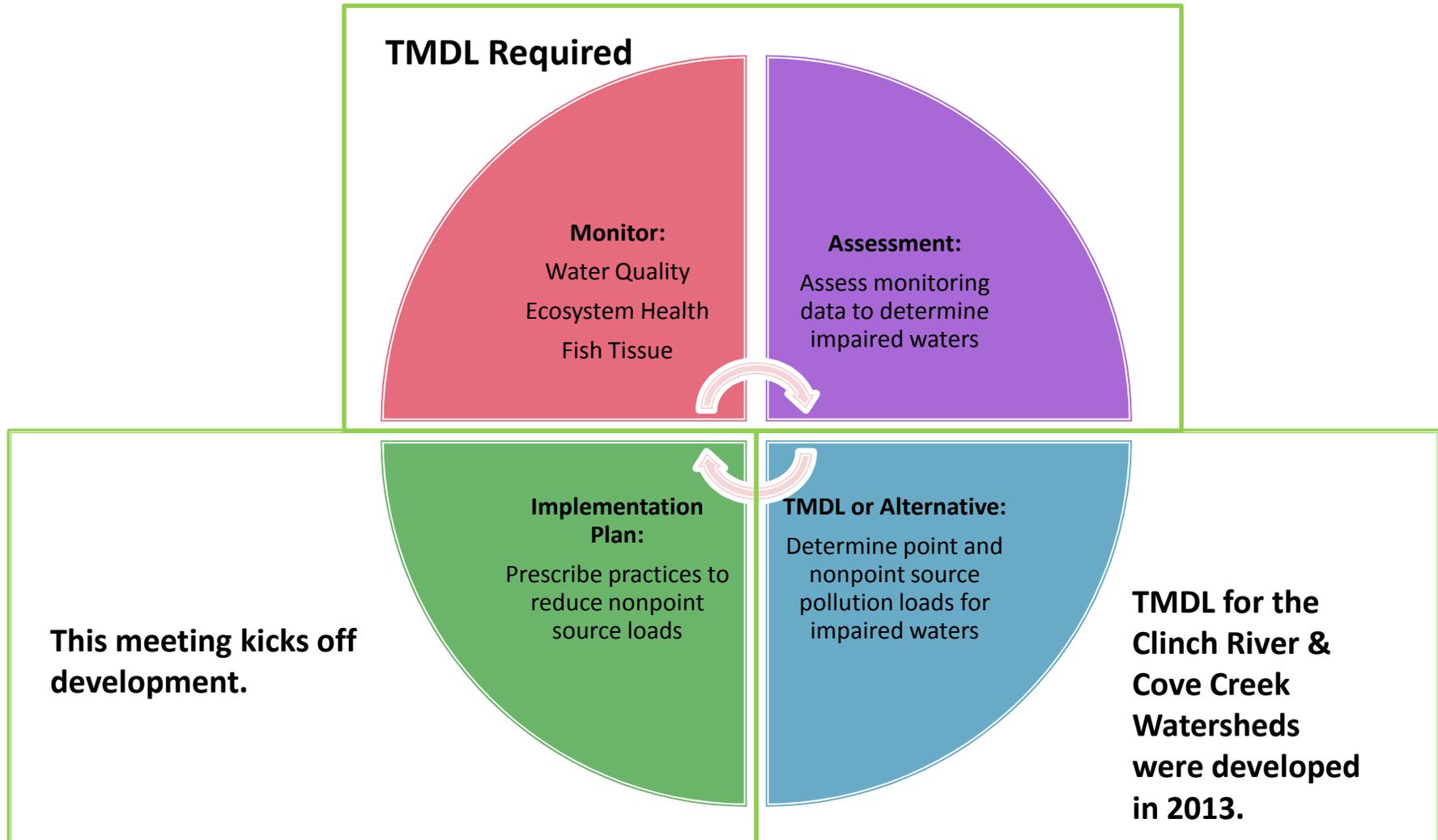
# Where is the bacteria coming from?

- Land sources
  - Cropland runoff
  - Forest runoff
  - Pasture runoff
  - Residential runoff
- Direct sources
  - Livestock in stream
  - Wildlife in stream
  - Straight pipes

# Where are we now?

- TMDL watershed study completed in 2013
- Identified sources of bacteria in the watershed, their contributions, and reductions needed
- This meeting kicks off the development of the clean up plan.
  - Work group meetings
  - Steering committee meetings
  - Final public meeting

# The TMDL Process



# What is a TMDL ?

## Total Maximum Daily Load

$$\text{TMDL} = \text{Sum of WLA} + \text{Sum of LA} + \text{MOS}$$

Where:

TMDL = Total Maximum Daily Load

WLA = Waste Load Allocation (Point Sources)

LA = Load Allocation (Non-point Sources)

MOS = Margin of Safety (Implicit or Explicit)

*A TMDL is the total amount of a certain pollutant that a water body can receive and still not exceed water quality standards.*

# Developing the Plan: Community Involvement

- Importance of *local* input
- Unique solutions
- Opportunities to participate
  - Public meetings
  - Work group meetings
  - Steering committee

# What will go into the plan?

- What's already happening
- What else can be done and who can help do it
- How long will it take
- What kind of a difference will it make in water quality
- How can we pay for it
- How can we get the word out



# Implementing the plan

- Voluntary participation
- Take the time to build relationships and trust
- Incentive-based
- Pursuing funding options
  - Role of the steering committee?
  - Existing funding available through Clinch Valley and Scott County SWCDs and NRCS

# What will be the challenges?

- Paying for the work
- A lot of fencing.....
- Finding straight pipes and failing septic systems
- The wildlife issue
- Working with “the government”
- Can't see bacteria



# What you can contribute as a stakeholder

- General comments
  - Greatest concerns about the creeks?
  - Greatest opportunities with this project?
  - Greatest challenges we will encounter?
- Specific strategies
  - Are there particular management strategies that will work well in the community
  - Are there strategies that should be avoided?
- Recommended outreach activities
- Potential partner organizations

# Questions????

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