

## **DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING**

RICHMOND — The Virginia Department of Environmental Quality will hold a public meeting to present the draft water quality improvement plan for reducing agricultural, residential, and urban sources of fecal bacteria and sediment in Crab Creek (Montgomery County and The Town of Christiansburg) on Tuesday, October 7, 2014. The meeting will be held from 6:00pm to 8:00pm at the Town Hall Building in the Town of Christiansburg at 100 East Main Street.

Segments of Crab Creek do not meet state water quality standards for fecal bacteria (i.e. *E. coli*) and aquatic life. Elevated levels of *E. coli* indicate an increased risk of illness for people who come in contact with water in the affected streams. Identified sources of *E. coli* in these watersheds include failing septic systems, discharges of untreated human waste (i.e. straight pipes), pets, and livestock waste. Low aquatic life scores in Crab Creek are affected by sedimentation and are an indication of reduced water quality. Sediment sources include stream channel erosion, runoff from pastureland and cropland, and stormwater runoff from residential and urban areas.

The public meeting provides an opportunity for citizens and interested parties to ask questions and provide comments on the plan. The meeting will begin a 30-day period during which written public comments on the plan will be accepted. The comment period will close on November 7, 2014.

Questions, information requests, and comments should be addressed to Chris Burcher, Nonpoint Source Pollution Coordinator with the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality at 355-A Deadmore Street, Abingdon, VA 24210; email address: [chris.burcher@deq.virginia.gov](mailto:chris.burcher@deq.virginia.gov); phone # (276) 676-4803.