

The Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) will be hosting an informal conference call to entertain any questions or comments that Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) members may have regarding the results of the 2016 Accotink Creek chloride study and their impact on the Accotink Creek Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) study. Monitoring data collected by DEQ have shown that portions of Accotink Creek and Long Branch (central) do not meet Virginia's water quality standard for aquatic life use due to poor health in the benthic biological communities. Therefore according to the Clean Water Act, a TMDL must be developed to address the pollutants causing this water quality impairment. After a stressor identification analysis was conducted in 2015, chloride was identified as one of the four most probable stressors contributing to the biological impairment. As a result of comments received on the stressor identification analysis, DEQ conducted a 2 month (January-February, 2016) study to evaluate chloride and specific conductivity behavior throughout the Accotink Creek watershed following snow melt events. Because two or more chloride water quality criteria exceedances were observed in each of the three TMDL watersheds, it was decided that chloride TMDLs will be developed for all three watersheds. On April 4th, 2016, the TAC was notified of the study results and conclusions via email. This conference call is an opportunity for TAC members to ask questions or comment on the chloride study and its conclusions. Members of the TAC and the public are invited to attend this conference call. Information on the call can be found below. Questions regarding this informal conference call or the Accotink Creek TMDL study should be directed towards Will Isenberg via the email address or phone number below.

The conference call will be held on May 3rd, 2016 from 9-11am.

Phone number: 712-432-1500

Access code: 425988#

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