

## DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

### Notice of Public Meeting and Public Comment for a Total Maximum Daily Load

#### Study for Banister River in Halifax County

The Virginia Department of Environmental Quality will host a public meeting on a water quality study for the Halifax County streams on **Thursday, November 1, 2012**.

The meeting will start at **7:00 p.m.** in the **Mary Bethune Complex, Bethune Public Meeting Room** located at 1030 Mary Bethune St, Halifax, VA 24558. The purpose of the meeting is to provide information and discuss the study with interested local community members and local government.

Banister River (VAC-L71R\_BAN06A08, VAC-L71R\_BAN04A00, and VAC-L71R\_BAN05A00) was identified in Virginia's Water Quality Assessment Integrated Report as impaired for not supporting the Primary Contact Use. The impairment is based on water quality monitoring data reports of sufficient exceedances of Virginia's water quality standard for bacteria.

Winn Creek (VAC-L71R\_WNN01A06) was identified in Virginia's Water Quality Assessment Integrated Report as impaired for not supporting the Primary Contact Use. The impairment is based on water quality monitoring data reports of sufficient exceedances of Virginia's water quality standard for bacteria.

Gibson Creek (VAC-L71R\_GIB01A08) was identified in Virginia's Water Quality Assessment Integrated Report as impaired for not supporting the Aquatic Life Use. The impairment is based on water quality monitoring data reports of sufficient exceedances of Virginia's water quality standard for dissolved oxygen.

Section 303(d) of the Clean Water Act and §62.1-44.19:7.C of the Code of Virginia, require DEQ to develop TMDLs for pollutants responsible for each impaired water contained in Virginia's 303(d) TMDL Priority List and Report and subsequent Water Quality Assessment Reports.

During the study, DEQ will develop a Total Maximum Daily Load for the impaired water. A TMDL is the total amount of a pollutant a water body can contain and still meet water quality standards. To restore water quality, pollutant levels have to be reduced to the TMDL amount.

The public comment period on materials presented at the Halifax County meeting will extend from November 1, 2012 to December 3, 2012. For additional information or to submit comments, contact Paula Nash, in the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality, Blue Ridge Regional Office, 7705 Timberlake Road, Lynchburg, VA 24502, by phone (434) 582-6216 or by e-mail [paula.nash@deq.virginia.gov](mailto:paula.nash@deq.virginia.gov)