

**ANNOUNCEMENT OF PUBLIC MEETINGS FOR THE INITIATION OF A WATER QUALITY RESTORATION STUDY (TMDL) FOR THE CHICKAHOMINY RIVER - HEADWATERS TO RT. 33 IMPAIRED FOR AQUATIC LIFE USE IN HANOVER AND HENRICO COUNTIES**

PUBLIC MEETING: Twin Hickory Branch Library, 5001 Twin Hickory Road, Glen Allen, Virginia 23059. Thursday, June 7th, 2012 at 2pm and 6pm. Both meetings are open to the public.

PURPOSE OF NOTICE: The Virginia Department of Environmental Quality and consultant, MapTech Inc, are presenting preliminary data for the initiation of a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) study to restore water quality at two public meetings (same content), an opportunity for the public to share their knowledge of the watershed, and a public comment period following the meetings (6/8/12 – 7/9/12).

MEETING DESCRIPTION: Public meetings on a study to restore water quality along the Chickahominy River's headwaters in the jurisdictions mentioned above. The watershed includes the communities of Wyndham, a portion of Short Pump (N. of Broad St.), Meredith Woods, Twin Hickory, and Broad Meadows. Meeting will feature information gathered for the watershed including land use, water quality monitoring, and suspected cause(s) of impairment. Those attending are invited to ask questions and to contribute their knowledge of the watershed. Presentations will be posted following the meetings at:[http://www.deq.virginia.gov/Programs/Water/WaterQualityInformationTMDLs/TMDL/TMDLDevelopment / DocumentationforSelectTMDLs.aspx](http://www.deq.virginia.gov/Programs/Water/WaterQualityInformationTMDLs/TMDL/TMDLDevelopment/DocumentationforSelectTMDLs.aspx)

DESCRIPTION OF STUDY: Virginia agencies have been working to identify the potential cause(s) of the aquatic life use impairment in the waters of the Chickahominy River and in the following waterway:

<b>Stream</b>	<b>County/City</b>	<b>Length (mi.)</b>	<b>Impairment</b>
Chickahominy River	Hanover & Henrico	7.06	Aquatic Life Use

Biologists assess the presence, absence and prevalence of aquatic species, and evaluate stream habitat and water quality to determine a score of overall stream health. The headwaters of the Chickahominy River are impaired for the *Aquatic Life* use based on assessments of the aquatic community which scored poorly. The study will report on the most probable stressor(s) of the aquatic community and will recommend total maximum daily loads, or TMDLs, for the impaired waters based on the determination of most probable stressor(s). A TMDL is the total amount of a pollutant a water body can contain and still meet water quality standards (AKA "pollution diet"). In order to meet standards, pollutants should be reduced to the TMDL amount. DEQ must develop TMDLs for all impaired waterways per the Clean Water Act.

HOW A DECISION IS MADE: The development of a TMDL includes 2 sets of public meetings and comment periods; one to initiate the study and another to present the final draft TMDL report. This meeting is the first for the Chickahominy River headwaters project for aquatic life use. After the final public meeting and all public comments have been considered and addressed, DEQ will submit the TMDL report to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the State Water Control Board for approval.

HOW TO COMMENT: DEQ accepts written comments by e-mail, fax or postal mail. Written comments should include the name, address and telephone number and be received by DEQ during the comment period, which will begin on Friday June 8th and end on Monday July 9, 2012.

*CONTACT FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:*

Name: Margaret Smigo – TMDL Coordinator

Address: VADEQ - Piedmont Regional Office

4949A Cox Road

Glen Allen, VA, 23060

Telephone (804) 527-5124

e-mail [Margaret.Smigo@deq.virginia.gov](mailto:Margaret.Smigo@deq.virginia.gov)

Fax (804)-527-5106