

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING AND PUBLIC COMMENT

PUBLIC MEETING: Forest Library on Tuesday, **August 14, 2012** from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Directions: From Lynchburg: Take 221 South. The Library is located on the left, approximately 2 miles past the Graves Mill shopping center, between Thomas Jefferson Rd. and Two Church Lane. From Bedford: Take 221 North for approximately 15 miles. The Library will be located on the right, between Thomas Jefferson Rd. and Two Church Lane. Address: 15583 Forest Rd. Forest, VA 24551

PURPOSE OF NOTICE: The Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) announces a public meeting to discuss a study to restore water quality in the Little Otter River watershed and the Buffalo Creek watershed.

DESCRIPTION OF STUDY: Virginia agencies are working to identify sources of biological impairment (general standard) in the Little Otter watershed and the Buffalo Creek watershed. DEQ's monitoring data indicates that water quality does not support a natural aquatic invertebrate community.

The following is the "impaired" stream, the length of the impaired segment, location and the reason for the impairment: Johns Creek, 2.13 miles, Bedford City and Bedford County, general standard (aquatic invertebrate community); Little Otter River, 21.62 miles, Bedford City and Bedford County, general standard (aquatic invertebrate community); Wells Creek, 3.78 miles, Bedford County, general standard (aquatic invertebrate community); Buffalo Creek, 8.09 miles, Bedford and Campbell Counties, general standard (aquatic invertebrate community).

DEQ, in cooperation with the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation and other state and local agencies, is developing a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) study for the impaired waters. 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 amount determined during the TMDL study.

HOW TO COMMENT: DEQ accepts written comments by e-mail, fax or postal mail. Written comments should include the name, address and telephone number of the person commenting and be received by September 13, 2012. DEQ also accepts written and oral comments at the public meeting announced in this notice.

CONTACT:

For additional information or to submit comments, contact Mary Dail in the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality Blue Ridge Regional Office by mail: 3019 Peters Creek Road, Roanoke, Virginia, 24019, by phone: 540.562.6715, or by email: mary.dail@deq.virginia.gov.

* Additional information is also available on the DEQ web site at

<http://www.deq.virginia.gov/Programs/Water/WaterQualityInformationTMDLs/TMDL/TMDLDevelopment.aspx>