

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING AND PUBLIC COMMENT

The Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) and the Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) seek written and oral comments from interested persons on the development of Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) and Implementation Plans (IPs) for the Schenks Branch, Meadow Creek, Lodge Creek, and Moores Creek watersheds in the City of Charlottesville and Albemarle County. These streams were listed on the 2006 and 2008 303(d) TMDL Priority List and Report as impaired due to violations of the State's general water quality standard (benthic) for aquatic life. The benthic impairment on Schenks Branch extends 1.138 miles from the headwaters of its tributaries to the Meadow Creek confluence. Meadow Creek is benthically impaired from where it becomes a perennial stream to its confluence with the Rivanna River (4 miles). The benthic impairment on Moores Creek extends 6.377 miles from its confluence with the Ragged Mountain Dam receiving stream downstream to its confluence with the Rivanna River. The Moores Creek watershed includes the tributary locally known as Lodge Creek, which is benthically impaired for 1.57 miles from its headwaters to the confluence with Moores Creek.

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. §62.1-44.19:7.C of the Code of Virginia requires the development of an Implementation Plan (IP) for approved TMDLs. The IP should provide measurable goals and the date of expected achievement of water quality objectives. The IP should also include the corrective actions needed and their associated costs, benefits, and environmental impacts.

The first public meeting on the development of these TMDLs and IPs will be held on **Thursday, March 15, 2012, 6:00 p.m.** at CitySpace on Charlottesville's Downtown Mall (100 5th Street NE, Charlottesville, VA 22902-5230).

The public comment period for the first public meeting will end on April 16, 2012. Written comments should include the name, address, and telephone number of the person submitting the comments and should be sent to Tara Sieber, Department of Environmental Quality, 4411 Early Road, PO Box 3000, Harrisonburg, VA 22801, telephone (540) 574-7870, fax (540) 574-7878, or e-mail tara.sieber@deq.virginia.gov.