

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION & RECREATION
NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

The Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) will host a public meeting to discuss the development of a water quality improvement plan for reducing fecal bacteria contamination in Elk Creek within Grayson County, VA. The purpose of the meeting is to provide an overview of the process for developing the plan and solicit feedback from local stakeholders regarding the residential and agricultural practices that are needed in order to improve water quality.

The public meeting will be held at the Elk Creek Rescue Squad Building located at 9109 Elk Creek Pkwy in Elk Creek, VA on April 11th from 6:30 to 8:30pm.

Fecal bacteria levels in Elk Creek do not meet state water quality standards designed to protect the recreational use (e.g. swimming, wading, kayaking, etc.) of this water body. Due to this water quality impairment, a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) for fecal bacteria has been developed by the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality. A TMDL describes the amount of pollution that a water body can receive and still meet water quality standards. The bacteria TMDL study for Elk Creek was completed in September 2009. The *Bacteria TMDL Development for Elk Creek* study report can be found on DEQ's website at:

<http://www.deq.virginia.gov/portals/0/DEQ/Water/TMDL/apptmdls/newrvr/elkec.pdf>

Section 62.1-44.19:7.C of the Code of Virginia requires the development of a plan for water bodies that have approved TMDLs, that when implemented, will result in the achievement of TMDLs and attainment of water quality standards. The Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation has been authorized to develop water quality improvement plans to implement TMDLs (called a TMDL Implementation Plans or an IP). An IP must provide measurable goals and the date of expected achievement of water quality objectives. An IP must also contain the corrective actions needed and their associated costs, benefits, and environmental impacts.

Questions or information requests should be addressed to Patrick Lizon, TMDL/Watershed Field Coordinator with the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation at 355 Deadmore Street, Abingdon, VA 24210, email address: Patrick.Lizon@dcr.virginia.gov, phone # (276) 676-5529.