

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING AND PUBLIC COMMENT

The Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) seeks written and oral comments from interested persons on the development of a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) Implementation Plan for the Linville Creek watershed in Rockingham County and the Town of Broadway. Linville Creek was first listed as impaired on the Virginia's 303(d) TMDL Priority List and Report due to violations of the State's water quality standard for bacteria and the general water quality standard for aquatic life (benthic impairment) in 1998. The creek has remained on the 303(d) list for these impairments since then. Both impairment designations on Linville Creek begin at the headwaters and extend 13.55 miles to its confluence with the North Fork of the Shenandoah River.

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. In addition, Section 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. Bacteria and benthic TMDLs were completed by DEQ for Linville Creek in March 2003, and were approved by the Environmental Protection Agency in September 2003. The TMDL report is available for review on the DEQ website at:

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

Development of the TMDL implementation plan began in November, 2012.

The second and final public meeting on the development of this TMDL implementation plan will be held on **Wednesday, August 21, 2013, from 7 - 9 p.m.** at Linville Edom Ruritan Hall, 3752 Linville Edom Rd, Linville, VA 22834. The implementation plan will be available on the DEQ website the day after the meeting for public comment:

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

The public comment period for the Implementation Plan will end on September 20, 2013. Written comments should include the name, address, and telephone number of the person submitting the comments and should be sent to Nesha McRae, Department of Environmental Quality, PO Box 3000, Harrisonburg, VA 22801, telephone (540) 574-7850, fax (540) 574-7878, or e-mail nesha.mcrae@deq.virginia.gov.