

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
Notice of Final Public Meeting and Public Comment for Total Maximum
Daily Load Studies in the Cities of Virginia Beach and Chesapeake

The Virginia Department of Environmental Quality will host the final public meeting on water quality studies for several creeks located in the Cities of Virginia Beach and Chesapeake on Tuesday **October 22, 2013**.

The meeting will start at **6:30 p.m. at Creeds Ruritan Barn - Virginia Beach Farm Bureau Office** located at 1057 Princess Anne Rd., Virginia Beach. The purpose of the meeting is to provide information and discuss the outcome of the study with interested local community members and local government.

Beggars Bridge Creek, Upper and Lower Hell Point Creek, Muddy Creek, Lower Ashville Bridge Creek, Pocatoy River, and Middle North Landing River were identified in Virginia's Water Quality Assessment and Integrated Report as impaired for not supporting the Primary Contact Use. The impairment is based on water quality monitoring data reports of sufficient exceedances of Virginia's water quality standard for bacteria.

Pocatoy River and Lower Ashville Bridge Creek were identified in Virginia's Water Quality Assessment and Integrated Report as impaired for not supporting the Aquatic Life Use. The impairment is based on water quality monitoring data reports of sufficient violations of Virginia's water quality standard for dissolved oxygen. Lower Ashville Bridge Creek is also impaired for not supporting the Aquatic Life Use due to violations of the pH water quality standard.

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 and subsequent Water Quality Assessment Reports.

During the study, Total Maximum Daily Loads were developed 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 TMDL amount.

The public comment period on materials presented at this meeting will extend from October 23, 2013 to November 21, 2013. For additional information or to submit comments, contact Jennifer Howell, in the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality, Tidewater Regional Office, 5636

Southern Blvd, Virginia Beach VA 23462, by phone (757) 518-2111 or by e-mail jennifer.howell@deq.virginia.gov.

* Additional information is also available on the DEQ web site at www.deq.virginia.gov/tmdl.