

Announcement of Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) studies to restore water quality in the bacteria impaired waters of Sugarland Run, Mine Run, Pimmit Run, Powells Creek, Quantico Creek, South Fork Quantico Creek, North Branch Chopawamsic Creek, Unnamed Tributary to the Potomac River, Austin Run, Accokeek Creek, Potomac Creek, and Potomac Run.

PURPOSE OF NOTICE: The Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) announces the release of two revised draft Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) reports on the Potomac River tributaries to members of the community for review and comment.

DESCRIPTION OF STUDY: Portions of the following streams have been identified as impaired on the Clean Water Act §303(d) list for not supporting Virginia’s water quality recreational use standard due to exceedances of the bacteria criterion:

Waterbody Name	Watershed Location	Segment Size	Cause	Segment Description
Sugarland Run	Fairfax County Loudoun County Town of Herndon	0.95 miles	Escherichia coli	Segment begins at the confluence with Folly Lick Branch, at approximately rivermile 5.75, and continues downstream until the boundary of the PWS designation area, at rivermile 4.82.
Sugarland Run	Fairfax County Loudoun County Town of Herndon	4.77 miles	Escherichia coli	Segment begins at the boundary of the PWS designation area, at rivermile 4.82, and continues downstream until the confluence with the Potomac River.
Mine Run	Fairfax County	0.93 miles	Escherichia coli	Segment begins at the confluence with an unnamed tributary to Mine Run, approximately 0.5 rivermile upstream from River Bend Road, and continues downstream until the confluence with the Potomac River.
Pimmit Run	Arlington County Fairfax County	1.62 miles	Escherichia coli	Segment begins at the confluence with Little Pimmit Run, approximately 0.1 rivermile downstream from Route 695, and continues downstream until the confluence with the Potomac River.
Pimmit Run	Arlington County Fairfax County	2.46 miles	Escherichia coli	Segment begins at the Route 309 bridge crossing, at rivermile 4.16, and continues downstream until the confluence with Little Pimmit Run, approximately 0.1 rivermile downstream from Route 695.
Pimmit Run	Arlington County Fairfax County	3.29 miles	Escherichia coli	Segment begins at the headwaters of Pimmit Run, approximately 0.12 rivermile upstream from Route 7, and continues downstream until the Route 309 bridge crossing, at rivermile 4.16.

<b>Waterbody Name</b>	<b>Watershed Location</b>	<b>Segment Size</b>	<b>Cause</b>	<b>Segment Description</b>
Powells Creek	Prince William County	4.62 miles	Escherichia coli	Segment begins approximately 0.2 rivermiles below Lake Montclair and continues downstream until the end of the free-flowing waters of Powells Creek.
Quantico Creek	Prince William County Town of Dumfries	1.45 miles	Escherichia coli	Segment begins at the confluence with South Fork Quantico Creek, approximately 0.75 rivermile upstream from I-95, and continues downstream until the start of the tidal waters of Quantico Bay.
South Fork Quantico Creek	Prince William County Town of Dumfries	4.63 miles	Escherichia coli	Segment begins at the headwaters of the South Fork Quantico Creek and continues downstream until the start of the impounded waters, adjacent to what is labeled as Mawavi Camp No 2 on the Joplin quad.
North Branch Chopawamsic Creek	Stafford County Prince William County	6.9 miles	Escherichia coli	Segment begins at the headwaters of North Branch Chopawamsic Creek and continues downstream until the confluence with Middle Branch.
Unnamed Tributary to the Potomac River	Stafford County	2.9 miles	Escherichia coli	Segment begins at the headwaters of the unnamed tributary and continues downstream until its confluence with the Potomac River.
Austin Run	Fauquier County Stafford County	0.79 miles	Fecal Coliform	Segment begins at the confluence with an unnamed tributary to Austin Run (streamcode XGQ) and continues downstream until the confluence with Aquia Creek.
Accokeek Creek	Stafford County	4.21 miles	Escherichia coli	Segment begins at the confluence with an unnamed tributary to Accokeek Creek (rivermile 8.62), approximately 0.33 rivermile downstream from Route 1, and continues downstream until the end of the free-flowing waters.
Potomac Creek	Stafford County	2.18 miles	Escherichia coli	Segment begins at the railroad crossing at the west end of swamp, upstream from Route 608, and continues downstream until the east end of swamp.
Potomac Run	Stafford County	6.13 miles	Escherichia coli	Segment begins at the headwaters of Potomac Run and continues downstream until the confluence with Long Branch.

Virginia agencies have worked to identify the sources of bacteria contamination in these stream segments. During this study, DEQ developed a total maximum daily load, or a TMDL, for each of the impaired stream

segments. A TMDL is the total amount of a pollutant a water body can receive and still meet water quality standards. To restore water quality, pollutant levels have to be reduced to the TMDL allocated amount.

In February of 2012, DEQ held public meetings and released the draft TMDL reports for two Bacteria TMDL studies involving tributaries to the Potomac River. Those TMDL reports were:

1. Bacteria TMDL for Tributaries to the Potomac River: Sugarland Run, Mine Run, and Pimmit Run
2. Bacteria TMDL for Tributaries to the Potomac River: Prince William and Stafford Counties. The impaired streams included in this report were Powells Creek, Quantico Creek, North Branch Chopawamsic Creek, South Fork Quantico Creek, Unnamed Tributary to the Potomac River, Austin Run, Accokeek Creek, Potomac Creek, and Potomac Run

During the public comment period for these reports, DEQ received comments on both projects. Because of those comments, DEQ decided to pursue several changes to the TMDLs. The changes involved revising the water quality models to incorporate changes to pet loading assumptions and to the distribution of wildlife loadings, as well as accounting for reported sanitary sewer overflow loadings. Additionally, the revised reports include updated urban area information as defined by the 2010 US Census.

HOW TO COMMENT: The public comment period on the revised draft of the TMDL reports will extend from July 1, 2013 to July 31, 2013. 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 DEQ during the comment period. Please send all comments to the contact listed below.

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