

# **Browns Run, Craig Run and Marsh Run TMDL Implementation Plan Development**

Tuesday, May 4, 2010

Cedar Lee Middle School, Bealeton, Virginia

## **Residential Working Group Meeting Summary**

### **Attendance:**

Jenny Biche	Oscar Garcia	Bob Slusser
Rich Buchanan	John Green	Whitney Wright
Toni Buchanan	Emma Johnson	
Deirdre Clark	Charles Lunsford	
Katie Conaway	Jennifer O'Reilly	

### **Overview**

- ✦ Virginia Department of Health:
  - Assists in identifying failing septic systems, straight pipes and alternative treatment systems;
  - Administers cost share programs to pump out, repair or replace septic systems;
  - Maintains records of sewage disposal permits;
  - Assists homeowners in locating septic systems; and
  - Can provide information on the proper installation and function of all systems.
- ✦ Septic System Concerns:
  - Updated information needed is to determine the number of failing septic systems in the watershed;
  - Significant changes in land use and population have occurred in these watersheds since the TMDL study was completed;
  - Technical adequacy of private sector inspectors was questioned;
  - Agency cutbacks have impacted the availability of government staff; and
  - Alternative systems:
    - Costly to install, expensive to maintain, and often mechanically complex; and
    - Media disposal sites difficult to find and few in number

### **Education/ Outreach**

- ✦ Homeowners
  - Need assistance in locating septic systems;
  - Should be educated in the function, proper use and maintenance of residential septic systems;
    - Pumping required every 5 years in Fauquier County; and
    - Education needed on the proper use of fertilizers and impacts of excessive application.
- ✦ Proper pet waste management education is needed:
  - Consider ordinance to require proper management
  - Encourage Home Owners' Associations, veterinarians, kennels, hunt clubs and pet stores to promote proper pet waste management by providing information on the benefits of the following:
    - Pet waste composters for homeowners;
    - Collection kiosks on walking trails and in parks; and
    - Basic clean-up plans on public and private properties.

### **Water Quality**

- Characteristics of the public water supply concerns residents:
  - Unpleasant odor and taste;
  - Discoloration of laundry and bath fixtures;
  - Residents have investigated possibility of whole home filters; and
  - Residents encouraged to contact Fauquier County Water and Sewer Authority to discuss problems in detail
- Amount of bacteria generated by different animals can help prioritize target areas when looking for solutions to reduce bacteria concentrations.