

Rush River, Hughes River, and Hazel River TMDL Implementation Plan Development

Residential Working Group Meeting Summary

November 18th, 2008

Attendance:

- The following individuals were present: Tim Bondelid, May Sligh, Ted Bullard, BJ Valentine, Bob Slusser, Ron Makela, Jan Makela, Kaye Kohler and Deirdre Clark

Overview

- Confined canine facilities were discussed
 - Information was requested regarding how facilities such as veterinary offices and SPCAs are currently handling waste. This request will be brought to the attention of the Government Working Group.
 - Hunt kennel facilities often spread the waste on fields
 - Foxhunter Association and Horse Country Database may help locate facilities within the TMDL IP watershed
 - Pet waste management stations recommended for locations such as The Link in Sperryville and the park in Washington
 - Outreach information on proper pet waste management could be distributed at vet offices, the SPCA, dog license packets, etc
 - Different systems were discussed
 - Traditional septic systems, composting, decomposition with enzyme additives
- Septic System Problems
 - Lack of statewide pump-out requirements
 - Information was requested regarding pump-out requirements in Culpeper, Madison or Rappahannock counties. This concern will be brought to the attention of the Government Working Group.
 - Require pump-outs at time of sale of property?
 - Question of inspector certification
 - Attending realtors were skeptical of adequacy of current inspection protocols
 - Termite inspectors are conducting septic system inspections
 - Waste haulers could be contacted to find gaps or provide more data
- Alternative systems are costly
 - Soils in the TMDL IP area may limit the use of standard septic systems
 - Cost-share to include alternative systems, repair and pump-out

Education/ Outreach

- There is a lack of information on drainfield and septic tank location on individual properties
 - It was suggested to work with local and state Board of Realtors to establish requirements to include septic system information, such as location and function, in all applicable real-estate transactions
 - Realtors could distribute septic system management pamphlets
- Septic system education
 - Integration of information into school curricula.
 - Include within programs presented by local soil and water conservation districts
- Promotion of better understanding of grey water and water re-use

Cost-Share/ Potential Funding Sources

- Cost-share program concerns to be researched by the Government Working Group
 - Will the program include mapping the septic system location with a copy provided to the landowner?
 - Prevent future damage (tree planting, vehicle movement, etc)
 - In order to determine the success of improvements to residential waste treatment systems, will stream monitoring continue to be conducted by DEQ? If so, for how long?
- Funding
 - There is more money for agricultural practices and less for residential purposes

- A recent EPA Environmental Education Grant (RFP-EPA-EE-09-02 <http://www07.grants.gov/search/search.do?&mode=VIEW&flag2006=false&oppId=43316>) could provide opportunities for realtors to develop informational materials and for programs to be developed for students.
- Other potential funding sources during the 5 yr. implementation phase:
 - Water Quality Improvement Fund
 - National Fish & Wildlife Foundation
 - Community Foundation
 - Chesapeake Bay Foundation