

**Chuckatuck and Brewers Creeks TMDL Implementation Plan Development
Public Meeting March 6, 2014**

Location: The CE & H Ruritan Hall, 8881 Eclipse Drive Suffolk, Virginia

Start: [6:30 PM]

End: [8:30 PM]

Meeting Attendees:

Name	Affiliation	Address	Work Group (Ag., Res., Gov.)
Brian Alperin	City of Suffolk	441 Market Street, Suffolk, VA., 23434	Gov.
Mike Lane	Lane Environmental Consultants	1200 Babbtown Road, Suffolk, VA., 23434.	Ag
Byron Carmeon	NRPA	3616 Labrador Ln, Suffolk, VA., 23434	Non-profit
Ed Milley	NRPA	1416 Bridge Road, Suffolk, VA., 23434	Res.
Kim Hummel	Isle of Wright	P.O. Box 80, Isle of Wight, VA., 23397	Gov.
George Winslow	Carrollton/ Isle of Wight	23481 Owen Farm Road, Carrollton, VA 23314	Res.
Ram Gupta	DEQ-CO	629 E. Main St., Richmond VA.,	Gov.
Sherry Earley	City of Suffolk	440 Market Street, Suffolk, VA., 23434	Gov.
Erin Roundtree	City of Suffolk	440 Market Street, Suffolk, VA., 23434	Gov.
Art Kirkby	DCR	1549 A Holland Rd. Suffolk, VA., 23434	Gov.
Chuck Griffin	Peanut SWCD	203 Wimbledon Smithfield, VA., 23430	Gov.
Joseph Barlow	Landowner	P.O. Box 2116 Suffolk VA., 23434	Res.
Shelley Barlow	Landowner	P.O. Box 2116 Suffolk VA, ., 23434	Res.
Keith Pope	Landowner	7105 Crittendan Rd, Suffolk, VA, 23185	Res.
Albert Moor	City of Suffolk	1258 Holland Rd., Suffolk, VA., 23434	Gov.
Roger Fawcett	City of Suffolk	411 Market Street, Suffolk, VA., 23434	Gov-Council
Michael Reiss	NRPA	6444 Bridleway, Norfolk, 23578	Non-profit
Jim Winter	SWGA	8921 River Crescent, Suffolk VA 23435	
Roy Pope	Homeowner	7105 Crittendan Rd, Suffolk VA, 23185	Res.
Lynn Pope	Homeowner	7105 Crittendan Rd, Suffolk VA, 23185	Res.
Jamie Brunkow	James River Association	1201 Jamestown Rd. Williamsburg, VA 23185	Non-profit
Wayne Sawyer	Bennett's Creek Nursery	17497 Benns Church Blvd., Smithfield VA., 23430	Bus.
Matthew Sawyer	Bennett's Creek	17497 Benns Church Blvd., Smithfield VA.,	Bus.

	Nursery	23430	
Robert Black	Bennett's Creek Nursery	17497 Benns Church Blvd., Smithfield VA., 23430	Bus.
Jay Duell	VDH	135 Hall Ave., Suffolk, VA 23434	Gov.
Robert Johnson	Homeowner	5988 Bennetts Creek Ln., Suffolk, VA., 23423	Res.
Elizabeth Taraski	NRPA	P.O Box. 6090 Suffolk VA., 23433	Non-profit
Tausha Fanslan	Environmental Science	3604 Old Spice Ct. Chesapeake VA., 23321	Bus.

I. Agenda Item: Purpose of Meeting –What is an Implementation Plan? - DEQ

- 1. Discussion:** A power point presentation was utilized to explain the purpose of the meeting and demonstrate how and why the original TMDL documents were developed for the watersheds studied. The power point also provided a detail review of the TMDL Implementation Plan development process and the various roles that the stakeholders can play in the development process.
- 2. Discussion:** DEQ discussed how changes in the Virginia Health Department sampling techniques will affect the required reduction from the various potential sources of bacteria.
- 3. Discussion:** Introduce the purpose of the various work groups and explain how these groups will help direct the TMDL implementation plan.

Question received during this presentation are provided below.

Q: Is there shellfish to harvest in the creeks?

Response: Historically the fishery supported several watermen and today many watermen from around the state harvest oysters near the mouth of Chuckatuck Creek.

Q: Where are the locations of the VDH monitoring stations?

Response: A map showing the locations of the monitoring stations was projected for the audience to view.

II. Agenda Item: Form Residential and Agriculture work groups and begin discussing possible BMPs, suitable restoration sites, and constraints to BMP implementation in the watershed.

Note: The group did not want to split up during the breakout session and remained as a single mixed agriculture/residential work group.

***Comments from the combined residential/agriculture work group are provided below.

Septic Tank Identification and Management

- Can we use soil maps for the region to determine the locations of poorly drained soils where septic systems are most likely to fail?
Response: This seems like a reasonable idea to begin identifying potential areas to implement BMPs.
- Can we use recently produced flood maps to identify area where septic systems are likely to fail from high water tables or during flood events.
Response: Again this idea seems like a reasonable way to identify potential areas to implement BMPs.
- Can we use historical imagery or county records to compare the age of residents/communities to determine where older septic systems in need of maintenance/pump out/replacement may exist?
Response: Local governments indicated that some of this information is available and historical aerial imagery can be viewed on goggle earth. This information can also be used to identify the density of the neighborhoods to determine if a scoop the poop campaign is necessary or will be successful.

4. Where is the city sewer system available in the watershed?
Response: Suffolk government officials provided a general description of the location of the city sewage line, and discussed the limitation and barriers to add more sewage lines to rural communities (Expensive).
5. Geese and waterfowl population seem to be growing. What can we do about this problem?
Response: DEQ recognizes that wildlife population are an issue, but we choose to manage bacteria from human and domestic animal population first because these sources are easier to manage and more cost efficient. If we successfully reduce bacteria from human and domestic animal sources and the waters are still impaired we will then look at activities to manage wildlife populations. Handouts to manage wildlife populations were provided.
6. Several sewage lines cross the river. Are these sources of bacteria and what kind of maintenance/inspection do the sewage line receive?
Response: Suffolk government officials report that these lines are relatively young and functioning properly will not be a source of bacteria. The lines have a regular inspection/ maintenance schedule.
7. How can we best educate the public about septic system maintenance/repairs?
Response: Currently occurring. HRGreen educational materials are being distributed in the watershed.
8. When septic systems are pump out, are the systems inspected? Are the residences required to repair malfunctioning systems?
Response: The VDH is not informed if the system is malfunction by the pump out company and the systems are not thoroughly inspected. The local VDH does have a record of all permitted septic system installed since the 1960's.
9. When is it appropriate to use conventional vs alternative septic systems?
Response: This depends on the soil type and the soil wetness. Very site specific.
10. Does the Isle of Wight County or City of Suffolk have a current septic pump out program?
Response: Yes residence are required to pump out there septic systems once every five years. Both Suffolk and Isle of Wight indicated that there is a data base of septic pump outs in the region.
11. How is the locations where sewage line are located determined?
Response: HRSD determines this based on population density and need.

Pet Waste Management

12. Urban vs Rural Pet waste
Response: The group opinion leaned towards focusing on the pet waste management in the urban portions of the watershed. This is where we are most likely to find higher density of pets. HRGreen has a variety of education material available and there are grant available for installing new pet waste stations.
13. Can we use realtors to distribute pet waste educational materials?
Response: This seemed like a reasonable idea to the work group.
14. Comments: Veterinary clinic, a mailer for city pet licenses, and homeowner associations would be a good way to reach the general public with scoop the poop information.

Livestock/Horses

15. Most large animals in the watershed are "pet" horses. Are there currently any horse owners practicing BMP.
Response: Yes a couple horse owners have consulted with the Peanut SWCD to develop waste management plans. Generally stable horses and boarding houses that generate large piles of manure are more concerning than horses left to pasture.
16. Should a local ordinance be established to manage horse manure (at boarding houses, ect.)
Response: No, this does not seem necessary. An education program is preferable.
17. Are there any other farm animals in the watershed?
Response: Yes, two farms have cattle in the headwaters of Chuckatuck Creek. The description of the conditions of these two farms seems like they would benefit from BMP practices.

Boating/Marinas

18. Should we establish a boat No Discharge Zone in the creeks?

Response: The topic is worth a discussion, but there is very limited boat pump out station in the watershed. These stations should be updated and/or new stations should be created prior to establishing a NDZ. There is grant funding available to assist with this endeavor.

Communication/Advertising

19. What is the best way to advertise these meetings to the public?

Response: Suffolk and Isle of Wight Cable Stations, HRGreen Ads., Extension Agents, Local Churches, Civic Leagues, Local Festivals – Bennett's Creek Park

20. The next meeting will be set up via a doodle poll to be sent out by email to the work group.