

# Catoctin Creek Scenic River Advisory Committee

---

## Meeting Minutes – May 9, 2022

**Committee Members:** Joan Linhardt, David Ward, David Nelson, Bruce Johnson, Patti Psaris, Carol Matheny (Present); Eleanor Adams (Absent)

**Guests:** Maura Walsh-Copeland, Claire Matheny and Carl Scheider (Waterford Foundation)

**Location:** Lovettsville Library, 12 North Light Street, Lovettsville, Virginia 20180

**Call to order:** 6:05 PM

*Development Projects:* None were discussed.

### *Extending the Scenic Designation:*

The Scenic River program requirements appear in several places on their web page.

The “Guide to Citizen Involvement in the Scenic River Designation Process” an overview of the steps.

<https://www.dcr.virginia.gov/recreational-planning/document/srcitguide.pdf>

There are several criteria which must be evaluated:

- Stream corridor vegetation
- Streambed or stream flow modifications
- Human development of visual corridor
- Historic Features
- Landscape
- Quality of fishery
- Additional natural features such as rare, threatened or endangered species
- Water quality
- Parallel roads
- Crossings
- Special features affecting aesthetics
- Recreational access
- Significant permanent protection (land conservation)

<https://www.dcr.virginia.gov/recreational-planning/document/sr-eval.pdf>

<https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/35911cb5e74b495d9bb189b30f4987cf>

Before a river or river segment can be designated, DCR staff must conduct a study to determine if it qualifies for scenic river status. For a river segment to be studied, it must:

- Be at least 5 miles long.
- Be publically accessible or listed in a standard canoeing guide.
- Have identifiable start and end points.

<https://www.dcr.virginia.gov/recreational-planning/document/scenrivbro.pdf>

Bruce Johnson will request example of other submission for extension such as

<https://www.dcr.virginia.gov/recreational-planning/document/srlist.pdf>

The scenic river designation process considers the perceived remoteness of the river corridor. Because many of Virginia’s rivers were major transportation routes, roads often followed the rivers. How

## Catoctin Creek Scenic River Advisory Committee

---

visible the roads are is key to a high rating in the parallel roads category.

*Loudoun County Zoning Re-Write:* Maura Walsh-Copeland provided a detailed presentation on the Zoning rewrite process and how the Scenic River Committee can engage in the process. She has assembled numerous resources and documents at the Loudoun Coalition website.

<https://loudouncoalition.org/zoning-committee/2022-zor-review/> The committee should pay attention to the new River and Stream Corridor Resource management areas. Comments (email, online or webform) are due July 18, 2022.

*Other:* Waterford 2033 - Waterford Citizens Association, in partnership with the Waterford Foundation, is launching a Vision and Community Planning effort. Extension of Scenic River designation may be important to this effort.

**Next meeting:** June 6, 2022

**Adjourn:** 7:35 PM