

## DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

### NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING AND PUBLIC COMMENT - CLEANUP PLAN

**PURPOSE OF NOTICE:** The Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) seeks public comment on the development of a cleanup plan for impaired waters, also known as an Implementation Plan (IP), for the North Fork Rivanna watershed in Albemarle and Greene County, Virginia. These streams are listed as impaired since monitoring data indicates that the waters do not meet Virginia's water quality standards for bacteria and aquatic life (benthic). Section 303(d) of the Clean Water Act and §62.1-44.19:7.C of the State Water Control Law requires DEQ to develop cleanup studies to address pollutants responsible for causing waters to be on Virginia's 303(d) list of impaired waters. Once a cleanup study is developed, Section §62.1-44.19:7 of the State Water Control Law outlines the requirements needed in a cleanup plan to address the pollutants contained in the study.

DEQ is developing a cleanup plan to identify the actions necessary to address the water quality impairment in the North Fork Rivanna River watershed. DEQ will introduce the community to the process used to develop the plan and invite the public to contribute to the plan by participating in IP Community Engagement Meetings. Persons interested in participating should notify the DEQ contact person and provide their name, address, phone number, email address, and the organization they represent (if any). The proposed cleanup plan will explain the pollutant reductions needed to meet the targets contained in both the benthic (2020) and bacteria (2009) TMDL report prepared for the watershed. The plan will also recommend a specific set of voluntary best management practices (BMPs) for agricultural lands, residential septic systems, pet waste, and urban practices to reduce both bacteria and sediment from entering area streams. It will also include associated costs and a timeline of the expected achievement of water quality objectives.

**CLEANUP PLAN LOCATION:** The cleanup plan addresses the following impaired stream segments: Blue Run from the headwaters downstream to its confluence with Swift Run (8.72 mi) for failure to meet the general standard for aquatic life (benthic); Marsh Run from the headwaters downstream to its confluence with the North Fork Rivanna River (3.65 mi) for failure to support aquatic life; Preddy Creek is impaired for failing to support aquatic life and for exceedance in *E. coli* from the headwaters downstream to its confluence with the North Fork Rivanna River (7.48 mi); Preddy Creek North Branch is impaired from the headwaters downstream to its confluence with Preddy Creek (6.24 mi) for failing to support aquatic life and for exceedance in *E. coli*; Quarter Creek is impaired for 1.58 miles of its length from the dam outfall at Jonquil Road downstream to its confluence with Swift Run for failing to support aquatic life; the North Fork Rivanna River is listed as impaired for a total length of 7.33 miles from the confluence of the Lynch River downstream to the Rivanna Water and Sewer Authority North Fork Rivanna River Public Water Intake for failing to meet aquatic life use; the North Fork Rivanna River is also listed as impaired for an exceedance in *E. coli* for 3.98 miles from the public water intake to the confluence of the Rivanna River; Standardsville Run and its tributaries are listed as impaired for failure to meet standards for aquatic life from the headwaters downstream to the confluence with Blue Run (5.71 mi); Swift Run is impaired for failing to support aquatic life and for exceedance in *E. coli* for 1.91 miles from its confluence with Welsh Run downstream to its confluence with the North Fork Rivanna River; and the unnamed tributary to Flat Branch (X-trib to Flat Branch) is impaired from its headwaters downstream to its confluence with Flat Branch (2.03 mi) for failing to support aquatic life.

PUBLIC MEETING: 222 Main Street, the PVCC Eugene Giuseppe Center in Standardsville, Virginia 22973 on September 20<sup>th</sup>, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. In the event of inclement weather, the meeting will be held on September 27<sup>th</sup>, 2023, at the same time and location stated above.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD: September 20, 2023, to October 20, 2023.

HOW TO COMMENT: DEQ accepts written comments by e-mail, fax, or postal mail. All comments must be received by DEQ during the comment period. Submittals must include the name, organization they represent (if any), mailing addresses, and telephone numbers of the commenter/requester.

CONTACT FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS, DOCUMENT REQUESTS AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Madison Whitehurst; Central Office, 1111 E Main St. Suite 1400, Richmond, Virginia 23219; Valley Regional Office, 4411 Early Road, Harrisonburg, Virginia 22801. Phone: (804) 489-8796; E-mail: [madison.whitehurst@deq.virginia.gov](mailto:madison.whitehurst@deq.virginia.gov); Fax: 804-698-4178. Information about this plan will be posted here throughout the development process: <https://www.deq.virginia.gov/our-programs/water/water-quality/implementation/implementation-plans-under-development>.