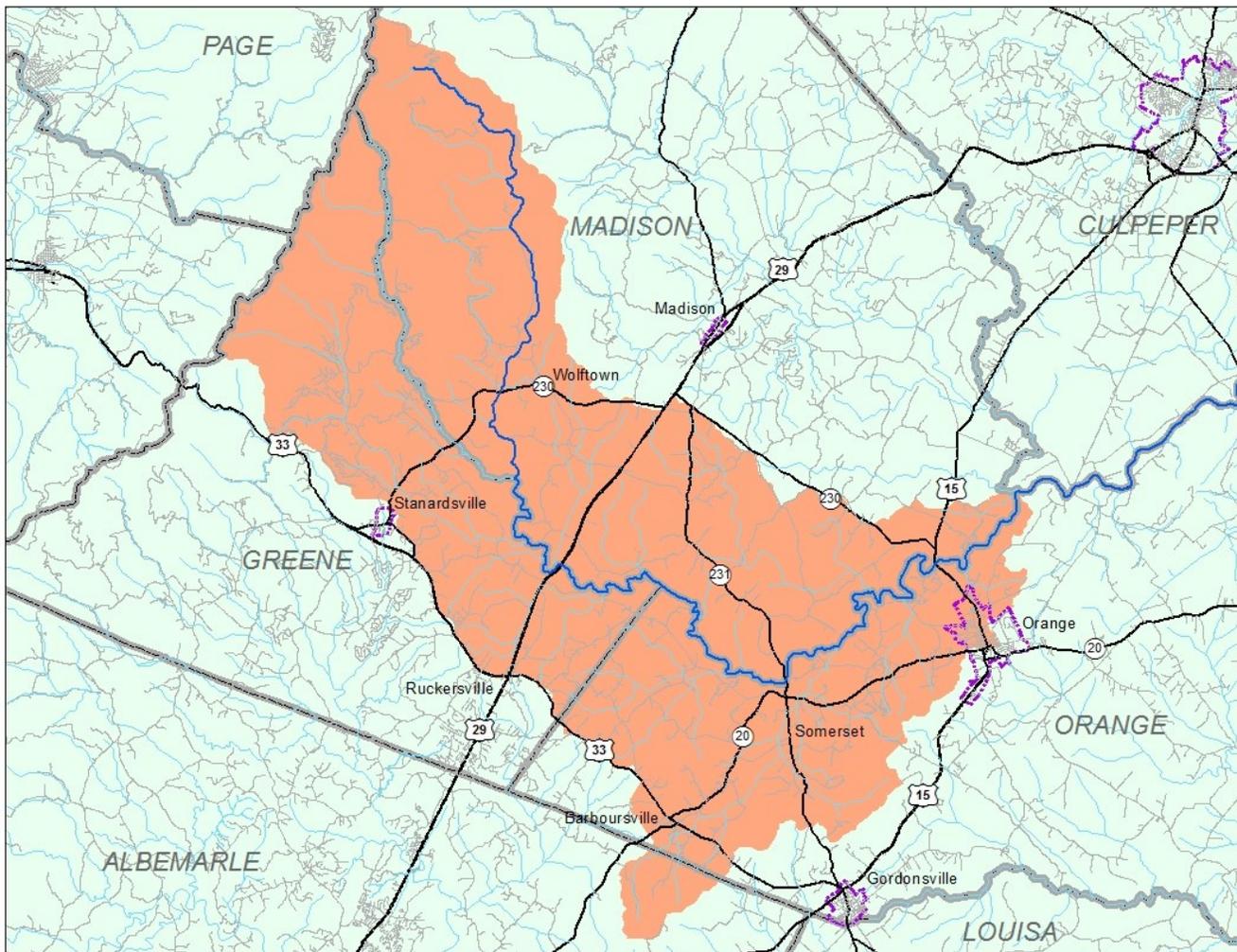


The Upper Rapidan River Watershed



**TMDL
FINANCIAL
ASSISTANCE
TO HELP
YOU
MAINTAIN
YOUR
SEPTIC
SYSTEM
AVAILABLE
IN THE
UPPER
RAPIDAN
WATERSHED**

This project received funding from the Environmental Protection Agency's Section 319 Nonpoint Source Implementation Grant Program at the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), via grant number 16364



The Culpeper Soil and Water Conservation District is offering grant-based assistance to homeowners that live in the Upper Rapidan River watershed area. This area includes all areas outlined in salmon color on the map. This program will reimburse participants up to \$150 for a septic system pump-out and 50% of any required repair or replacement expenses, including full system replacement as necessary (See table below). Some participants, depending on annual income, may receive up to 75% cost-share reimbursement on septic system replacements or new installations. This program is funded by a grant from the Commonwealth of Virginia. Upon completion of your maintenance/repair/installation you will be reimbursed promptly.

Application for funding is required prior to implementation.

| Cost Share Payment Amounts* | |
|---|-----------------------------|
| Pump out | 50% of cost or \$150 max |
| Repair | 50% of cost or \$3500 max |
| New system | 50% of cost or \$4000 max |
| New system with pump to drainfield | 50% of cost or \$4500 max |
| Engineered system | 50% of cost or \$10,000 max |
| * Higher rates for low income may be available | |

For more information

What causes septic systems to fail?

- Failure of the outlet tee clogs the drainfield with solids and does not allow grey water to leech into the soil. Sewage has nowhere else to go so it backs up into your house.
- Adding water to the drainfield at a rate faster than it can percolate down through the soil. This includes having leaky fixtures or a roof downspout that empties near your drainfield.
- Physical damage to the drainfield or distribution box caused by digging, tilling, or cars & heavy machinery passing over them.
- Adding substances like grease, paint, and large amounts of cleaning solution kill the bacteria that break down sewage solids. This causes solids to buildup faster than normal and can easily clog the inlet/outlet tees and the drainfield.
- Woody plants growing on or near your drainfield. Their roots can easily clog the drain lines by growing into them.
- No regular pumping maintenance based on septic tank size and the number of people living in your home. Example: 2 people using a 1,000 gallon tank should be pumped every 4 -6 years.
- Non-biodegradable or slow to degrade items like products that contain plastics and heavier paper products.

Contact :

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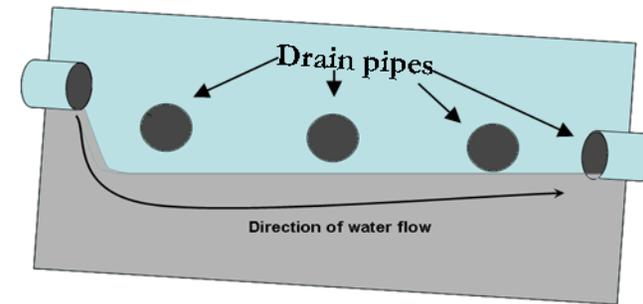
email: hennyc@culpeperswcd.org

Why?

This program is entirely voluntary. Its purpose is to improve surface and ground water quality locally and downstream from you. Your participation in maintaining a working septic system or repairing a failing system will help keep excess fecal bacteria and excess nutrients out of streams. The cleaner our streams are, the more recreation, people, and wildlife they can healthily support.

With our cost share funds and your minimal maintenance investment, you are buying peace of mind. You can help minimize the risk of installing a costly system in the foreseeable future.

A Common Septic System Problem



An unlevel distribution box forces all of the septic wastewater into 1 drain line. This causes the water to appear above ground because the soil is saturated.