

**DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING
AND PUBLIC COMMENT**

PUBLIC MEETING: September 29, 2008 at the Bank of Lancaster (North Branch Meeting Room), 432 N. Main Street, Kilmarnock, VA 22482. Technical Advisory (TAC) meeting will be held from 2-4pm and the public meeting from 7-9pm. Both meetings are open to the public.

PURPOSE OF NOTICE: The Virginia Department of Environmental Quality and the Department of Conservation and Recreation are announcing a study to restore water quality for a shellfish growing area, a public comment opportunity, a Technical Advisory Committee meeting, and public meeting.

MEETING DESCRIPTION: First TAC and public meeting on a study to restore water quality for shellfish growing areas along Indian, Dymmer, Tabbs, and Antipoison Creeks, which are impaired due to bacterial violations.

DESCRIPTION OF STUDY: Virginia agencies are working to identify sources of the bacterial contamination in the shellfish growing waters of the (tidal) Indian, Dymmer, Tabbs, and Antipoison Creeks and their tributaries, an area totalling approximately 2 miles in Northumberland and Lancaster Counties. These streams are impaired for failure to meet the designated use of shellfish consumption because of bacterial water quality standard violations.

Stream	County	Area (miles²)	Impairment
Indian Creek (headwaters to south of Arthur Cove)	Northumberland & Lancaster	0.42	Shellfish Use (Fecal Coliform) bacteria
Unnamed Cove	Northumberland	0.02	
Bells Creek	Northumberland	0.05	
Henrys Creek	Northumberland	0.10	
Barnes Creek	Northumberland	0.27	
Long Creek	Lancaster	0.02	
Dymmer Creek (headwaters to south of Johnson Creek)	Lancaster	0.34	
Hunts Cove	Lancaster	0.04	
Lees Cove	Lancaster	0.02	
Georges Cove	Lancaster	0.03	
Tabbs Creek	Lancaster	0.24	
Antipoison Creek (headwaters to mouth)	Lancaster	0.45	
Davenport Creek	Lancaster	0.02	

The study reports the current status of the Creeks via sampling performed by the Virginia Department of Health; Division of Shellfish Sanitation, shellfish area condemnations and the sources of bacterial contamination. The study recommends total maximum daily loads, or TMDLs, for the impaired waters. A TMDL is the total amount of a pollutant a water body can contain and still meet water quality standards. To restore water quality, bacterial levels have to be reduced to the TMDL amount.

HOW TO COMMENT: DEQ accepts written comments by email, fax, or postal mail. Written comments should include the name, address, and telephone number of the person commenting and be received by DEQ during the comment period, which will expire on October 29, 2008. DEQ also accepts written and oral comments at the public meeting announced in this notice.

CONTACT FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Name: Margaret Smigo – TMDL Coordinator **Fax:** (804)-527-5106
Address: VDEQ, Piedmont Regional Office **E-mail:** mjsmigo@deq.virginia.gov
4949A Cox Road, Glen Allen, VA, 23060
Telephone: (804) 527-5124