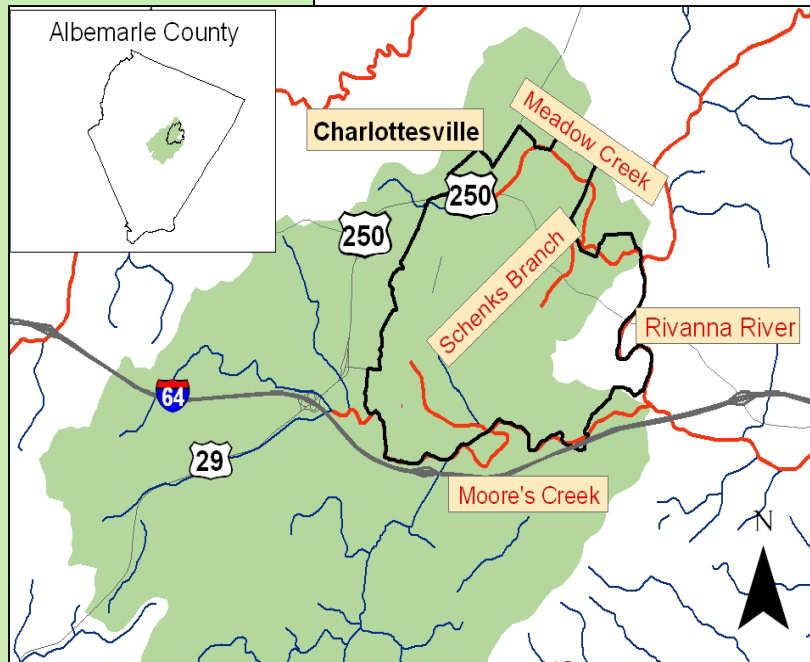


FACT SHEET

Public Meeting on Water Quality in Schenks Branch, Meadow Creek, Lodge Creek and Moores Creek March 6, 2012 at 6:00pm

What's wrong with these streams?

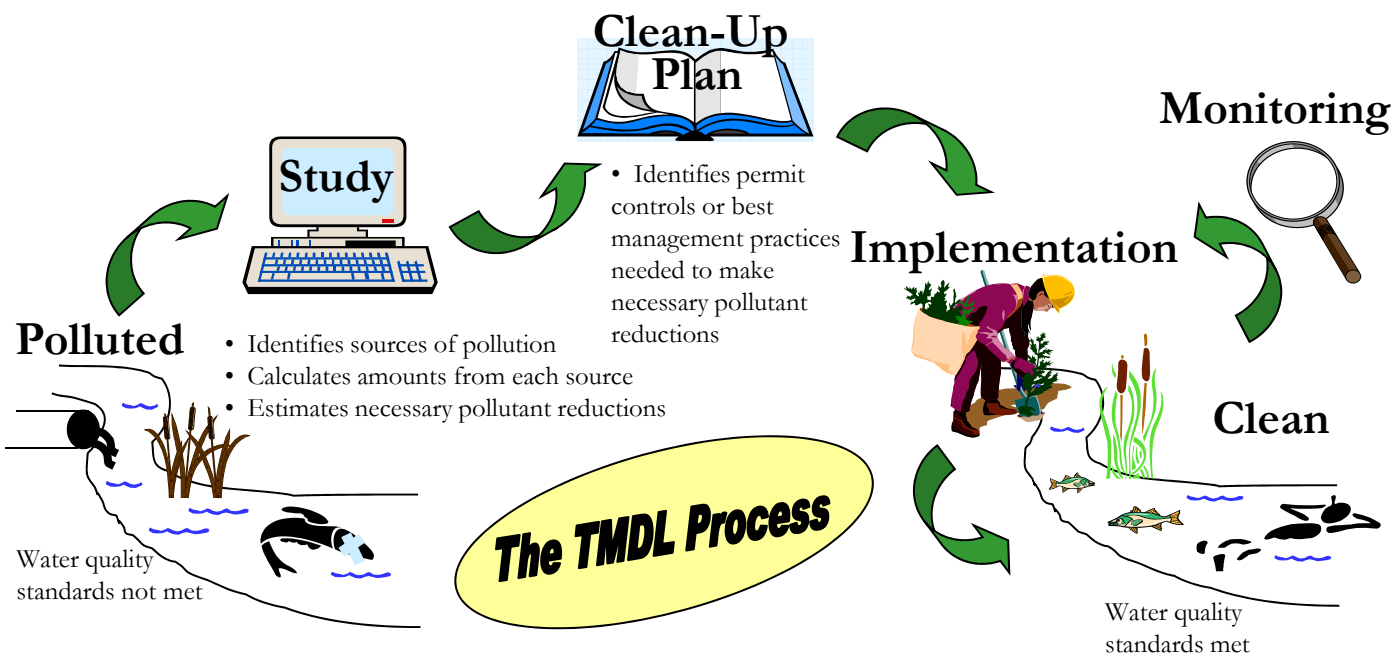
- Schenks Branch, Meadow Creek, Lodge Creek and Moores Creek do not meet Virginia's water quality standards.
- Based on biological monitoring by the state and local interest groups, including StreamWatch, these streams do not host a healthy and diverse population of organisms living on or near the bottom of the streams.
- After a thorough and lengthy analysis, **Sediment** was determined to be the stressor to the aquatic life in these local streams.



What is Being Done to Address this Problem?

T_{total}
M_{aximum}
D_{aily}
L_{oad}

- The Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) worked with local stakeholders and scientific contractors to identify the sources of **sediment** to local streams.
- After the study, a plan will be developed to clean up Schenks Branch, Meadow Creek, Lodge Creek and Moores Creek. This plan will be developed at the local level and will list best management practices that can be used to meet the necessary reductions identified in the study.
- The study and the plan to clean up the stream are called a TMDL (Total Maximum Daily Load) and a TMDL Implementation Plan.



How can you make a difference?

Public Input Is Essential to the TMDL Process and Everyone is Welcome to Participate!

- Be involved in the process – Attend the public meetings to learn more about water quality in these streams.
- Serve on a Committee – There will be an opportunity to volunteer to serve on a Working Group. These committees will provide input to DEQ throughout the study to make sure that technical aspects of the study are accurate as well as acceptable to the community.
- Doing your part – Learn more about how small actions – like only fertilizing your lawn once a year, picking up after your pet, installing rainbarrels and raingardens, and planting trees along streams – can make a BIG difference.

For More Information Contact:

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How does this plan interact with Chesapeake Bay Clean-up Efforts?

The Bay TMDL is designed to restore the Chesapeake Bay to its former condition and limits **nutrients** and **sediment**. Local efforts here in Charlottesville and around the Commonwealth are based on local water quality goals and modeling. Many times, the local and Bay-wide objectives are the same.

Of course, all water quality improvement practices that help local streams will also help the Bay – **we all live downstream!**