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Rivanna River Basin Commission

PROTECTING THE RIVANNA
THROUGH A CONFLUENCE OF INTERESTS



March 2010 News

Inaugural e-Newsletter for the RRBC

This e-newsletter will be distributed monthly to the Commission and citizens of the Rivanna watershed and beyond. If you wish to forward to a friend or unsubscribe, please use the link at the bottom. And, if you have not yet visited our newly launched [website](#), can find meeting dates, information on current projects and programs, and other information about the Rivanna.

New Commissioners Join the RRBC

The Rivanna River Basin Commission welcomes four new members in 2010 as a result of recent elections: Jim Frydl (Greene Supervisor), Joe Chesser (Fluvanna County Supervisor), David Brown (City Councilor, Charlottesville), and Ann Mallek (Albemarle County Supervisor). We welcome their interest in the Commission and the experience, knowledge, and perspective they will bring to our work.

'Round the Watershed Meetings

Starting in the Greene County meeting on February 24, RRBC staff members are meeting with Commissioners, RRBC Technical Advisory Committee members, and staff from each locality to provide an opportunity for detailed discussion on projects specific to each locality. The other meetings: Fluvanna on March 15 (noon to 1:30 p.m.), Albemarle on March 22 (noon to 1:30 p.m.) and Charlottesville on March 31 (3 to 4:30 p.m.). All Commission meetings are open to the public. [Click here for details.](#)

Rivers of Life: In-stream Flows for the Rivanna River

One of the duties of the Rivanna River Basin Commission is to promote the coordination of water management *to protect instream beneficial uses and public water supplies for human consumption*. As more and more water is extracted from rivers, lakes, and groundwater aquifers to meet the needs of the growing human populations, the health of these natural systems becomes increasingly strained. Brian Richter of The Nature Conservancy will discuss scientific approaches for

Upcoming Meetings

Work session for Fluvanna County Commissioners and staff
March 15, 2010
12pm - 1:30pm

Work session for Albemarle County Commissioners and staff
March 22, 2010
12pm - 1:30pm

Work session for Charlottesville Commissioners and staff
March 31, 2010
3pm - 4:30pm

RRBC Quarterly Meeting
April 15, 2010
6pm - 8pm

What's New?

[Rivanna named pilot "healthy watershed" for DCR and EPA program.](#)

Member Partners:

[City of Charlottesville](#)
[Albemarle County](#)
[Fluvanna County](#)
[Greene County](#)
[Culpeper SWCD](#)
[Thomas Jefferson SWCD](#)

assessing the amount of water that must remain in rivers to keep them healthy and how this research influenced the development of a water supply plan for the Charlottesville-Albemarle area to meet the community's projected water needs. The presentation is at [CitySpace](#) in Charlottesville on Tuesday, March 16, from 7 pm to 8:30 pm.

Chesapeake Bay TMDL

The development of a "pollution diet" (or TMDL, Total Daily Maximum Load) for the Chesapeake Bay is underway by EPA, following the failure to achieve a clean Chesapeake Bay by 2010. EPA is working with the states to develop this TMDL with an aggressive timeline to meet water quality goals by 2025 by reducing the loading of nitrogen, phosphorous, and sediment to the Bay and its tributaries. EPA is requiring that cleanup plans be developed and implemented at the local level through combined efforts of local governments, Soil and Water Conservation Districts, Planning Districts, and watershed groups, such as the Rivanna River Basin Commission.

"Rivanna-Regional" Watershed Implementation Plan

RRBC is working with the Thomas Jefferson and Culpeper SWCDs, Thomas Jefferson PDC, StreamWatch, and others to get involved in this process as soon as possible in order to help chart our own local course. The Virginia Secretary of Natural Resources has created the Stakeholder Advisory Group (SAG) to advise the state agencies. Local members of the SAG are Leslie Middleton (RRBC), Sally Thomas (representing the Chesapeake Bay Program's Local Government Advisory Committee), and Rick Parrish (from the Southern Environmental Law Center). For further information about the Chesapeake Bay TMDL, you can visit the Chesapeake Bay TMDL websites of [EPA](#), Virginia [DEQ](#), and Virginia [DCR](#). For information about local involvement in this process, please contact RRBC Executive Director, [Leslie Middleton](#).

Fight for the Bay: VA Book!

Howard Ernst, author of *Fight for the Bay: Why a Dark Green Environmental Awakening Is Needed to Save the Chesapeake Bay*, provides an excellent summary of the Chesapeake Bay cleanup effort. Mr. Ernst will be at UVA Clark Hall, [Charles L. Brown Science & Engineering Library](#), on Friday, March 19, at 10 a.m. as part of the Virginia Festival of the Book. For more information, call (434) 924-3628.

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