



west virginia department of environmental protection

Division of Water and Waste Management
601 57th Street, Charleston, WV 25304
(304) 926-0495

Joe Manchin III, Governor
Stephanie R. Timmermeyer, Cabinet Secretary
www.wvdep.org

MARTINSBURG-- Citizens in the Sleepy Creek and Opequon Creek watersheds in West Virginia's Eastern Panhandle are invited to attend a meeting to begin finding solutions to water quality problems in the area.

The meeting will be held at 6:30 p.m. on April 12 at the Aikens Center (USDA Service Center) on Edwin Miller Boulevard in Martinsburg. Participants will focus on solutions to nonpoint source pollution problems such as agricultural and stormwater runoff, and septic systems.

According to Alana Hartman, the West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection's Potomac Basin Coordinator, the creation of project teams for Sleepy Creek and Opequon Creek is an excellent opportunity for citizens, county or city planners, managers of development firms, reporters, and teachers to learn more about how to curb nonpoint source pollution. Anyone willing to volunteer time and talents on these environmental stewardship efforts is welcome.

After this initial meeting, subsequent meetings will be held separately for the Opequon Project Team and the Sleepy Creek Project Team. These two watersheds were chosen through a stakeholder process last fall to be top priorities for implementation of West Virginia's Potomac Tributary Strategy, a part of a multi-state Chesapeake Bay restoration effort. The Potomac Tributary Strategy Implementation Committee is hosting the meeting in an effort to find ways to reduce nitrogen, phosphorus, and sediment in West Virginia's streams.

For more information on the meeting or the Potomac Tributary Strategy, contact Hartman at (304) 822-7266 or Barbara Elliott of the West Virginia Conservation Agency at (304) 263-4376.

Directions to the Aikens Center: take exit 16E off I-81 (Martinsburg). Proceed east on Route 9 (Edwin Miller Boulevard) through the first stoplight and take a right at the second stoplight. Take an immediate left in front of the brick building plaza and park near this first wing of the building. The conference room door faces the parking lot and is situated in this wing - the part of the brick building that is closest to Hoss' restaurant.