The Virginia Department of Environmental Quality and Rappahannock-Rapidan Regional Commission will be holding the final public meeting to gather community input on the draft clean-up plan for the Upper Rapidan River Watershed. Over the past 6 months, DEQ and its partners worked closely with area residents to develop a plan to improve water quality in the following streams within the Upper Rapidan watershed: Rippin Run, Blue Run, Marsh Run, Beautiful Run, Poplar Run, Garth Run, as well as the Rapidan River and several of its unnamed tributaries.

Currently, the streams are considered unhealthy due to high amounts of fecal bacteria in the water. This means people face a greater chance of illness or infection when they go swimming in the streams or get water in their eyes, ears or mouth. Input from local residents is needed to ensure the draft plan provides the most effective solutions possible to address these water quality issues in our local streams.

For further information about this project, please visit DEQ’s website at www.deq.virginia.gov/Programs/Water/WaterQualityInformationTMDLs/TMDL/TMDLImplementation/TMDLImplementationProgress.aspx or contact Jenny Biche at (540) 829-7450/jkbiche@rrregion.org.

Join in the discussion and become part of the solution to create a fishable, swimmable Rapidan River!