

## Watershed Management Planning in James City County - July 28, 2009

Watershed planning is an important watershed protection tool, as land use decisions fundamentally shape and influence the health of water bodies. To be effective, a complex and coordinated planning process leads to real implementation, including the ability to predict what will happen to water resources in light of land use decisions. Effective watershed planning also requires an investment in technical studies, monitoring, coordination, and outreach.

- A. The James City County watershed management planning effort will include the following components.

### Baseline Assessment

1. Watershed, sub-watersheds and catchment boundaries delineation and creation of base maps.
2. Future impervious cover estimates based on the latest Comprehensive Plan and the County Zoning ordinance.
3. Preparation of a conservation area report, including priority rankings and management recommendations for any rare, threatened or endangered species (RTE species) or other biodiversity areas.
4. Assessment of the streams and floodplains to identify existing and future flooding, erosion, sedimentation, and stream degradation problems.

### Stormwater Master Plan

A framework for protecting the natural environment of the watershed from stormwater-related threats and an evaluation of the potential for application of special stormwater criteria as adopted by the JCC Board of Supervisors. Includes a summary of regional stormwater management facility (BMP) options and recommendations.

### Watershed Management Plan – includes both the Baseline Assessment and Stormwater Master Plan

A watershed management plan, based on information developed as part of the baseline assessment and stormwater master plans, including specific recommendations with specific costs, responsible parties, and detail sufficient for implementation.

### Stakeholder Outreach

Materials and presentations to adequately convey findings to interested stakeholders and solicit their input. Meetings with key stakeholders both in groups and individually.

### B. Watershed Planning Priority List

- |                             |   |
|-----------------------------|---|
| a. Gordon Creek             | Complete plan begun in 2007                       |
| b. Mill Creek (James River) | TMDL watershed, TMDL implementation plan underway |
| c. Ware Creek               | Developing watershed                              |
| d. Taskinas/Skimino Creeks  | Developing watersheds                             |
| e. Diascund Creek           | Developing watershed                              |
| f. College Creek            | Future TMDL watershed                             |