

**Tally of Responses and Written Comments Collated by Item from
Citizen Input Workshop Response Forms and Other Sources
Blount County Water Quality Planning Process
April to July 2002**

This report presents summary tally of responses, and collated comments from Response Forms returned in 22 Citizen Input Workshops for the Blount County Water Quality Planning Process. Also included are written comments from other sources, such as e-mail. The format of reporting is the following: Page number of the Response Form and general subject of page; item for response (verbatim from Response Form); summary tally (number of responses and percent); and comments related to the item. In the cases where there were general comments on a page, the general comments will be reported with the page number being the item. A copy of the Response Form is attached as Appendix. Open forum comments from the workshops are reported separately.

PAGE 1 of Response Form - *General policy, objective and implementation strategies from the 1999 Policies Plan.*

Agree
Disagree
No Opinion

Policy: The lakes, rivers and streams in the county should be protected as a part of our natural environment and drinking water resource, and as part of our scenic and recreational resource.

189 Forms	Agree	Disagree	No Opinion	No Response
Number	184	2	1	2
Percent	97.35	1.06	0.53	1.06

Comments:

What about intermittent streams?

Already protected enough.

Depending on what you do to protect it – must be reasonable.

They do not belong to cities or industry, or government or commerce.

Agree Disagree No Opinion

Conduct a study of pollution sources of the Little River, and formulate a county wide pollution prevention program. Implementation: Coordinate a study of pollution sources with other agencies, such as TVA, and create an advisory committee to formulate a pollution prevention program.

189 Forms	Agree	Disagree	No Opinion	No Response
Number	175	5	5	4
Percent	92.59	2.65	2.65	2.12

Comments:

Use professional input.

Agree Disagree No Opinion

Protect the health of the citizens of Blount County, and protect the quality of water in the county. Implementation: Formulate and consider more stringent septic field standards specific to Blount County (revision of existing minimal state standards). Pursue more stringent enforcement for violation of septic disposal standards. The County should develop a water and pollution prevention program of its own.

189 Forms	Agree	Disagree	No Opinion	No Response
Number	167	15	4	3
Percent	88.36	7.94	2.12	1.59

Comments:

Alternate source of sewer plants & septic fields!

This sounds passible .

Check upper end of Bell Branch for raw sewage

Study permitting grey water systems to supplement septic systems

Agree Disagree No Opinion

Protect detention areas and drainage ways in a natural state to enhance drainage capabilities. Implementation: Amend subdivision regulations and other development related regulations to require retention of natural cover for drainage facilities, require additional ground cover for degraded drainage facilities, and require minimization of disturbance and compaction during construction phase.

189 Forms	Agree	Disagree	No Opinion	No Response
Number	173	4	8	4
Percent	91.53	2.12	4.23	2.12

Comments:

Require use of natural plantings for replanting & restoration – no exotics!

Agree Disagree No Opinion

Formulate a county-wide drainage plan by drainage basin, addressing quantity of runoff as well as quality of runoff, such plan to form the basis for judging needed drainage requirements of individual new developments. Implementation: Appoint a committee with professional technical help to formulate a plan.

189 Forms	Agree	Disagree	No Opinion	No Response
Number	163	8	10	8
Percent	86.24	4.23	5.29	4.23

Comments:

There is a direct relationship with drainage – water quality. I’d like to help with this in some way. I’ve written storm management plans for 2 cities in Oregon.

Have a citizens committee to check into complaints and compliance at and around developments. + citizens at large from county.

Use existing employees to police developers.

Why do we need a committee – don’t we have pros on job?

Plus citizen input, not just technical to police & enforce.

Comments General to Page 1:

Agree. Protect fauna and flora in and along rivers, lakes and streams.

Good show! Thanks, thanks, thanks!

Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!

PAGE 2 of Response Form - *General issues of water quality planning.*

Agree
Disagree
No Opinion

Water quality of rivers, lakes and streams is a problem now and the County should take action to address the problem.

189 Forms	Agree	Disagree	No Opinion	No Response
Number	168	9	9	3
Percent	88.89	4.76	4.76	1.59

Comments:

Or town.

It's only going to get worse.

Beginning to be.

At once!

Agree Disagree No Opinion

With growth in the county, water quality of rivers, lakes and streams will become a problem in the future, and the County should take action now to address the future problem.

189 Forms	Agree	Disagree	No Opinion	No Response
Number	179	4	5	1
Percent	94.71	2.12	2.65	0.53

Comments: None.

Agree Disagree No Opinion

Water quality planning should be done in cooperation with the cities in the county.

189 Forms	Agree	Disagree	No Opinion	No Response
Number	166	12	5	6
Percent	87.83	6.35	2.65	3.17

Comments:

It should be done with or without their cooperation.

As long as trying to get everyone on board doesn't drag out the process.

And adjacent counties?

We have enough planning.

Depending on their ability to see individual needs of each area.

The county and cities within it.

Agree Disagree No Opinion

A specific plan for the Little River should be undertaken given that it is the source of most drinking water in the county.

189 Forms	Agree	Disagree	No Opinion	No Response
Number	181	3	3	2
Percent	95.87	1.59	1.59	1.06

Comments:

Plan for the Little River watershed, not just the stream.

Ongoing water analysis & public info/discuss/education.

Agree Disagree No Opinion

The County should apply for Federal, State and other grant monies to help implement any water quality plan.

189 Forms	Agree	Disagree	No Opinion	No Response
Number	162	9	12	6
Percent	85.71	4.76	6.35	3.17

Comments:

Maybe – I don't know about funding.

?Not sure what strings are attached!

If not strings attached.

Agree Disagree No Opinion

County funds should be used to match available federal, state or other grants for water quality implementation.

189 Forms	Agree	Disagree	No Opinion	No Response
Number	138	19	26	6
Percent	73.02	10.05	13.76	3.17

Comments:

Not sure.

But to what extend is negotiable.

Funds should come more from developers, new subdivisions, paving companies, and others involved in increasing pollution.

Only if there are reasonable guidelines.

We're already budget tight.

Agree Disagree No Opinion

The County should participate fully in any Federal or State programs required by law for addressing water quality.

189 Forms	Agree	Disagree	No Opinion	No Response
Number	160	13	7	9
Percent	84.66	6.88	3.70	4.76

Comments:

Do you have a choice?

I am law abiding.

Any choice to participate or not?

Comments General to Page 2:

A program should be support with tax dollars whether money is matched or not matched by state & federal grants.

Cattle and other animals need to be fenced out of the Little River now and the watershed in the near future.

Create buffer areas along streams.

Water quality planning should include local industries, also.

Developers should be held more accountable for upfront planning & long term liability for storm water issues. Bonding requirements for developers – much like reclamation bonds required for mining might be a possibility w/ those bonding funds used to correct unanticipated runoff problems in the future for that subdivision or development. Guarantee bonds might not cover all problems but could encourage developers to do better planning. Refund/release only after a period of problem-free time to be determined by county/city govts.

Drainage plans/treatment to prevent mosquito breeding.

Building codes re: water consumption/discharge.

No new taxes! Must make developers responsible and aid farmers & prevent stream bank erosion & cows out of Little River.

What about air quality – that can affect water quality??

Building of new roads such as Pellissippi Pky extension (I-140) is of great concern as roadways & paved surfaces play a great part in water quality.

In this planning – I feel the owners of the land will loose control of their land.

It is my belief that it should be up to the citizens to correct the problem – and not leave it in the hands of the government – this is an

issue that the members within the county should work together on to resolve without having to get counties involved.

Plan to address the littering problem.

Within reason.

When it is evident up front, the developer must handle their problems, however when problems occur later they should be forced to come back and correct their problem.

Mining should also be addressed. A county wide sewer plan should be formulated.

I think a storm water utility district might be a valued tool for improving storm water management in the county.

Developed areas should be curtailed. Pavement taxed to take care of funds needed for implementing water quality plan. Builders should be accountable for all their destruction. Road building should be prohibited – new settlers should be discouraged. Existing building should be utilized and a “hold” put on any new building.

Sewer system for Tuck(aleechee) cove. Don't try to stop development by making sewer restrictions so strict.

Water quality is already a problem & needs to be addressed now, however, any plan should take a long range perspective and plan for future problems as well.

Preventing over development in any area.

Keep cattle out of streams.

No building within 50 ft of stream.

Always take a watershed view. Don't focus too narrowly!

Monies for committees & implementation will come from where?

Stricter enforcement, i.e. contractor compliance e.g. silt fences – trash/chemical removal, etc.

Our karst topography isn't really being addressed – the potential for ground water pollution is great.

TDOT should be required to do a full Environmental Impact Statement of any road project. Blount County should reserve the right to refuse the project if the impact is unacceptable for our health & welfare etc.

Impact of Pellissippi extension?

Sewage & septic – we have to change that ridiculous regulation that allows people to build residences close to the Little River (only 25 ft away?!! – this is a joke!)

Forest cover and stream bank growth must be protected somehow.

Not sure if getting the feds involved is a good idea as sometimes the \$ ties up your hands. Sometimes people at home are more knowledgeable & able to perform without interference of fed. gov.

Subdivision regulations should be more stringent to protect water quality.

Need to require those who remove timber for logging or land dev. (housing) purposes to make sure erosion, runoff & flooding don not result.

Development – especially subdivisions need to be better regulated – there are too many with no planning and no control.

Need for regulation of commercial use subdivision lots. Freeze building permission until plan in place.

New roads should be kept to minimum – widen present roads where necessary. No Pellissippi Pkwy Extension.

Clean up Bell Branch. Check all septic systems raw sewage run into Bell Branch.

There is no doubt that a large portion of the trailers pulled into Happy Valley are not on septic systems & yet they have electricity & tenants. Where is the county Health Dept? Fecal matter is a definite contaminate. General issue – there seems to be no intra county agency coordination or cooperation.

County should act with other counties and states that are a part of the drainage area (especially with respect to the Tennessee and Little Tennessee Rivers).

Plan for handling flood waters.

Trash on sides of roads.

Federal & State requirements are not adequate in protecting the unique circumstances of our location in mountainous terrain adjacent to the invaluable Smoky Mt. Nat'l Park. We should be more stringent.

Also consider things that can be improved now, i.e. sewage discharges from Knoxville, cows, septic systems.

Plan help to assistance to improve old residential septic systems – Federal or County funds.

(1) Should be looking to have controlled growth (slow subdividing all open properties) (2) To the extent it effects our drinking water – only – not a lot of regulations to put farmers our of work – while making jobs in the enforcement end only.

Protect the watersheds! Put in place incentives for land owners to keep land in forest cover. Purchase land for parks, wildlife, recreation, and watershed protection. Realize there are limits to growth! Cut back on \$\$ spend on building and widening roads. Discourage development on steeper slopes and forested mountains. Implement best management for every acre. Control building along streams. If it won't perc – no building. Don't allow roads to be built until water conservation & septic are addressed.

Expressway system from/around us and into Knoxville can have a big impact.

Work very close with homeowners associations and contractors to educate and advise.

Have observed areas where clear-cutting of timber has been done on private property. This should be monitored and regulated better to prevent erosion and runoff of soil silting up streams. Private roads are widened to allow access of trailers and runoff of soils occurs; no effort to prevent this is made.

Do not ever allow TVA to sell Tn. Valley water to Atlanta or anyone else outside the area! Don't let the Tenn. River be destroyed like the Colorado. No chop mills. Outlaw as far as you can reach!

PAGE 3 of Response Form - Storm Water Phase 2 components for whole county.

Agree
Disagree
No Opinion

The County should include Public Education as part of any water quality plan. Public education could include mail-outs, brochures, fact sheets, school presentations, newspaper articles, radio and TV spots, public meetings, booths in public places, and other modes of information dissemination.

189 Forms	Agree	Disagree	No Opinion	No Response
Number	173	4	7	5
Percent	91.53	2.12	3.70	2.65

Comments:

If done fairly.

They get credit and publicity – education happens.

Agree Disagree No Opinion

The County should include continuing Public Involvement and Outreach in the implementation of any water quality plan. Public involvement could include adopt-a-stream, storm drain stenciling, community hotline, and other avenues for activities of the public.

189 Forms	Agree	Disagree	No Opinion	No Response
Number	177	0	6	6
Percent	93.65	0.00	3.17	3.17

Comments:

Sounds like fun.

Open meetings well publicized.

Agree Disagree No Opinion

The County should include provisions for Detecting and Eliminating Illicit Discharges from non-storm water sources in any water quality plan. Such discharges could include straight pipe septic systems or direct deposit of wash water into storm drains, ditches, streams, rivers and lakes. Illicit discharge detection and elimination could include provisions for locating illicit discharges, procedures for tracing discharges to source, procedures for removing the source, and procedures for program evaluation.

189 Forms	Agree	Disagree	No Opinion	No Response
Number	171	6	5	7
Percent	90.48	3.17	2.65	3.70

Comments:

Good luck.

Enforcement should also include planning stages.

We already have this control through the Health Dept.

& fines.

Will you “grandfather” existing septic or fine individuals?

Agree
Disagree
No Opinion

The County should include provisions for Construction Site Storm Water Control as part of any water quality plan.

Control measures could include requirements that construction sites, including development of subdivisions and commercial sites, have an erosion and sediment control plan, implement best management practices, and control waste such as discarded building materials and chemicals. The controls would usually be incorporated into subdivision regulations and zoning regulations, and would include definition of best management practices, site plan review and approval, site inspections, and enforcement provisions.

189 Forms	Agree	Disagree	No Opinion	No Response
Number	174	4	5	6
Percent	92.06	2.12	2.65	3.17

Comments:

Enforce existing laws & regulations.

Will it be enforced?

How will this policy impact our H.V. (Happy Valley) area?

Agree
Disagree
No Opinion

The County should include provisions for Post-Construction Storm Water Management in new development and redevelopment as part of any water quality plan.

Measures could include detention ponds, infiltration basins or trenches, porous or permeable paving, grass filter strips, buffer zones, open space design, and regular storm water facility inspection and maintenance.

189 Forms	Agree	Disagree	No Opinion	No Response
Number	169	4	8	8
Percent	89.42	2.12	4.23	4.23

Comments:

Louisville does require.

Flood control.

Proper sizing for current & future growth is imperative.

This must be inspected to be sure it is being done.

Agree
Disagree
No Opinion

The County should adopt best management practices for its own operations to protect water quality, including training of county employees, machinery and facility maintenance procedures, storm drain system cleaning, spill response and prevention, road salt application and storage, and hazardous materials handling.

189 Forms	Agree	Disagree	No Opinion	No Response
Number	175	2	3	9
Percent	92.59	1.06	1.59	4.76

Comments:

BMPs can be both specific to the practice or general.

Too often see these employees leave a job site – and looks like someone dumped a large garbage bag of junk – water cups – cans – cigar, etc.

Control.

Comments General to Page 3:

All these are required.

If it is required why are we doing this?

Great ideas!

Hit big and hard at home & garden shows, etc. Network with conservation groups, garden clubs, etc. These people care and act and have information and connections of use. Don't bother with direct mail – too costly and usually gets pitched out unread. School presentations should be a lower priority because students are less

interested and have no clout in building projects. Exception – science projects. Do annual awards of good examples of public spaces.

Any time a site is cleared for any reason (commercial, residential development, logging, whatever) it should be resown in native vegetation immediately. These plants will grow as work proceeds and help hold the edges of the site. At completion all the bare areas should be resown with natives, preferably a mixture. Any property that borders water (moving or still) should be required to leave a buffer zone (to be established) of undisturbed vegetation or planted in appropriate natives. Strongly encourage or require final owners to maintain their buffer. Education here. (in relation to “The County should include provisions for Construction Site Storm Water Control as part of any water quality plan.” & “The County should include provisions for Post-Construction Storm Water Management in new development and redevelopment as part of any water quality plan.”)

All of the above are requirements.

PAGE 4 of Response Form - Education options.

Agree
Disagree
No Opinion

The County should use mail-outs of education materials to households to educate the public on ways to protect water quality. The mail-outs could include information on maintenance of septic systems, proper use of pesticides and fertilizers for lawns, and other best management practices appropriate for home use.

189 Forms	Agree	Disagree	No Opinion	No Response
Number	161	8	9	11
Percent	85.19	4.23	4.76	5.82

Comments:

Mailouts can be expensive & nonproductive if not focused to a particular group w/ followup.

Don't think people will read these.

Cost?

With some reservation, though.

Mail outs become trash.

Let the people vote.

Not sure how effective mail-outs are. Are they worth the cost?

The paper would be the best way to reach people. A series, a contest for slogan, etc.

Few people read these.

In certain areas.

Agree, but most folks wouldn't read it.

Use local newspaper to reach.

Probably a very effective method.

This information should be given out to people who are applying for building loan, building permits, at closing of sale, etc. Also available through co-op, hardware and supply stores and nurseries. Be sure to target commercial lawn care companies with info on proper use of fert/pesticides as well as farmers. Give concrete suggestions for what works as well as a bunch of "don'ts". Then go after established home owners and businesses. These will be the hardest to change.

<p>Agree Disagree No Opinion</p>
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The County should conduct seminars on water quality best management practices targeting builders and developers. Such seminars could include information on appropriate construction site and post-construction storm water best management practices.

189 Forms	Agree	Disagree	No Opinion	No Response
Number	168	6	8	7
Percent	88.89	3.17	4.23	3.70

Comments:

It would be more productive if these seminars also provided the regulatory requirements/liabilities for not following requirements as well.

State already does. Instead, make contractors attend or loose license.

Put some teeth in it.

Aren't these people aware of the proper practices?

Require.

Should certify builders and developers.

Requirements for developers.

Make requirement for license.

Agree Disagree No Opinion

The County should produce (and possibly pay for) public service radio and TV spots to spread information on how to protect water quality.

189 Forms	Agree	Disagree	No Opinion	No Response
Number	121	27	31	10
Percent	64.02	14.29	16.40	5.29

Comments:

Within reason.

Hmm not sure.

Use kids to come up with concepts – they are very creative.

Explain control.

If the builders, developers & road builders are made accountable the rest will follow.

Mail-outs & school education more effective for cost – free announcements fine.

Don't waste limited funds on this.

Spending more money.

Agree in concept, but not practical, too costly.

Newspapers!

We have little local TV reception.

Get help of public service – free.

Seems expensive .

Newspapers too. Short PSAs are free. Tell what does work.

Agree
Disagree
No Opinion

The County should develop and present educational materials and presentations on protecting water quality geared to civic groups and other organizations.

189 Forms	Agree	Disagree	No Opinion	No Response
Number	163	5	15	6
Percent	86.24	2.65	7.94	3.17

Comments:

Include competitions for students, scholarship money etc. for good student projects.

Look at the attendance tonight.

Ask for help from conservation groups, science classes (HS and M'ville College) and garden clubs. Ask nurseries to carry the most useful plants.

Agree
Disagree
No Opinion

The County should develop, distribute and present classroom educational materials and presentations on protection of water quality geared to elementary and high school students.

189 Forms	Agree	Disagree	No Opinion	No Response
Number	156	13	12	8
Percent	82.54	6.88	6.35	4.23

Comments:

Schools should concentrate on basic education subjects!!!

Career fairs for high school students will sometimes be supported by local environmental consulting firms who might be willing also to support some of the expenses as marketing/community involvement.

Train trainers.

Via volunteer corps?

Only in classes that have something to do with economic quality. In senior economic classes, targeting upcoming citizens of that community. But make it obvious, and a lot of students would care.

Good idea.

High School students.

Use materials from envir. education groups; do not develop own from scratch.

Offer local information to science classes. Tell of projects, what work is being done, how its going, problems.

Ideal – costs (in relation to “The County should develop, distribute and present classroom educational materials and presentations.”)

Agree
Disagree
No Opinion

The County should sponsor and assist in educational activities for farm best management practices to protect water quality. Such activities could include no- or low-till days, and best management practice farm demonstration projects.

189 Forms	Agree	Disagree	No Opinion	No Response
Number	143	16	18	12
Percent	75.66	8.47	9.52	6.35

Comments:

Get UT Ag Campus to help. (in relation to “The county should sponsor and assist in educational activities for farm best management practices.”)

Will be difficult to get buy-in w/o incentives though (in relation to “The County should sponsor and assist in educational activities for farm best management practices.”)

Only (assist) not control (in relation to “The County should sponsor and assist in educational activities for farm best management practices.”)

The Farm Bureau does this at no expense to the county (in relation to “The County should sponsor and assist in educational activities for farm best management practices.”)

With no additional cost to farmers (in relation to “The County should sponsor and assist in educational activities for farm best management practices.”)

Beware of no-till farming. Yes, less work and less erosion but uses more pesticides, herbicides and chemicals. Be sure to note the minus things with the pluses. Note the more genetically modified crops are use, the more chemicals used. Talk to ag school etc. but not Monsanto and Co! (in relation to “The County should sponsor and assist in educational activities for farm best management practices.”)

Agree
Disagree
No Opinion

The County should sponsor or purchase booths and kiosks for presentation of water quality protection information at public gathering places such as malls and public facilities.

189 Forms	Agree	Disagree	No Opinion	No Response
Number	117	34	27	11
Percent	61.90	17.99	14.29	5.82

Comments:

Most people do not care.

Waste of money.

Probably too expensive.

If funds are available.

Rotate topics and/or locations so it doesn't get stale

Comments General to Page 4:

All the above should be done in cooperation with local & area citizen groups & interest organizations.

Environmental & A/E consulting firms who routinely bid on city bids might be convinced to participate in some of these activities. You must be careful, however, that their participation not be considered a means of getting favoritism by competitors. Local firms, i.e. JR Wauford or others who are already doing work for city govt might perceive this as an opportunity to give back to the community.

Sponsor a Little River float so folks in town can see what we have and what we stand to lose.

We can't do it all. I suggest focusing on passing regulations, and maybe coordinate with other groups, for instance the Soil Conservation Service (or its new name, whatever it is) and Tremont Education Center. Beautiful Blount also works with teachers; although mainly concerned with solid waste, they have educational videos about other areas.

Programs in schools, parks, summer camps.

Local industries might be persuaded to assist with educational opportunities, particularly at schools.

Use the local Blount County Home Education (BHEA) community to help in educating the community (enthusiastic bunch!). Focus on churches' responsibility for good stewardship.

Weekly or monthly newspaper columns? Addressed to students and one directed to "John Q. Public".

Participate in Environmental Health Action Team forming as potential citizens and regional health dept. act to go through process of PACE-EH assessment.

Encourage the use of organic (i.e. non chemical) garden & farming practices, composting of waste etc.

Could involve Maryville College. It would be a good learning experience for environmental studies majors who could, in time, help with educating others, especially K-12 students. I would be happy to be a contact person (name and phone withheld) or you could contact our faculty member in env. studies (name withheld).

Most of these training materials already exist at the state level. Why reinvent the wheel? Also UT helped develop training programs, I attended them.

Builders, developers contractors should be certified in water quality protection measures, must take classes.

I support hand-outs and educational materials to improve the quality of water. However, it should not be something forced on people in schools & other public places.

Start internet site.

Work through Farm Bureau & Chamber of Commerce small city councils.

I would like to see the educational materials developed in cooperation with citizen outreach groups.

Builders and developers should be certified, and penalized a great deal if their project pollute or enable the tenants to pollute after the project is finished. They must be held financially responsible.

Have a means of receiving and responding to citizen complaints (a real person to answer the phone & not an answering machine). Include educational materials in our water/electric bills. The City of Maryville has a network of neighborhood associations that could help with education and enforcement. Utilize them to inform homeowners and involve them in monitoring/reporting problems.

Some of the above mentioned ideas would be nice, probably not totally necessary – watch spending unnecessarily.

Teach county/city employees how to protect water quality!

Need to carefully assess how much good will come from each initiative – where is “biggest bang for buck” going to be.

School children are a good target group – they can influence parents. It seems to have worked well with conservation issues.

Planning Commission should be provided with all this education too. (Now!)

You have here some good ones. Get into the schools. And lead workshops with groups of people – teach the farmers. Teach the developers. Teach our civic leaders.

Forget the mail-outs – put on TV or radio – and face to face.

Also, ask horseback riders to refrain from riding on trails right after a rain.

Educating the people of the county will help a lot in their willingness to go along with the necessary requirements to improve our water quality.

Team up w/ conservation groups such as Trout Unlimited & Ducks Unlimited re educational efforts directed at the public. Have info available at recreational businesses such as Little River Trading Co. & Wynn's.

Mail out calendar of major water quality related important dates i.e. chemical pickup dates.

Fund it all (public ed) with a tax or a fee on development – let those people who are building all these houses pay to protect the quality of the water. There are people making money by destroying the land – there are too many people and the developers should be forced to pay!

Advertise in Seymour Newspaper.

Newsprint – lasts longer – makes more of an impact! Especially in the Seymour Herald.

Newspaper articles would reach the most people in cooperation with schools outreach.

Call meeting set date start at Abrams Creek go to head of Bell Branch. Pick up car rims, bottles, bed springs all sorts of junk looks awful. 100% for clean streams (name and address withheld).

Whenever permits area required that potentially effect water quality, the permit requires not only a \$ payment to the city/county but a brief educational program.

Great Smoky Mountains Institute at Tremont (demonstrate what the Little River water quality is like before it enters man made sources of pollutants.)

Public mtgs in neighborhoods more personal w/ greater impact.

Neighborhood & community events offer more opportunities to influence leaders & opinion influencers.

Particular emphasis on farm management.

Put funds where most results are possible. Have planning group select these!

Seek the help & sponsorship of public service groups & corp. help – to keep down rising cost to tax payers!

The best education is being a good example! Show people of all ages that Blount County cares about water quality and overall environmental quality of life. Don't just give lip service to a plan – demonstrate sound resource stewardship – not always easy. Educate public officials – especially County Commission and Planning Commission.

Require seminars before giving permits. Parks & rec day camps – offer presentations + other summer day camps.

Tell people about the quality of the creeks and rives they live on and around.

I think a seminar type presentation at area churches, public events, etc. would work best.

Information & education is the key to water quality. This should be adopted by every citizen within the area.

All sound good, but carefully assess cost:benefit ratio from previous cases – learn from others how to best appropriate limited funds.

The weather will probably become increasingly erratic. Begin now to craft a water control and conservation program. Encourage less use, educate on thrift. Charge higher rates for heavy users. Start prioritizing need and notify those who will be first affected (cut off or reduced supply) so they can make plans. Plan for drought now.

PAGE 5 (TOP) of Response Form – *joint activities and volunteer activities.*

Agree Disagree No Opinion

The County should sponsor and support Hazardous Waste Collection Days along with the Blount County Solid Waste Authority.

189 Forms	Agree	Disagree	No Opinion	No Response
Number	178	3	3	5
Percent	94.18	1.59	1.59	2.65

Comments:

Have some in Louisville.

We need more than the present 2 days/year.

Need > 1/year!!

You already do this activity, why redo it? Also, isn't it a state mandate already?

Knoxville's is a rousing success.

Wonderful program! More publicity. I often miss the day because I don't get the paper. Put up a sign at the site a couple of weeks before.

Agree Disagree No Opinion

The County should sponsor and support volunteer river and lake clean-up days – such as Little River or Tennessee River Clean-up Days.

189 Forms	Agree	Disagree	No Opinion	No Response
Number	173	4	6	6
Percent	91.53	2.12	3.17	3.17

Comments:

Caution: hypodermic needles have been found in my drainageway!

Already done by 2 groups.

Need more emphasis on prevention.

Ineffective – devote more resources to prevention in lieu of reacting.

Agree Disagree No Opinion
--

The County should sponsor and support volunteer litter pick-up teams and adopt-a-highway projects.

189 Forms	Agree	Disagree	No Opinion	No Response
Number	167	8	7	7
Percent	88.36	4.23	3.70	3.70

Comments:

Use prison inmates, or other funds – help support volunteer groups – low use of funds.

Agree Disagree No Opinion
--

The County should sponsor and support programs for storm drain stenciling (painting information at storm drain outlets warning against deposit of inappropriate materials into storm drains).

189 Forms	Agree	Disagree	No Opinion	No Response
Number	155	6	18	10
Percent	82.01	3.17	9.52	5.29

Comments:

Don't understand.

Comments General to Page 5 (TOP):

County should work cooperatively & support community-based volunteer activities focused on preventing pollution & keeping water clean.

I know it is probably hopeless but would I would like some way to stop roadside litter.

Need to provide garbage bins at parks, i.e. Poland Creek, to keep litter from being thrown or blown on roadway.

Could sponsor a meeting with Boy/Girl Scout and church youth group leaders to suggest projects for groups to carry out. I've found these groups to be very interested in volunteer project opportunities. Also, each city school has an "Ecology" – type club and they might be interested.

Schools sponsored trips cleaning up rivers and streams. Then it will allow more people to be a part in cleaning up our area.

Please educate people to the fact that litter along our roadways affect our water quality. Blount Co. roadways are very affected by litter bugs.

Have school children check water quality in classes or area waterways.

Hazardous waste collection should be extended to year-round to make this service as accessible as possible to citizens.

Did I miss it. What about weekly County pick-up of solid waste or at least (depository collection points) area to deposit solid waste pick-up to the county dump (sanitary land fill)?

I think the key here is to educate and encourage the public to volunteer – but not mandatory control from county & government.

Everything to be volunteer.

Oil collection & hazardous collection site should always be available at the dump.

Definite maybe. Again measure just how effective each of above will be before implementation.

Does anyone do any of this already?

Could use a lot more jail inmates to pick up litter saving tax dollars.

Inmates at jail to participate in water clean up activities.

Sponsor plantings in riparian zones.

County should enforce litter laws. Bottle Bill would help. Corporate involvement – return your trash to McDonalds etc. (for a free coke!)

We need some sort of educational/motivational project to teach people not to throw trash out of boats & car windows. We need regulations, and we need education.

Employ students to pickup trash.

Recycling centers outside cities at well traveled points.

Again, get a fee from the developers and use that to develop volunteer programs.

Get kids involved in monitoring/measuring stream quality ... especially outside urban areas.

Happy Valley we have already participated in this w/ Beautiful Blount County. Ms. Dawson made this possible & her personal effort brought us happily into participation w/ the rest of the county (00,01,02) we benefited immediately & are still carrying out the effort.

Sponsor and support volunteer pick up in communities including supplying dumpsters for trash deposit.

Set date and do it (name withheld).

Set up a on going or quarterly time at local land fill to receive hazardous waste – make more ease of use – not just once a year!

More frequent hazardous waste collection days.

Increased use of prison inmates might also help.

More than one day a year for collection of hazardous waste.

Need to involve civic groups, schools, churches, etc.

Volunteers to assist staff in water pollution detection and reporting.

Work with Keep Blount Beautiful. They could be a good source of support. Get the Chamber of Commerce to buy into the plan.

Clean up of area waterways cannot happen w/o support from the county & cities.

Great “community service” activity for first offenders, etc.

Money? Volunteers? Who will do this work?

Inmates should be on roadsides picking up litter.

PAGE 5 (BOTTOM) of Response Form – use of government funds for incentives.

Agree
Disagree
No Opinion

County funds should be used as incentives to adopt best management practices to protect water quality.

189 Forms	Agree	Disagree	No Opinion	No Response
Number	108	35	30	16
Percent	57.14	18.52	15.87	8.47

Comments:

Work with Keep Blount Beautiful; Grants too. / private \$ Robert Wood Johnson Foundation.

Only for private citizens or community groups – not developers.

Use tax breaks.

Widen existing roads to accommodate more traffic.

Probably would not have the funding available.

Rebate after inspection.

Agree
Disagree
No Opinion

State and Federal funds should be used as incentives to adopt best management practices to protect water quality.

189 Forms	Agree	Disagree	No Opinion	No Response
Number	132	26	14	17
Percent	69.84	13.76	7.41	8.99

Comments:

May be used for developers .

State and Federal funds are being used to directly decrease our water quality by means of the Parkway.

Beware of outside manipulation and control.

Comments General to Page 5 (BOTTOM):

I'm assuming incentives = paying persons/firms to do what is right.

Have to know what.

These incentive programs can lead to Big Trouble.

PAGE 6 of Response Form – options for regulations.

Agree Disagree No Opinion

Zoning Regulations: regulations of the use and development of land which could include regulation of grading and construction activities of individual developments.

189 Forms	Agree	Disagree	No Opinion	No Response
Number	149	18	13	9
Percent	78.84	9.52	6.88	4.76

Comments:

Can regulate developers without zoning.

Only on grading and construction, not general zoning.

Grade restrictions on logging, mining, building.

Agree Disagree No Opinion

Subdivision Regulations: regulation of the division of land (as in tract subdivisions) and the setting of standards for development of roads and other improvements, which could include regulation of subdivision grading and construction activities.

189 Forms	Agree	Disagree	No Opinion	No Response
Number	169	5	8	7
Percent	89.42	2.65	4.23	3.70

Comments:

Already regulated.

If significant ground cover such as trees are to be removed, erosion control/flooding control is imperative.

Also limits on too much development on good farmland and forested hills, and flood plains.

Plantings around open water.

Agree Disagree No Opinion

Septic Field Regulations: regulations on the installation and operation of private septic fields, which could include more stringent standards than minimum state guidelines to help insure property installation and maintenance of private septic systems.

189 Forms	Agree	Disagree	No Opinion	No Response
Number	160	16	7	6
Percent	84.66	8.47	3.70	3.17

Comments:

Regarding septic fields, someday we must consider sewers.

Hand out to owners via health office who does perk test.

Agree Disagree No Opinion

Junk and Litter regulations: regulations geared to removing junk and litter on private property, which could be used to protect against improper storage of materials that could impact water quality.

189 Forms	Agree	Disagree	No Opinion	No Response
Number	156	16	10	7
Percent	82.54	8.47	5.29	3.70

Comments:

But only if toxic.

Need some incentive here! Where will you put all the old farm equipment/cars etc

Agree in concept, but it would be very unpopular.

More stringent please. Something with more bite.

Big problem Bell Branch lots of junk thrown into Bell Branch.

Would be in favor of any means that would regulate private land owners from accumulating junk and litter on their property.

Apply equally to business commercial, industrial, residential and government.

Agree Disagree No Opinion

Erosion Control regulations: regulation of activities that could result in erosion impacts on water quality. Usually such regulations are incorporated into zoning and subdivision regulations, but could be adopted as free-standing regulations if allowed under state law.

189 Forms	Agree	Disagree	No Opinion	No Response
Number	147	12	17	13
Percent	77.78	6.35	8.99	6.88

Comments:

Don't understand enough.

Special erosion control regulations should be adopted for high erosion potential areas such as ridge or mountainous terrain.

Agree Disagree No Opinion

Toxic Waste regulations: regulations on the storage and disposal of toxic wastes. Usually part of state or federal regulations, but could be adopted by local governments if allowed under state laws.

189 Forms	Agree	Disagree	No Opinion	No Response
Number	166	6	7	10
Percent	87.83	3.17	3.70	5.29

Comments:

Big, big fine and/or jail for violations, much publicity about violators.

Comments General to Page 6:

Get distributors of pollutants to be more responsible for the effects of their business e.g. Chemlawn causes a lot of non-point source pollution.

Every policy & issue is good – like motherhood & apple pie. The real issue is the cost of surveillance and enforcement. There needs to be a program to sell the need for a tax to support implementing these policies. Then do it!

Regulations are good – unless we cannot police them. We must start somewhere, & rules are essential, but we probably will need other incentives than \$. Negative reinforcement, i.e. fines, penalties & bond revoking might be more beneficial than manpower police.

Recycling (junk & litter) programs sponsored by agencies.

No excavations of “ancient” dumpsites (pre-1940).

Encourage the retention of trees regulation – subdivisions should be built around existing vegetation.

Moratoriums on new subdivisions (30 years too late) & compensation.

With enforcement! Personnel needed.

Erosion control and waste requirements are already required by state law. The stormwater & waste areas have specific requirements which are pretty strict already. Why reinvent the wheel, it is difficult to enforce.

Clean out old auto salvage yards.

Enforcement of current septic tank regulations as well as new development tracts.

How about recycling – trash cans along new hike and bike trails, especially where tables are set up.

Big brother interference.

The key to all of above is enforcement.

Give septic system use guidelines to new homeowners.

Fines for “littered” private property.

We need better regulations. We BADLY need zoning, and we desperately need enforcement of regulations.

Provide county waste sites for people who do not have refuse pick up to deposit their trash.

Does this include oil, gas, pesticides used in homes? Some people change oil & dump the dirty oil in the woods.

We badly need stricter enforcement of anti-litter laws!

Limit residential development in the county.

Not just regulation but enforcement.

Have clean up days – I get sick every time I walk to Abrams Creek by Bell Branch Stream.

Blount Co. should solicit a local communication/P.R. firm to develop a campaign as their donation to community preservation/improvement.

Erosion – should look as specific – total may be too broad.

State or federal regulations should get the message out – to keep adding local laws just adds more cost.

Have them based upon sound science – hydrology, biology – as well as upon social/economic concerns.

Designate some areas to remain undeveloped – green space is just as important as development.

Control litter from building sites that blows all over community.

We some how need to slow down urban sprawl w/ zoning regs or other means.

Morristown will be a good model to follow. They have done a marvelous job by getting city ordinance adopted.

PAGE 7 of Response Form – approaches for different land uses.

Zoning Regulations
Subdivision Regulations
Erosion Control Regulations
Voluntary Guidelines
Incentive Programs
Education on BMPs
Other _____
(specify)
Do nothing

Which approaches are appropriate for the land use of **Timberland** (commercial harvesting of trees)

189 Forms Not Cumulative	Zoning Regulations	Subdivision Regulations	Erosion Control Regs.	Voluntary Guidelines
Number	47	26	128	41
Percent	24.87	13.76	67.72	21.69

189 Forms Not Cumulative	Incentive Programs	Education on BMPs	Other Specified	Do Nothing	No Response
Number	57	64	6	8	18
Percent	30.16	33.86	3.17	4.23	9.52

Other Specified:

Public record of violations – publish in newspaper.

Rapadian (riparian?) zones applied properly.

Fines.

Preservation lands.

Require permit.

Penalties for non-compliance.

Comments:

Needed, but not sure of which objection.

Aren't these exempt from many regulations? How are you going to change that at the local level?

Already exist (in relation to erosion control regulations for Timberland).

Not knowledgeable enough.

Much education, only one warning, big fine, jail – must, must replant w/ natives.

Zoning Regulations Subdivision Regulations Erosion Control Regulations Voluntary Guidelines Incentive Programs Education on BMPs Other _____ (specify) Do nothing

Which approaches are appropriate for the land use of **Agriculture or Farming**

189 Forms Not Cumulative	Zoning Regulations	Subdivision Regulations	Erosion Control Regs.	Voluntary Guidelines
Number	35	12	111	60
Percent	18.52	6.35	58.73	31.75

189 Forms Not Cumulative	Incentive Programs	Education on BMPs	Other Specified	Do Nothing	No Response
Number	92	74	4	10	17
Percent	48.68	39.15	2.12	5.29	8.99

Other Specified:

Fines.

Farm Land Protective Laws.

Limit public water access.

New regulations.

Comments:

Aren't these exempt from many regulations? How are you going to change that at the local level?

Tax Breaks. (in relation to incentive programs)

I don't farm & feel inadequate.

Educate farmers about federal \$ available to keep live-stock out of the water.

Zoning Regulations
Subdivision Regulations
Erosion Control Regulations
Voluntary Guidelines
Incentive Programs
Education on BMPs
Other _____
(specify)
Do nothing

Which approaches are appropriate for the land use of **New Residential Subdivision Development** (construction phase)

189 Forms Not Cumulative	Zoning Regulations	Subdivision Regulations	Erosion Control Regs.	Voluntary Guidelines
Number	122	144	106	21
Percent	64.55	76.19	56.08	11.11

189 Forms Not Cumulative	Incentive Programs	Education on BMPs	Other Specified	Do Nothing	No Response
Number	36	60	14	1	20
Percent	19.05	31.75	7.41	0.53	10.58

Other Specified:

Fee implementation on developers.

Bonding for long-term storm water volume or quality degradation.

Certification of developers.

Public record. (of violations)

Restrict any new development.

Control.

Fines.

Encourage “green areas”.

Enforcement of regs.

Limit it drastically.

Mandatory for developers.

Constant review.

Stiff fines.

Education.

Comments:

Need to limit growth in county - encourage use of “brown field” sites – reduce loss of agriculture land.

State program. (in relation to education on BMPs)

Owners and well as builders. (in relation to education on BMPs)

Large monetary penalties to developers whose poor planning or lack of results in run off, sedimentation and siltation of streams, flooding etc.

Limits to development based upon kind of soil, topography, hydrology. Make them consider the land as they develop!

Please regulate! We are a sensitive area to the Park & Abrams Creek/Chilogotee Creek. We have plenty of homes w/ 55 ga. Drums & some with straight pipe dumps!

Zoning Regulations
Subdivision Regulations
Erosion Control Regulations
Voluntary Guidelines
Incentive Programs
Education on BMPs
Other _____
(specify)
Do nothing

Which approaches are appropriate for the land use of **Existing Residential Use** (established subdivisions or residential sites)

189 Forms Not Cumulative	Zoning Regulations	Subdivision Regulations	Erosion Control Regs.	Voluntary Guidelines
Number	79	73	89	58
Percent	41.80	38.62	47.09	30.69

189 Forms Not Cumulative	Incentive Programs	Education on BMPs	Other Specified	Do Nothing	No Response
Number	54	68	3	5	21
Percent	28.57	35.98	1.59	2.65	11.11

Other Specified:

Fines

Education about pesticide & yard chemical use, ed. About car pollution sources (oil change etc.)

Education.

Comments:

Upper end of Valley straight pipe into creeks .

Large monetary penalties to developers whose poor planning or lack of results in run off, sedimentation and siltation of streams, flooding etc.

Co-sponsor incentives – both \$ and assistance – for residents but not developers

Cost share to retro-fit detention structures for storm water quantity; work with developers to “do the right thing”, possibly establish a “green developer” certification.

Comments General to Page 7:

Publish violations (of) regulations as a public record in the newspaper – just like DUI, etc.

PAGE 8 of Response Form – approaches for different land uses (continued).

Zoning Regulations
Subdivision Regulations
Erosion Control Regulations
Voluntary Guidelines
Incentive Programs
Education on BMPs
Other _____
(specify)
Do nothing

Which approaches are appropriate for the land use of **New Commercial or Industrial Development** (construction phase).

189 Forms Not Cumulative	Zoning Regulations	Subdivision Regulations	Erosion Control Regs.	Voluntary Guidelines
Number	135	49	117	37
Percent	71.43	25.93	61.90	19.58

189 Forms Not Cumulative	Incentive Programs	Education on BMPs	Other Specified	Do Nothing	No Response
Number	48	66	9	1	22
Percent	25.40	34.92	4.76	0.53	11.64

Other Specified:

Fees.

Public record of violations.

No new construction.

Large monetary penalties.

Control.

Fines.

Limit it.

Stiff fines.

Publicity of both positive and negative,

Comments:

Don't be so anxious to get new industrial development.

Please regulate.

Zoning Regulations
Subdivision Regulations
Erosion Control Regulations
Voluntary Guidelines
Incentive Programs
Education on BMPs
Other _____
(specify)
Do nothing

Which approaches are appropriate for the land use of **Existing Commercial or Industrial Development** (established commercial or industrial sites).

189 Forms Not Cumulative	Zoning Regulations	Subdivision Regulations	Erosion Control Regs.	Voluntary Guidelines
Number	92	37	101	48
Percent	48.68	19.58	53.44	25.40

189 Forms Not Cumulative	Incentive Programs	Education on BMPs	Other Specified	Do Nothing	No Response
Number	57	65	8	2	27
Percent	30.16	34.39	4.23	1.06	14.29

Other Specified:

Fees.

Public record of violations.

Large monetary penalties.

Control (as other alternative approach for addressing both new and existing commercial or industrial development.)

Fines.

Less strict but reasonable upgrades.

Stiff fines.

Publicity of both positive and negative.

Comments: None.

Page 8 (bottom) - call for other general comments.

You may have other opinions or comments that were not adequately covered above. Please write any other opinions or comments you may have concerning water quality of rivers lakes and streams below (continue on back of this page for more space):

Comments:

County – program for riparian zone restoration & protection along all streams – protect & designate functional “greenbelt” protection zones – consider countywide solid waste collection franchise system (with area haulers involved) – county enforcement of class V injection wells (SDWA) – support for aggressive waterway/stream water quality monitoring

Thank you & Blount County for recognizing the problem & bringing this information to us. We are concerned about the pollution & want to work with you to improve water quality.

I am for all of this but I would not vote for anything until a price tag is placed on it. And what the tax will go up.

TV ads are of minimal effect.

We need to give incentives now to get the animals out of the Little River and its watershed. We need to address the sewage treatment in Townsend. This situation is already adversely effecting the Little River watershed.

Thank you for holding these meetings. I look forward to being involved in this process. (name and phone number withheld)

Groundwater percolation “close to stream” leaching of old dump sites, septic systems

Partner w/ Chamber of Commerce for education through industry “each one teach one”.

Note: I think one of the best advertised about litter was several years ago with the man riding in the convertible throwing trash out of his car. I know our grandchildren would sing the song. It made them think when they saw trash on the road. It was a good advertisement about littering. Title Tennessee Trash

Reduction – C of C (Chamber of Commerce) efforts to increase county growth rate (no more industrial park projects)

The cities of Maryville, Alcoa and Rockford along with Blount County should formulate common regulations and policies. Effort should be made to consolidate plans.

Need to try to get the younger generation to be involved. Either using TV/radio as listed before. The younger generation will be the ones living with the development now and will continue to be a major part in decision making later.

I would be interested in participating farther (name and address withheld) Thank you!

New roads – especially the Pellissippi extension, according to the assessment, there will be significant siltation and flood plain damage in the affected area which the assessment states will not be contained because of expense. Asphalt – if a business goes out of business, they should return the land to some kind of re-absorption of the water.

Planning for growth & minimum impact – the whole question of new roads – Pellissippi Beltway has not been adequately addressed as far as water quality is concerned. The assessment package says that there will be significant impact on siltation and flooding of streams which cross it. These streams contribute to the Maryville water supply. Also the increased zinc and other pollutants and the increased pollution from the developments which naturally follows roads are being ignored. What ever your stand on the road, the problem should be acknowledged and given the weight it deserves since it will have nothing but negative results for Blount County citizens in the future. This survey is a farce otherwise. I have already filled out one of these surveys.

No more controls – we have enough regulations.

The public should be given the opportunity to volunteer as opposed to being mandated.

Where is all the money coming from.

The Little River area must have a common sewer system.

Good program/presentation. Things I am curious about: how do we benchmark/compare to other communities?; what types of federal/state funds are available; does the current county staff have sufficient time to pursue the initiatives (is more staff needed?); without further study, I do not support more stringent septic tank standards, but I do support more aggressive enforcement of existing standards; federal and state grant (etc) monies should be pursued aggressively – I think local/county funds should match only to a minimal degree (5-10%).

(1) Certify developers – courses in BMP's, erosion control, etc. (2) Take away certification and large monetary penalties if fail to protect waterways from flooding, siltation, etc. (3) Reclaim existing parking lots into permeable ground & ground covers growing. (4) Widen existing roads rather than adding to a huge problem by building the Pellissippi extension and beltway – will reduce pollution ozone, CO₂, oil, etc pollutants into waterways.

The items that effect water quality (especially as it relates to impervious surfaces) listed in the slides listed commercial & industrial land use, impact of residential development and impact of transportation (and timberland) area all effected by the simple building of roads. Roads bring commercial & industrial units, and the impact of the road. Every mile of road built should have a calculated cost.

Developers are worst abusers of pollution and future pollution. A concentrated effort should be made to find and correct pollution to our streams especially from sewers.

If you are truly concerned on water quality help us get a sewer system for Townsend. It appears by the wording of this questionnaire that your intentions are to stymie growth through septic fields to protect Maryville-Alcoa's water quality by stopping growth of Tuck(aleechee) cove. Townsend is unique to anywhere in Blount Co. Tourism #1 industry in state. Promote it don't stop it.

In the process of tax reform, Blount County should form a coalition with other tourism-oriented counties to press for the dedication of a portion of the gas tax to improving water as well as air quality. We need to slow down on road construction and dedicate tax dollars to cleaning up air & water in our region.

Keep cattle & all farm animals out of streams.

Since impervious surfaces are identified as a source of water pollution – I can say that I definitely see too many impervious surfaces. Blount County is becoming a “concrete jungle” . There are too many oversized parking lots (which remain almost half empty) and partially empty strip malls. For example: Brown's Creek Shopping Center and Midland Plaza. On a larger scale – TDOT is planning to build the Pellissippi Parkway Extension and the Southern Loop. This is an unnecessary interstate highway that will pave over a tremendous amount of land and, in my opinion, will be very catastrophic to our community.

(Name and address withheld) I think that I140 Pellissippi Pkwy does not need to be built will encourage pollution & water quality & quality of life.

This paper contains tremendously ambitious policy & plans – These cannot and will not go into effect overnight – establish a priority order for implementation & get on with it.

Allow incentives for composting toilets.

Monitoring of pollution of golf courses (especially fertilizers).

I am concerned about the impacts of the Pellissippi Parkway Extension on the Little River – esp. the long range impacts, involving

explosive new development and suburban growth. I'm very concerned about the lack of restrictions on building & development close to the river – septic and other pollution. We have too much asphalt and not enough rural land, not enough trees. We need to encourage our farmers, and begin creating park-land and green space along Little River to protect our water supply. Thank you for this excellent workshop! (name withheld)

We are concerned about large parking lots. We are missing the opportunity to stipulate that commercial parking lots must be made with permeable types of paving AND must include provisions for shade trees planted at intervals. (This won't make Wal-Mart happy but would make better life quality.) More trees in parking lots + cooler runoff, more oxygen.

Nails Creek is impacted by Sevier County – Kroger parking new business in Seymour – do you coordinate with Sevier County?

People who log their land need to replant trees.

Each land owner should be responsible for the land – erosion, runoff, etc.

What about Pellissippi Pky Extension? It will contribute to deterioration of water quality & will increase development/urbanization. You need to increase the distance from river that homes can be built. Thank you.

This land needs to be protected. There are too many people, too many septic tanks, too many new roads. It needs to be controlled and limited. As it is now, a developer can come in and add 100+ people to areas as small as a square mile or less. It damages the land and water and the general quality of life.

Duplication of water distribution systems is wasteful – water districts need to be merged. Chamber of Commerce should be responsible for promoting sustainable growth. Water land use experts in surveying and development approaches.

Check all septic systems. Have Fall and Spring clean stream days. Snakes are out in Summer, but I will be willing to help. I am fed up with people pollution. (name, address and telephone withheld)

Must consider future growth and impacts which may generate need for new regulations.

Water quality is important – people are interested but I don't know how you can get them to do things about it – education of the children may be the answer – lots of ways in different areas. Maybe special presentations to schools & 4H extension service maybe able to help.

Insure – new deicing of highways is safe and environmentally best practice. High population areas – push for better septic systems (Friendsville, Walland, Townsend, Louisville – etc. – older existing communities).

Let's coordinate water quality with quality of life – keep Blount County high quality in every aspect: agricultural, residential, commercial, parks & greenways, transportation (not just 4-laning everything). Control growth – make it appropriate for the land!

Education – develop a package for teachers to use in the classroom – have classroom visit + “adopt” sections of streams to learn & clean up – develop a young citizenry who are informed and who are familiar with our streams. Designate areas in our county that are not suitable for development – steep areas should be used for watershed, forestry & wildlife rather than development – i.e. limit development alongside ground water (streams & rivers). Stop unnecessary highways & roads. Impose an impact fee for development. Call me I'll help (name and phone withheld).

Water and air quality. This is a no brainer to me but consistently I am amazed at the Fed, State & local governments reaction (as opposed to prevention) of degradation of our environment. What's the secret? Does someone near and dear to a influential politician have to develop a life threatening disease for these issues to have an impact?

We need specific contact available, and publicized, to report very obvious and ongoing pollution violations: i.e., animal waste flowing into Little River from Wesley Woods equestrian area on Old Walland Highway. I have to agree with most options, even though not all are practical at present, in hopes of getting as many positive results as possible.

I think subdivisions threaten Blount County's water quality the most. Lack of silt fencing, run-off and litter contribute to problem. Limit resource farming.

Need to reward good practices when they are applied. This should go to the company or person whom is over the practices (BMP).

I thought you did a good job on the WQ4 presentations. I liked that you pointed out pollution is no longer just an "end of the pipe" problem. I hope you've gotten lots of helpful feedback. Now you've got the tough job of sifting through the responses & condensing it into meaningful information. (name withheld)

Other Comments from different source:

(via e-mail) John, here is some input for your water quality initiative.

In rural settings, if you want to clear up the stream, you get the pig out of the spring. That's harder to do in the city. Two specific areas could be approached to help.

PARKING LOTS. A lot of pollution comes from the concrete and asphalt areas used by cars and other activity. Large areas can be subject to capture and treatment, such as parking lots. Identified lots such as Target, Wal-mart, Foothills Mall, can be furnished with treatment facilities to lessen the impact of pollution (such as oil, rubber, heavy metals, sediment and temperature). Many cities have already expressed ordinances to this problem, such as K'ville. In Blount County's situation, a lot of the Pistol Creek watershed is already impacted. When control ordinances are considered, grandfathering should be allowed only as a time-delay feature to comply, not a permanent exemption.

GASOLINE AND FUEL OIL SERVICE STATIONS AND DISTRIBUTOR FACILITIES. The bulk handling of liquid hydrocarbons presents a hazardous waste pollution potential in two ways; First, as the accumulated pollution from the hundreds of drips and tiny spills that occur every day from the transfer facility (gas stations); secondly, from the potential accidental large spill. 80% of these large spills come from faulty transfer piping, hoses, or fittings. Human error is also a factor.

An anecdotal piece of information, from a local government expert, is that a service station tanker spill occurs about every two years in the K'ville area. Is your neighborhood Exxon next? Who knows? But prior planning can prevent a disastrous discharge to the nearest stream, (and therefore eventually to the Little River). Every such transfer location should be constructed with curbs to control the flow of a spill to a holding spot for containment, where hazardous waste crews can clean it up. All sewer openings should be blocked either permanently, or temporarily during the fuel transfers. In most cases, the local filling station can retrofit to this standard relatively simply; in a few instances it could be difficult, but this should not be an excuse to not comply. The other problem, that of many drips accumulating to a large overall pollution source, is not easily solved with a single piece of equipment like that used to treat stormwater runoff from the shopping centers. Characteristically, these small spills evaporate most of the volatile hydrocarbon and the problem appears to evaporate as well. This is not entirely true, and along with the occasional one gallon spills, rain and wash water constantly flush the heavier hydrocarbons, heavy metals, sediment and rubber down the storm sewer. If the County had a consistent policy of control it could be very meaningful to overall stream pollution. One suggestion might be to require pavement and curbing designed to divert flows to a specific point where a cleanup can be performed (also see capture of major spills, above) such as a 100 to 500 gallon vault which would capture sediment by settling and hydrocarbon by skimming. Periodic cleanout would be required.

This might sound radical, but these are not new ideas; they are installed in some locations. By getting ahead of the curve of progress, we not only save future grief, but get an earlier start on saving the River. (name withheld)

Blount County Water Quality Planning Process Citizen Input Workshop Response Form

Thank you for participating in this Citizen Input Workshop for Water Quality Planning. The County is focusing on water quality issues of rivers, lakes and streams. The following is a structured opportunity for you to give your opinion on several aspects and issues related to water quality.

The 1999 Blount County Policies Plan included several policy and objective statements relating to water quality in the county. The following reproduces those policies, objectives and suggestions for implementation. Please give your opinion on the statements (please underline or circle your response in the box to the left).

Agree Disagree No Opinion

Policy: The lakes, rivers and streams in the county should be protected as a part of our natural environment and drinking water resource, and as part of our scenic and recreational resource.

Agree Disagree No Opinion

Conduct a study of pollution sources of the Little River, and formulate a county wide pollution prevention program.
 Implementation: Coordinate a study of pollution sources with other agencies, such as TVA, and create an advisory committee to formulate a pollution prevention program.

Agree Disagree No Opinion

Protect the health of the citizens of Blount County, and protect the quality of water in the county. Implementation: Formulate and consider more stringent septic field standards specific to Blount County (revision of existing minimal state standards). Pursue more stringent enforcement for violation of septic disposal standards. The County should develop a water and pollution prevention program of its own.

Agree Disagree No Opinion

Protect detention areas and drainage ways in a natural state to enhance drainage capabilities. Implementation: Amend subdivision regulations and other development related regulations to require retention of natural cover for drainage facilities, require additional ground cover for degraded drainage facilities, and require minimization of disturbance and compaction during construction phase.

Agree Disagree No Opinion

Formulate a county-wide drainage plan by drainage basin, addressing quantity of runoff as well as quality of runoff, such plan to form the basis for judging needed drainage requirements of individual new developments. Implementation: Appoint a committee with professional technical help to formulate a plan.

There are several general issues of water quality planning that could be addressed in the plan. Please give your opinion on the following (please underline or circle your response in the box to the left):

Agree
Disagree
No Opinion

Water quality of rivers, lakes and streams is a problem now and the County should take action to address the problem.

Agree
Disagree
No Opinion

With growth in the county, water quality of rivers, lakes and streams will become a problem in the future, and the County should take action now to address the future problem.

Agree
Disagree
No Opinion

Water quality planning should be done in cooperation with the cities in the county.

Agree
Disagree
No Opinion

A specific plan for the Little River should be undertaken given that it is the source of most drinking water in the county.

Agree
Disagree
No Opinion

The County should apply for Federal, State and other grant monies to help implement any water quality plan.

Agree
Disagree
No Opinion

County funds should be used to match available federal, state or other grants for water quality implementation.

Agree
Disagree
No Opinion

The County should participate fully in any Federal or State programs required by law for addressing water quality.

Please write down any other general issues that you think are important in water quality planning for rivers, lakes and streams.

The Phase II Storm Water program of the Federal and State governments requires that the County adopt a plan to include the following components for the more developed areas of the county. Please indicate your opinion on each component as it may be applied to the whole county (please underline or circle your response in the box to the left):

Agree Disagree No Opinion

The County should include Public Education as part of any water quality plan. Public education could include mail-outs, brochures, fact sheets, school presentations, newspaper articles, radio and TV spots, public meetings, booths in public places, and other modes of information dissemination.

Agree Disagree No Opinion

The County should include continuing Public Involvement and Outreach in the implementation of any water quality plan. Public involvement could include adopt-a-stream, storm drain stenciling, community hotline, and other avenues for activities of the public.

Agree Disagree No Opinion

The County should include provisions for Detecting and Eliminating Illicit Discharges from non-storm water sources in any water quality plan. Such discharges could include straight pipe septic systems or direct deposit of wash water into storm drains, ditches, streams, rivers and lakes. Illicit discharge detection and elimination could include provisions for locating illicit discharges, procedures for tracing discharges to source, procedures for removing the source, and procedures for program evaluation.

Agree Disagree No Opinion

The County should include provisions for Construction Site Storm Water Control as part of any water quality plan. Control measures could include requirements that construction sites, including development of subdivisions and commercial sites, have an erosion and sediment control plan, implement best management practices, and control waste such as discarded building materials and chemicals. The controls would usually be incorporated into subdivision regulations and zoning regulations, and would include definition of best management practices, site plan review and approval, site inspections, and enforcement provisions.

Agree Disagree No Opinion

The County should include provisions for Post-Construction Storm Water Management in new development and redevelopment as part of any water quality plan. Measures could include detention ponds, infiltration basins or trenches, porous or permeable paving, grass filter strips, buffer zones, open space design, and regular storm water facility inspection and maintenance.

Agree Disagree No Opinion

The County should adopt best management practices for its own operations to protect water quality, including training of county employees, machinery and facility maintenance procedures, storm drain system cleaning, spill response and prevention, road salt application and storage, and hazardous materials handling.

Education of citizens, developers, public officials and others is usually considered important for implementing a water quality plan. Please give your opinion on the following options for education (please underline or circle your response in the box to the left):

Agree Disagree No Opinion
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The County should use mail-outs of education materials to households to educate the public on ways to protect water quality. The mail-outs could include information on maintenance of septic systems, proper use of pesticides and fertilizers for lawns, and other best management practices appropriate for home use.

Agree Disagree No Opinion
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The County should conduct seminars on water quality best management practices targeting builders and developers. Such seminars could include information on appropriate construction site and post-construction storm water best management practices.

Agree Disagree No Opinion
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The County should produce (and possibly pay for) public service radio and TV spots to spread information on how to protect water quality.

Agree Disagree No Opinion
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The County should develop and present educational materials and presentations on protecting water quality geared to civic groups and other organizations.

Agree Disagree No Opinion
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The County should develop, distribute and present classroom educational materials and presentations on protection of water quality geared to elementary and high school students.

Agree Disagree No Opinion
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The County should sponsor and assist in educational activities for farm best management practices to protect water quality. Such activities could include no- or low-till days, and best management practice farm demonstration projects.

Agree Disagree No Opinion
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The County should sponsor or purchase booths and kiosks for presentation of water quality protection information at public gathering places such as malls and public facilities.

Please write down any other ideas you might have for educational activities relating to water quality:

One way of addressing water quality issues is to join with others in sponsorship of activities, or support volunteer activities geared to protecting water quality. Please indicate your opinion on the following sponsored or volunteer activities (please underline or circle your response in the box to the left):

Agree Disagree No Opinion

The County should sponsor and support Hazardous Waste Collection Days along with the Blount County Solid Waste Authority.

Agree Disagree No Opinion

The County should sponsor and support volunteer river and lake clean-up days – such as Little River or Tennessee River Clean-up Days.

Agree Disagree No Opinion

The County should sponsor and support volunteer litter pick-up teams and adopt-a-highway projects.

Agree Disagree No Opinion

The County should sponsor and support programs for storm drain stenciling (painting information at storm drain outlets warning against deposit of inappropriate materials into storm drains).

Please write down any other ideas you might have for sponsored/volunteer activities relating to water quality:

Some issues of water quality can be addressed with material or money incentives. This is often true for encouraging best management practices in farming. Please give your opinion on using the following funding sources for incentives to adopt best management practices (please underline or circle your response in the box to the left):

Agree Disagree No Opinion

County funds should be used as incentives to adopt best management practices to protect water quality.

Agree Disagree No Opinion

State and Federal funds should be used as incentives to adopt best management practices to protect water quality.

Often, regulations are adopted to directly address issues of protecting water quality. Please indicate your opinion on using the following regulation options for protecting water quality (please underline or circle your response in the box to the left):

<p>Agree Disagree No Opinion</p>
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Zoning Regulations: regulations of the use and development of land which could include regulation of grading and construction activities of individual developments.

<p>Agree Disagree No Opinion</p>
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Subdivision Regulations: regulation of the division of land (as in tract subdivisions) and the setting of standards for development of roads and other improvements, which could include regulation of subdivision grading and construction activities.

<p>Agree Disagree No Opinion</p>
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Septic Field Regulations: regulations on the installation and operation of private septic fields, which could include more stringent standards than minimum state guidelines to help insure property installation and maintenance of private septic systems.

<p>Agree Disagree No Opinion</p>
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Junk and Litter regulations: regulations geared to removing junk and litter on private property, which could be used to protect against improper storage of materials that could impact water quality.

<p>Agree Disagree No Opinion</p>
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Erosion Control regulations: regulation of activities that could result in erosion impacts on water quality. Usually such regulations are incorporated into zoning and subdivision regulations, but could be adopted as free-standing regulations if allowed under state law.

<p>Agree Disagree No Opinion</p>
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Toxic Waste regulations: regulations on the storage and disposal of toxic wastes. Usually part of state or federal regulations, but could be adopted by local governments if allowed under state laws.

Please write down any other ideas you might have for regulations relating to water quality:

The issues of water quality are often treated differently according to specific land use. Please indicate the approaches you think would be most appropriate for the different land uses listed below (please underline or circle your choices in the box to the left – you may choose more than one option per box):

Zoning Regulations
 Subdivision Regulations
 Erosion Control Regulations
 Voluntary Guidelines
 Incentive Programs
 Education on BMPs
 Other _____
 (specify)
 Do nothing

Which approaches are appropriate for the land use of **Timberland** (commercial harvesting of trees)

Zoning Regulations
 Subdivision Regulations
 Erosion Control Regulations
 Voluntary Guidelines
 Incentive Programs
 Education on BMPs
 Other _____
 (specify)
 Do nothing

Which approaches are appropriate for the land use of **Agriculture or Farming**.

Zoning Regulations
 Subdivision Regulations
 Erosion Control Regulations
 Voluntary Guidelines
 Incentive Programs
 Education on BMPs
 Other _____
 (specify)
 Do nothing

Which approaches are appropriate for the land use of **New Residential Subdivision Development** (construction phase).

Zoning Regulations
 Subdivision Regulations
 Erosion Control Regulations
 Voluntary Guidelines
 Incentive Programs
 Education on BMPs
 Other _____
 (specify)
 Do nothing

Which approaches are appropriate for the land use of **Existing Residential Use** (established subdivisions or residential sites).

