

Plans Review Workshop

September 10, 2007

Recap to date

Reviewed Growth Strategy 6/7

Reviewed Policies Plan 6/28

1st Citizen input session 7/17

2nd Citizen input session 8/9

Reviewed 1101 Growth Plan,

Conceptual Land Use Plan, and

Mountain Area Plan 8/14

Reviewed roads, schools, and parks and
recreation plans 8/20

Still to do

Review Water Quality Plan and

EHAT Action Plan 9/10

3rd Citizen input session 9/24

Any other reviews needed? TBS

Any need to present other reviews again?

Any suggestions on how to proceed into
Policies Plan revision?

Water Quality Plan

Adopted April 24, 2003

Plan Review Workshop

Blount County Planning Commission

September 10, 2007

Water Quality Plan

- Extension of Policies Plan
- 22 sites for citizen input – 189 participated
- Citizen Advisory Committee
- Integrated Pollutant Source Identification project – IPSI – \$33,000 County participation – aerial photo interpretation, mapping and analysis
- Tennessee Growth Readiness project – Blount County, Maryville and Alcoa pilot communities along with Knox County – education component
- Phase 2 Stormwater program influence
- HII Growth Strategy recommendations

Implementation Progress

Implementation of Phase 2 Storm Water Program.

Phase 2 Stormwater program plan approved. Stormwater Program Coordinator hired. Plan being implemented in phases. Coordination with Maryville and Alcoa.

Implementation Progress

Storm Water System Mapping.

Mapping planned as part of Phase 2 Stormwater Program. Pilot area complete, remainder of county begun May 2007.

Implementation Progress

Public Education.

Phase 2 Stormwater program and new grant for Little River Watershed contains specific public education components.

Implementation Progress

Development Community Education.

Many in development community have taken TDEC workshop “Fundamentals of Erosion Prevention and Sediment Control”. Phase 2 Stormwater program and new grant for Little River Watershed contains education components.

Implementation Progress

Timberland and Agriculture Community Education.

Soil Conservation Service has ongoing education for agriculture community. Phase 2 Stormwater program and new grant for Little River Watershed contains specific education components.

Implementation Progress

Construction Site Storm Water Control Regulations.

Erosion and sedimentation control regulations adopted in 2004 with required grading permit.

Implementation Progress

Illicit Discharge Management.

Phase 2 Stormwater program requires illicit discharge management as part of phased program implementation.
Regulations adopted April 2006.

Implementation Progress

Post Construction Storm Water Management Regulations.

Phase 2 Stormwater program requires post construction storm water management regulations as part of phased program implementation.

Regulations are under development in coordination with Maryville and Alcoa – deadline early 2008.

Implementation Progress

County Operations.

Phase 2 Stormwater program requires adoption of in-house best management practices as part of phased program implementation. A County Government manual is in process of development.

Implementation Progress

Joint Review of Development Regulations.

County and cities are cooperating in Phase 2 Stormwater Program implementation through joint development and review of required regulations. County and cities also committed to continuing joint review of regulations started prior to plan.

Implementation Progress

Septic Field Regulations.

County has amended Subdivision Regulations related to septic fields to more adequately insure proper long term functioning of septic fields in new subdivisions.

Implementation Progress

Little River Watershed Plan.

Little River Big Future planning process complete. Planning to continue with EPA watershed project funded through grant to Soil Conservation Service.

Implementation Progress

Lackey Creek Watershed Plan.

No progress on this item. Will need to be addressed as resources become available.

Implementation Progress

Storm Water Drainage Control Plan.

No systematic progress to date. Some drainage control problems addressed locally. The scope of this will require substantial resources not yet available.

Implementation Progress

Support for Other Activities.

County supports other water quality related activities by active participation in such groups as the Little River Water Quality Forum, the Environmental Health Action Team, the newly forming Baker/Nine Mile Creek watershed group extending to Loudon County, and expansion of the Tennessee Growth Readiness Project into land use planning considerations.

Growth Strategy

- Growth Strategy generally supports Water Quality Plan policies and implementation.
- Growth Strategy specifies several measures that may be considered in review of the Water Quality Plan.
- A “How To” growth strategy: “Improve management of stormwater runoff and surface and subsurface water quality.”

Growth Strategy

- “Although the County’s subdivision regulations currently mandate requirements for managing stormwater runoff and protection of lakes and streams, and significant studies have been prepared to assess water quality issues, more could be done to understand and support rather than interfere with hydrologic systems of water and stormwater flow.”

Growth Strategy Recommends

- Amend subdivision regulations to require retention of natural cover in wetlands and along streams, retrofit ground cover in degraded areas, and minimize disturbance and compaction during construction.
- Work with developers to identify and protect wellhead and aquifer recharge areas in proposed subdivisions.

Growth Strategy Recommends

- Promote innovative techniques for retaining stormwater and improving groundwater recharge in higher-density developments, such as use of constructed wetlands, permeable pavements, design reductions in impervious surfaces, and tree wells.

Growth Strategy Recommends

- Review and upgrade standards for septic fields as appropriate and pursue enforcement of best practices for managing them.
- Continue working with various local, state, and federal agencies to identify and eliminate sources of water pollution, especially in the Little River.

Growth Strategy Recommends

- Assess problems and formulate retrofit drainage plans in drainage basins most threatened by mismanaged stormwater flows.
- Create formal plan to determine future sewer development based on expected density. Designate areas where sewer should NOT be extended. (TM-11)

Growth Strategy Recommends

- Require setbacks of 100 to 500 feet for new development abutting riparian zones. Protect riparian zones wherever possible. (TM-11)
- Create regulations that require onsite stormwater retention and treatment for each site. This can be done passively using constructed wetlands, holding ponds, riparian zones, bioswales, etc. (TM-11)

Growth Strategy Recommends

- Retrofit old septic systems with sand filters and encourage the state to approve membrane treatment septic systems. As homes are upgraded and renovated, require low-flow toilets to be installed. This will reduce residents' water bills and eventually contribute to improving water quality. (TM-11)

Growth Strategy Recommends

- Encourage developers to build on land that is not appropriate for septic systems to conserve high-quality agricultural land for farming and maintain the agricultural character of the area. This will require developers to use alternative wastewater treatment systems. New development can even install garbage disposals without worrying about ruining septic systems. (TM-11)

Growth Strategy Recommends

- Install a sequencing batch reactor or similar technology that treats clusters of homes off site. The SBR should be served by small diameter pipes and pressure sewers. (TM-11)
- Contact existing alternative wastewater utility companies. (TM-11)

Other Prospects

- Maryville and Alcoa water utilities will study up stream impact on water intake flow and quality
- Environmental Health Action Team addressed water quality issues from standpoint of human health and wellbeing
- State and Federal requirements for Total Maximum Daily Load to address impaired streams and rivers

Other Prospects

- New group forming to address Nine Mile Creek and Baker Creek watersheds
- Tennessee Growth Readiness to include quality growth concepts in training to protect water quality - including green infrastructure concept
- Center for Watershed Protection including smart growth concepts relating to water quality in new ordinance review checklist

Questions?

Comments