

# Request for comments; hearing notice

## Tualatin River Subbasins

Proposed TMDLs and water quality plans available for public review and comment until November 30, 2011.

Hearing at 6 p.m., Wednesday, Nov. 16 at Tualatin Valley Fire and Rescue, North Operating Center, 20665 SW Blanton St, Aloha, OR, 97007

### Comments due

5 p.m., Wednesday, Nov. 30, 2011

### Proposal

DEQ is seeking comments on draft documents describing pollution limits and plans to improve water quality in the Tualatin River subbasins and ensure streams are healthy for fish and wildlife, and safe for fishing and swimming.

DEQ has identified three problems for water quality in stream reaches in the Tualatin River subbasin: temperature, phosphorus and ammonia.

The Federal Clean Water Act requires DEQ to develop plans with goals and pollution control targets for improving water quality in these watersheds. DEQ is doing this by first establishing limits known as Total Maximum Daily Loads, known as TMDLs for each pollutant entering the water system.

A TMDL document uses scientific data collection and analysis to determine the amount and source of each pollutant entering the river system, and allocates pollutant loads to each source at levels that would ultimately restore water quality to clean water standards. A load is the amount of each pollutant a waterway can receive and not violate water quality standards. A TMDL takes into account the pollution from all sources.

Water temperature is greatly affected by a variety of human activities associated with how land is used for forestry, agricultural, residential, urban and industrial purposes. The principal cause of stream heating has been the removal of trees and other shade-producing woody vegetation from stream banks.

Wastewater discharge from industry and sewage treatment facilities may increase loading of nutrients and organic matter.

Other sources of nutrients and organic matter are natural sources, agricultural runoff, fertilizer

application, septic systems, impoundments and waste deposition from animals.

### How to comment

Send comments to Avis Newell, DEQ Northwest Region, 2020 SW 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Suite 400, Portland, OR 97201, by email at [Newell.Avis@deq.state.or.us](mailto:Newell.Avis@deq.state.or.us) or fax to 503-229-6957.

### Hearing

You can provide comments in person at a public hearing, 6 p.m. to 8 p.m., Nov. 16, 2011. The hearing will be held at Tualatin Valley Fire and Rescue, North Operating Center, 20665 SW Blanton St, Aloha, OR, 97007. An information session will precede the formal hearing.

### How to review documents

DEQ encourages individuals with computer capabilities to view the draft TMDL documents and fact sheets on the DEQ Web page at: <http://www.deq.state.or.us/WQ/TMDLs/willamette.htm#>

Draft documents and related materials are available for review at:

DEQ Northwest Region Office  
2020 SW 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Suite 400  
Portland, OR 97201  
Contact: Diana Adams  
503-229-5552

### Accessibility information

*DEQ is committed to accommodating people with disabilities. Please notify DEQ of any special physical or language accommodations or if you need information in large print, Braille or another format. To make these arrangements, contact DEQ Communications & Outreach (503) 229-5696 or toll free in Oregon at (800) 452-4011; fax to 503-229-6762; or e-mail to [deqinfo@deq.state.or.us](mailto:deqinfo@deq.state.or.us).*

*People with hearing impairments may call 711.*



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*DEQ is a leader in restoring, maintaining and enhancing the quality of Oregon's air, land and water.*