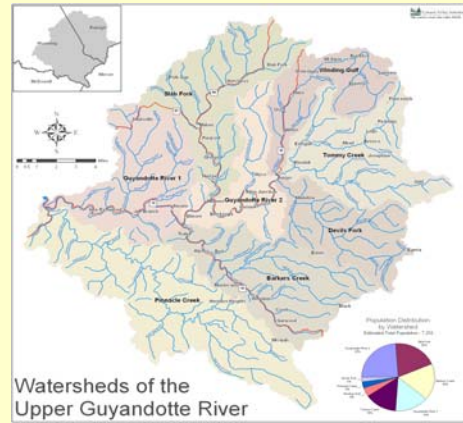


**Wastewater in the Guyandotte:
A VISTA's Story
July 26, 2006**



Watersheds of the Upper Guyandotte River

Our Mission

- To promote a cleaner, healthier, and more prosperous watershed that is more attractive to all stakeholders and is better managed to withstand the impacts of flooding.



Needs Assessment

- Map locations of occupied homes
- Review septic system permits on file at the Health Dept.
- Review service provided by Mullens municipal system

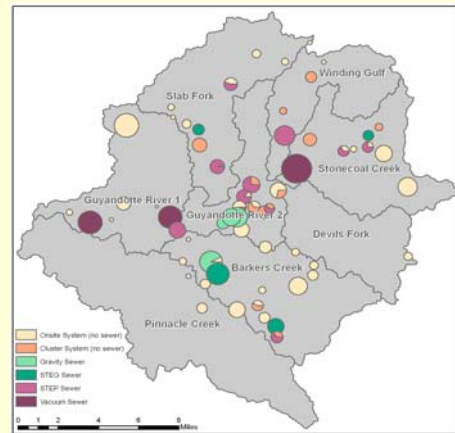
Current Status

- 3,200 occupied homes in watershed
- 2% package plant
- 9% permitted septic
- 23% municipal sewer
- 66% unknown/inadequate



Technical Workshop

- Identify potential projects
- Two day meeting at Twin Falls State Park
- Incorporate external expertise and local knowledge



Project Prioritization

- Impact on water quality
- Construction cost
- Long-term operation and maintenance costs
- Community support
- Impact on public health
- Available funding

Watershed Based Plan

- Comprehensive watershed restoration plan
- a through i criteria
- www.dep.state.wv.us/item.cfm?ssid=11&ss1id=588
- www.ugwawv.org/downloads/UG_WBP_07_06.pdf

Other Elements

- Funding and assistance needed
- Outreach and education
- Timeline for implementation
- Water monitoring
- Measurable milestones
- Evaluation and revision

Long-Term Goals

- Increase access to adequate wastewater treatment
- Demonstrate the effectiveness of alternative and decentralized wastewater treatment technologies
- Realize measurable improvements in water quality

Upper Guyandotte Wastewater Project Committee

- | | |
|--|--|
| • Canaan Valley Institute | • WV DEP |
| • WV Conservation Agency | • Mountain RC&D |
| • Crab Orchard MacArthur PSD | • WV Bureau for Public Health |
| • WV DNR | • WV Water Research Institute |
| • Wyoming County Health Department | • Rural Appalachian Improvement League |
| • Beckley-Raleigh County Health Department | • Southern Conservation District |
| • Raleigh County Commission | • Upper Guyandotte Chapter Trout Unlimited |
| | • City of Mullens |

Devil's Fork Project

- Cluster system serving 15 homes
- Individual septic for 53 homes
- Water monitoring to assess sources of metals
- Continue to education decision makers and managers about decentralized wastewater options

Tips for VISTAs

- Foster community support
- Engage partners
- Capitalize on local knowledge
- Be realistic
- Plan for transfer of knowledge



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