



05-24-2004 028519

05-24-2004 028519

OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER  
301 King Street, Suite 3500  
Alexandria, Virginia 22314-3211

Philip Sunderland  
City Manager

(703) 838-4300  
Fax: (703) 838-6343

May 19, 2004

Robert G. Burnley, Director  
Virginia Department of Environmental Quality  
629 East Main Street  
Richmond, Virginia 23219

Dear Director Burnley:

The City of Alexandria understands the importance of its aquatic resources and supports the Implementation Plan for the Four Mile Run TMDL. The TMDL study that resulted after Four Mile Run was designated with an impaired waters status (1996 and 1998) determined the required load allocations necessary to bring the run in compliance for bacteria. Based on this information, a computer model designed a set of reductions for bacterial loading that would be required to bring the run into compliance and meet the water quality standard for bacteria. The reductions that are most practicable to achieve are associated with human and canine fecal contamination. The City will continue to support and develop programs designed to reduce elevated bacteria (fecal coliform) levels from these sources to help improve water quality in the Four Mile Run watershed.

The City plans to leverage implementation actions with existing programs and efforts to target anthropogenic sources of fecal coliform bacteria pollution. We understand that bacteria of human and canine origin can be reduced through continuation and support of the following Citywide efforts:

- Sanitary sewer rehabilitation due to infiltration and inflow (I and I) problems
- Sanitary sewer inspection and maintenance
- Illicit discharge control
- Proper pet waste disposal education
- Stormwater treatment and management
- Street and storm drain infrastructure development
- Stream corridor restoration
- Stormwater Runoff Reduction
- Outreach and education
- Signage

Robert G. Burnley, Director  
May 19, 2004  
Page 2

The future projects planned for Four Mile Run have the potential to restore its aesthetic and environmental benefits to the City of Alexandria and surrounding areas. Reducing the anthropogenic inputs of fecal coliform bacteria will further enhance the recreational potential of Four Mile Run. The City of Alexandria looks forward to working with the State to meet these goals for Four Mile Run and all other impaired waters in the City.

Sincerely,



Philip Sunderland  
City Manager

cc: The Honorable Mayor and Members of City Council  
Rich Baier, Director, T&ES  
William Skrabak, Division Chief, T&ES Environmental Quality  
William Hicks, P.E., Senior Water Resources Planner, NVRC