

Guest River Residential Septic Program

Cleaning up our River together.

The Guest River Residential Septic Program is an effort led by the Upper Tennessee River Roundtable (UTRR) in partnership with the Department of Environmental Quality, the Virginia Department of Health, the Town of Coeburn, the City of Norton and Lonesome Pine Soil and Water Conservation District.

Purpose is to reduce bacteria levels in the Guest River by working with landowners to maintain, repair, replace or install septic systems through a cost-share program.

We offer 50-75% cost share incentive provided by a grant from the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality. See opposite page for details on cost-share.

How it works:

- 1) Talk with the Guest River Coordinator to see if you might qualify for the program. Contact information is on opposite page.
- 2) Fill out an application for the cost share program. Applications are available at Wise County Health Department, Norton and Coeburn Town Hall, and online at www.guestriver.weebly.com
- 3) Your application will be reviewed and assessed to see if, and to what level, you qualify for the cost share program. Assistance levels are based on household income. See opposite page for more details.
- 4) If approved, go forward with the procedure. To make the project more efficient, UTRR has contracted with one company to do all procedures. If the work is done by anyone other than this one company, no cost share will be available.
- 5) You will pay for your percentage after completion. Upper Tennessee River Roundtable will directly reimburse the contractor for the remainder of the cost.

Contact information

-For more information about the program and to begin the process, please contact:

Guest River Coordinator: Adam Wells
276-926-6621 guesriverproject@gmail.com
130 Clintwood Main Street, Clintwood, VA 24228

-For other questions about residential septic issues, please contact:

Wise County Health Dept.: Brad Stallard
276 328 1933 Brad.Stallard@vdh.virginia.gov

Who is eligible? Any residential home located in the drainages of Crab Orchard Branch, Sepulcher Creek, or Toms Creek (including Little Tom's Creek) is eligible for the program.

Why not other homes in the area? Residences located on the main channel of the Guest River or other tributaries, or homes elsewhere in the area are not eligible for assistance at this time. The reason for this restriction is that the above-named tributaries are currently listed as impaired waterways for bacteria under state and federal standards. Because the goal of this project is to bring the Guest River into compliance with bacteria, this project is focusing on implementing Best Management Practices where they will have the highest level of impact toward achieving our goal.

Cost Share Formula

The Guest River Residential Septic Program follows state-determined guidelines for the cost-share percentage breakdown. Below is the scale, which is based on United States Census data of median household income. **The cost share rate for pump outs is 50% no matter what the household income level. The below cost share rates apply only to repairs, replacements or installations.**

<u>Percent of Median Income</u>	<u>Percent of Cost-Share</u>
< 40%	75%
40 - 60%	70%
61 - 80%	60%
81 - 100%	50%