

Where Can I Get More Information?

Contact Luke Longanecker at the Thomas Jefferson Soil and Water Conservation District (434) 975-0224 ext. 106 or by email at luke.longanecker@tjswcd.org

Luke grew up in Nelson County and went on to study at Virginia Tech. After graduation, Luke interned for USGS before getting a job with Shenandoah Valley Soil and Water Conservation District as a Conservation Technician. After spending a year in the valley, Luke moved back to Nelson County and began working for the with the TJSWCD. Luke is very happy to be back in the area he grew up in and looks forward to working in the place he calls home.

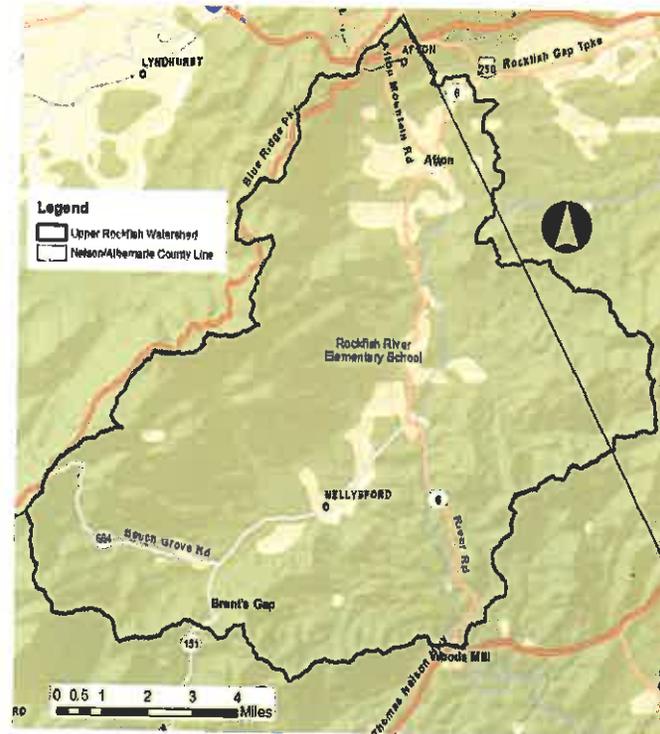
This project received funding from the Environmental Protection Agency's Section 319 Nonpoint Source Implementation Grant Program at the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), via grant contract number: 15749.



Thomas Jefferson Soil and Water Conservation District

Cost Share Assistance Programs for Agriculture Producers

Upper Rockfish River



Upper Rockfish River Clean-Up Project

Help Yourself While Helping the Rockfish

Do you....

- Want to fence your livestock out of streams?
- Want to develop a rotational grazing system to improve pasture quality and grazing potential?

Give us a call today, while funds last.



Agriculture Cost Share Program Available

What they are:

The Cost-share program provides financial and technical assistance to farmers interested in improving water quality on their land.

Who is this program for?

The program is available to agricultural producers in the Upper Rockfish River Watershed in Nelson and Albemarle County.

Why is this program available?

The program was made available through a clean-up plan developed with stakeholder input for the Upper Rockfish River in Nelson and Albemarle Counties. The Rockfish River does not currently meet water quality standards.



Before:



After

Pictures courtesy of the SYSWCD and NRCS.

Types of Agricultural Cost Share Practices

Stream Exclusion with Grazing Land Management

- Minimum buffer width is 35' from the top of the stream bank.
- 100% cost share for field division and stream exclusion fence.
- 100% cost share for cross fence to implement a rotational grazing system
- 100% cost share for an alternative watering system (watering troughs, pipeline, etc.)

Livestock Exclusion with Reduced Setback

- Minimum buffer width is 10' from the top of the stream bank.
- 50% cost share for division and stream exclusion fence.
- 50% cost share for an alternative watering system (watering troughs, pipeline, etc.)
- 25% refundable state tax credit on landowner's out-of-pocket expenses.



Benefits of Fencing Streams

Streamside livestock exclusion benefits your bottom line by:

- Reducing incidents of disease and injury
 - Less likelihood of diseases such as foot rot, bovine virus, diarrhea, environmental mastitis
 - Fewer injuries from muddy, steep streambanks
 - Fewer calves lost from being born in the stream
- Increasing weight gain in beef cattle
 - Cattle gain 5-10% more weight when drinking clean water from troughs versus water from streams.
- Supporting better management of available forage by using an alternative water source and distributing automatic troughs on pastures to help distribute grazing pressure.
- If streamside livestock exclusion becomes mandatory in the future, your fences will already be installed.