

September 2, 2009 Workshop
Managing Tennessee Waters: From State Policy to Local Needs

Question 1: Based on what you heard today, what opportunities can you describe to ensure that your local rivers continue to provide you with a sustainable water supply into the future? *We have an opportunity to move forward by:*

- Present EPA's Watersense to the public
- Expand on existing Public Service Announcements related to water quantity
- Non-Governmental Organizations: Promote conservation, work on legislative issues, work and meet with state agencies
- National experiences: bring solutions from other areas of the country/world
- Promote local watershed organizations and groups working on water issues
- Plan on watershed/sub-watershed level: HUC 8 or smaller level
- Engage the media in water quantity issues

Question 2: What are the roadblocks to the above opportunities for ensuring your local rivers can continue to supply water?

- Recruit more people instead of the same partners
- Misconception about abundance of water in Tennessee
- Discuss issues with agricultural exemption
- Overcoming old school ways of doing business
- Unreported withdrawals
- Cycling money back to Water Departments and/or the State to develop better solutions to water quantity problems
- Lack of coordination, innovation, incentives between departments like TDEC, ECD and others

Question 3: Based on all of this, when you leave here today what is the next thing you're going to do or can do to protect sustainable river flow? (Solution Pathways)

- Talk with the media
- State Water Supply plan with funding: get group together to discuss
- Educate people on the value of water
- Working with the state Department of Education and other state-level education entities to make water part of the state curriculum
- More effective water advocacy at the State Legislature
- Create/support physical projects (like rain barrels) to educate through action

Future Meeting: To discuss follow-up to Workshop #1: Managing Tennessee Waters