

Boone Watershed Partnership Receives a Stream Restoration Project Grant for Gap Creek

The Tennessee Department of Agriculture has announced that the Boone Watershed Partnership is receiving an EPA funded, 319 grant of \$18,000 to address nonpoint source pollution on Gap Creek, which runs through and Elizabethton in Carter County in Tennessee.

The Boone Watershed Partnership is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that works with local users, regional, state and federal entities, educators and others to identify and address water resource issues in the Boone Watershed, an area of about 686 square miles lying in Sullivan, Washington and Carter Counties of Tennessee and Washington County of Virginia.

This 2 year project will address nonpoint sources of pollution on Gap Creek, a state-listed 303(d) listed stream. (A 303(d) listed stream is a one that is impaired). Gap Creek is listed because of stream sediment. The restoration plan includes stream bank stabilization, establishing buffer zones along the stream, providing assistance to farmers for livestock, Best Management Practices, and public outreach and education within the Elizabethton City limits.

The total cost of the project will be \$30,392, with the rest of the funding being provided by local partners, including the City of Elizabethton, the Boone Watershed Partnership, TVA, volunteers and others. 319 grants require that local partners assist in the project. According to City of Elizabethton officials, pending Council approval, much the city's cost will be providing technical assistance and design work.