

Date: Tue, 27 Jun 2006 15:06:08 -0400
From: "Gerard Zitnik"
To: "Juliet Page"
Subject: Re: Contact Form Submission

Juliet,

The conventional wisdom would suggest that the continuing problems with Marley, Furnace and Rock Creeks are primarily due to non-point sources of pollution. These creeks drain some of the most congested highly urbanized portions of the County, which unfortunately makes mitigation problematic. While sewer line breaks and septic discharges can occur, urban runoff seems to be the major culprit. Regarding Mill Creek, we have no (bacterial) historical information to draw any conclusions at this time since the Health Dept.'s sampling program is directed toward designated community beaches, which don't exist on Mill Creek. Lastly, I don't see strong parallels between Mill Creek and the other northern creeks.

Gerry

>>> Juliet Page 6/27/2006 2:32:56 PM >>>
Gerry,

Thanks for the explanation. Does the county know the source of the bacteria or the reasons behind the elevated levels in these rivers?

The reason I ask is because I live on Mill Creek which has been closed due to elevated bacteria levels the past 3 or so weeks, and it's not clear based on the data that I've seen what the continuing source of the Mill Creek

bacteria might be. I was wondering if there might be some parallels to the headwaters of Marley, Furnace Branch and Rock Creek (ie. wildlife, runoff, septic systems).

Thanks,
Juliet Page

At 01:03 PM 6/27/2006, Gerard Zitnik wrote:

>Ms. Page,

>

>Marley, Furnace Branch, and Rock Creek (portion) have been closed since

>the late 70s (or early 80s) due to continuing poor bacteriological

>sample results. These sites are sampled monthly during the summer

>season, but have not shown trends toward improvement; therefore, the

>waterways remain closed.

>

>Gerry Zitnik

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>Gerard A. Zitnik, Jr.

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>

> >>> 6/24/2006 7:10:58 PM >>>

>Name: Juliet Page

>Phone:

>Comments: Sorry I hit enter before and it submitted the form before

>I'd

>filled it in. I was wondering why the following rivers are closed for

>the whole summer? Spring - Summer 2006 Marley Creek (Glen Burnie)

>closed

>Furnace Branch (Glen Burnie) closed Rock Creek (Pasadena) closed from

>the headwaters to Valley Road, Wall Cove and Whites Cove