

Subject: : Conservation

Topic: : Chicken Farm on Big Spring Creek

Re: Chicken Farm on Big Spring Creek

Author: : barbless

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URL:

I would be very skeptical of this enterprise.

Large chicken farm operations have trashed rivers all over the place with their waste. The Shenandoah watershed and the Eastern shore of Maryland, to name just two locations.

And limestone is porous. That makes the watershed even more vulnerable. Nitrates and phosphates are hugely mobile, water-soluble compounds. And the arsenic that gets used in many brands of chicken feed isn't very friendly stuff, either.

You need more than anglers on the case in this one. Get as much expert advice as you can, from soil scientists, hydrologists, wildlife biologists, etc.

It isn't that the pollution problems haven't been studied. It's that the people in a position to do something about it don't want to heed the advice.

This is potentially a much bigger problem than putting a Home Depot on the LeTort. It isn't something that a few rain gardens can help to minimize.

I'm not an expert, myself. You need to consult with some of them. It would be nice to find a win-win on this. But that may not be possible.

NOTE: I just plugged the figure 31000 square ft. into an acres convertor...turns out that it's 3/4 of an acre.

That isn't a huge operation. But I'm still worried.

I wasn't able to read the link- I'll do a search on the story.