

Hiwassee River Basin – Water Quality Questionnaire

1. What is the biggest pollution problem for streams in the Hiwassee River basin?
 - (a) too much trash
 - (b) toxic chemicals
 - (c) excess sediment
 - (d) wastewater treatment plant discharges
2. Which of the following is generally not a problem for streams and lakes in the Hiwassee River basin?
 - (a) high water temperatures
 - (b) toxic chemicals
 - (c) excess nitrogen and phosphorus
 - (d) elevated suspended sediment levels during rain events
3. What is the biggest pollution problem for lakes in the Hiwassee River basin?
 - (a) too much trash
 - (b) toxic chemicals
 - (c) excess sediment
 - (d) excess nutrients (nitrogen & phosphorus)
4. Wooded riparian buffers are important because they:
 - (a) filter pollutants from runoff
 - (b) provide habitat
 - (c) help control bank erosion
 - (d) all of the above
5. Which of the following is the least important practice to protect water quality during construction?
 - (a) putting up black silt fence
 - (b) leaving a vegetated buffer strip along all waterways
 - (c) disturbing small amounts of land at a time
 - (d) stabilizing disturbed areas as soon as possible after grading is complete
6. Which of the following is a true statement about construction activities?
 - (a) Most local contractors and developers don't care about the environment.
 - (b) The landowner has no responsibility to insure that erosion doesn't happen during home construction.
 - (c) If there is no stream on the property, construction activities aren't likely to cause water quality problems.
 - (d) The law says that best management practices must be in place to control erosion regardless of the size of the construction site.
7. Which of the following is not considered an impervious surface?
 - (a) rooftop
 - (b) lawn
 - (c) road
 - (d) driveway
8. What should be a primary goal associated with development if water quality is to be protected?
 - (a) there should be large lawns that are as green and weed-free as possible
 - (b) make sure as little water as possible runs off the house or building site
 - (c) there should be as much pavement as the project budget will allow
 - (d) make sure all the water runs to a storm drain as quickly as possible

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9. When will the United States use up all of its groundwater resources?
- (a) 80 years
 - (b) 200 years
 - (c) never
 - (d) we don't know
10. Which of the following is not a practice that will help insure a sufficient amount of clean groundwater?
- (a) leaving plenty of wooded areas and pastures dispersed throughout the landscape
 - (b) collecting runoff in pipes and discharging it to a stream at a central point
 - (c) properly installing and maintaining a septic system
 - (d) conserving water in our daily lives
11. Which of the following is not a concern for water quality associated with managing livestock?
- (a) allowing livestock free access to streams
 - (b) overgrazing the pasture
 - (c) feeding livestock hay in the winter
 - (d) there are water quality concerns associated with all aspects of managing livestock
12. Which of the following is a true statement about forestry practices?
- (a) It is impossible to conduct logging activities without negatively impacting water quality.
 - (b) Most loggers don't care about the environment.
 - (c) When water quality guidelines and forestry best management practices are followed, trees can safely be harvested.
 - (d) There are no laws concerning timber-harvesting activities.
13. Which of the following is the least important practice to protect water quality during timber-harvesting activities?
- (a) putting up black silt fence
 - (b) leaving a vegetated buffer strip along all waterways
 - (c) harvesting small amounts of land at a time
 - (d) stabilizing disturbed areas as soon as possible after harvesting is complete
14. Which of the following is a true statement concerning economic development and natural resources?
- (a) Growth must be stopped or significantly slowed in order to protect natural resources.
 - (b) Communities that make natural resource protection a priority provide a better quality of life and usually thrive economically.
 - (c) There is no link between economic development and natural resource protection.
 - (d) When a community makes natural resource protection a priority, economic development suffers.
15. Which of the following is a true statement concerning sustainability and natural resource protection?
- (a) Sustainability can only be achieved through a combination of land protection and conservation on working lands.
 - (b) We will have to purchase and set aside more and more land in order to achieve sustainability and natural resource protection.
 - (c) The United States can achieve sustainability with its current rate of natural resource consumption and current land use practices.
 - (d) Individuals' activities don't have any influence over sustainability and natural resource protection.