



Figure 1-2. Location and major waterbodies of the Roanoke River basin.

### 1.2. Impaired Waterbodies

Impairment listings for stream and reservoir segments in the Roanoke basin are based on the historical monitoring data record. Investigation of PCB contamination in the watershed began in 1971 and continues today.

In 1971 the Virginia State Water Control Board (SWCB) conducted a study to determine the extent of pesticide contamination in Virginia waterbodies. As part of the study, elevated PCB concentrations were found in fish tissue samples collected from the Roanoke and Dan Rivers. These results were published in a 1973 report, *The Occurrence of Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCBs) in the Roanoke and Dan Rivers, A Preliminary Report* (Wallmeyer 1973).

Between 1979 and 1991, the SWCB and EPA continued to monitor state waters, including fish tissue monitoring in the Roanoke River watershed. Fish samples collected in several segments of the river