

September 2007

Southeast RCAP Board of
Directors Meeting

Progress in North Carolina

NCRCAP: A Contractor for Southeast
Rural Community Assistance Project, Inc.



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Statistics in North Carolina

Technitrain

16 projects
7 Board Trainings conducted

EPA Wastewater

3 projects
1 workshop conducted

EPA Safe Drinking Water

3 projects
1 workshop planned

OCS

5 current projects
1 Board Training conducted

Recent Project Highlights in North Carolina

Volunteers Dig Septic Systems, Replace Roofs, Paint Houses, and More.

NCRCAP's Rich Holder worked with volunteers from Mobile, AL to Chicago, IL in June and July to complete nine septic systems and home repairs for low income households in Western NC. The volunteers included 70 seventh graders, who dubbed Rich the "Sultan of Septic". In total, about 500 volunteers put in close to 18,000 hours of volunteer labor to complete this work. At the same time, they learned a lot about onsite wastewater and got to experience some of the natural wonders of the Blue Ridge Mountains of NC.



The volunteers got through the hard work of swinging pick axes, shoveling through sun-baked dirt, and throwing shingles by singing, sharing stories, and focusing on the positive impact that would come to the homeowners whose house and septic system they were working on. There was never a lack of smiles throughout the day or cheers when Rich's laser level beeped it's steady tone to indicate that yet another drainage ditch was level and at the right depth. You can read more about this unique project in the online version of the journal Onsite Installer at:

www.onsiteinstaller.com/ditorial/257/2007/08

NCRCAP Safe Drinking Water Workshop to focus on Giving Rural Leaders the Tools They Need to Effectively Work with Consulting Engineers on Water Infrastructure Needs.

Participants will hear a variety of perspective on working with paid consultants to get the services rural communities need. Presentations will include effective development and use of requests for proposals, contract negotiations, capital improvement planning and ongoing project evaluation. Funders will also provide an update on available programs.

Board members, city council members, and other public officials of small communities are often in the position of having to hire engineering consulting firms to assist with water and wastewater infrastructure planning and development. Having a clearly stated project scope and goal, using a strategic selection process and objective evaluation criteria are key in the process of hiring a consultant. This workshop will provide elected officials and other decision makers of rural cities, towns, and counties with tools, resources, and lessons learned and help to ensure the best use of future infrastructure funds.

When: Thursday, September 20th, 10:00 am to 4:30 pm

Where: UNC Greensboro, Elliot Center

For more information, please visit: www.ncrcap.org