

April 2006

Southeast RCAP Board of
Directors Meeting

Progress in North Carolina

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



Regional Office:

145 W. Campbell Ave, SW
PO Box 2826
Roanoke, VA 24001
Tel: (540) 345-1184
Fax: (540) 342-2932
Email: sercap@sercap.org

North Carolina Office:

P.O. Box 941
Pittsboro, NC 27312
Tel: (919) 542-7227
Fax: (919) 542-2329
Email: nrcap@nrcap.org
Website: www.nrcap.org

Nina Baccanari, Associate Director
Email: baccanari@nrcap.org

Rich Holder, Community Resource
Coordinator
Email: holder@nrcap.org

Linda King, Office Manager
Email: king@nrcap.org

Peter Kittany, Director
Email: kittany@nrcap.org

Bob Taylor, Community Resource
Coordinator
Email: taylor@nrcap.org

Mike Wolf, Construction Coordinator
Email: wolf@nrcap.org

Statistics in North Carolina

Technitrain
8 projects
5 Board Trainings

EPA Wastewater
3 projects
1 workshop

EPA Safe Drinking Water
3 projects
1 workshop

OCS
3 projects
1 Board Training

Recent Project Highlights in North Carolina

NCRCAP Receives Recent Funding Awards

The Conservation Fund's Resourceful Communities Program awarded NCRCAP \$7,500 to build the capacity of rural, low wealth communities to address threats to safe drinking water and adequate wastewater treatment. NCRCAP will work with residents and community groups in several counties across the state to better define the severity and extent of their problems, prioritize next steps, and devise strategies to work toward a solution.

The Blue Cross Blue Shield of North Carolina Foundation awarded \$5,000 to NCRCAP's Healthy Homes for All program. Through this project, NCRCAP assists the rural Latino population on housing and health issues. We provide in-home visits and testing to build awareness of and eliminate the health risks associated with drinking water contaminants, lead poisoning, household hazardous chemicals, pesticides, and indoor allergens and asthma triggers.

North River Wastewater Development Project

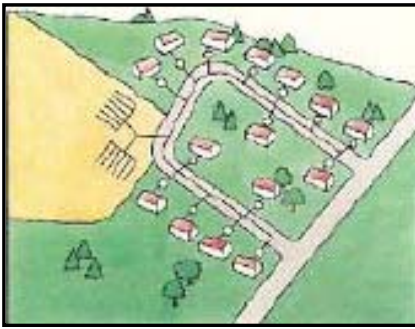
North River, a low-income, minority community in Carteret County, is adjacent to Intercoastal Waterways and important shell fishing areas. This unincorporated coastal region has chronic problems with failing septic systems, which have been exasperated in recent years by several hurricanes. Referred by the USDA Rural Development office as a wastewater project, NCRCAP has worked with this community to help address drainage problems, provide information on funding resources for a sewer line extension, and coordinate pro bono engineering services for a preliminary engineering report. An equally valuable component of NCRCAP's work has been to sustain the motivation of the community to work towards their goals and be a continual presence at the county and municipal government level to gradually increase the support and determination by these officials to find a solution for North River residents.

This program year has seen renewed interest in the North River Wastewater Development project. NCRCAP TAP Bob Taylor has identified several new stakeholders, such as North Carolina State University and Coastal Community Action, to catalyze the community's energy and facilitate wastewater planning activities. In January, a NCSU Soil Scientist contacted NCRCAP to gather more information on the environmental health conditions in the community. After learning about the history of the area, she selected North River as a research site for a contaminant source tracking study and has since submitted a grant application to fund her research project. The data that will be collected from this study will substantiate the need for improved wastewater services to protect valuable shellfish habitats.

In the Spring, NCRCAP will continue to strengthen the capacity of the community to address their needs via civic participation and community organizing. By meeting with North River residents to outline logical next steps regarding outside resources coming to work on their behalf, NCRCAP will solidify the relationship with local environmental groups, the university, and local government officials. The result of the research grant application should be known towards the end of the Spring. If awarded, it will allow for a thorough documentation of contamination in open waters around the North River community and provide justification for a sewer line extension.

Meadows Sewer District Site Visit and Wastewater Workshop

Discussing the future of
wastewater options in Hollister



**Wednesday
April 5, 2006
10:15am - 4:00pm**

**The North Carolina Rural Com-
munities Assistance Project,
Hollister REACH, Native Op-
portunity Way & the Haliwa-
Saponi Tribe will host a work-
shop to review and discuss
wastewater options for the
Hollister community.**

Workshop Schedule

Morning session

10:15 a.m. – 12 noon

at the Hollister REACH Center

- History of Alternative Systems Campaign
- Hollister REACH, Inc.
- Affordable housing and other programs
- Haliwa-Saponi Tribe
- Economic development initiatives
- Native Opportunity Way CDC

Lunch provided

12 noon – 1:30 p.m.

at Medoc Mountain State Park

Afternoon session

1:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

at the Haliwa-Saponi Tribe Administration
Building

- Engineering study report
- Green Engineering
- Halifax County and Sewer District
Advisory Committee plans
- Halifax County Manager's office
- Funding options
- USDA Rural Development
- Discussion and Question & Answer Session

**Workshop begins at the
Hollister REACH Center
64 Knight Road
Hollister, NC 27844
(252) 586-3215**