

June 2006

Southeast RCAP Board of  
Directors Meeting

# Progress in North Carolina

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



## Project Highlights in North Carolina

### NCRCAP to Coordinate the Emanuel Lutheran Appalachian Servant Event in July 2006

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Last summer, NRCAP TAP Rich Holder supervised Emanuel Lutheran volunteers to install a septic system for a home that was straight piping in Madison County. Again this summer, Rich will coordinate volunteers to hand dig a septic system on-site. This years selected family is also receiving a new home through Land of Sky Council of Governments and the Asheville Housing Consortium.

#### 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

### NCRCAP Applies for Grant Funding for the Maple Hill Wastewater Project

NCRCAP has worked with the Maple Hill community since 2001 in an effort to assist residents with their wastewater concerns. Maple Hill is an unincorporated community in Pender County that has a very high water table and saturated soils. While this rural coastal community has central water service, they have been living with the health risks posed by failing septic systems and straight piping. In the 2003-2004 program year, NRCAP completed a community health survey, coordinated efforts for a pro bono preliminary engineering report, worked with the NC Department of Environment and Natural Resources to locate land for a drip irrigation field, created partnerships with the Nature Conservancy and the State Parks Dept, and received the go ahead from the county government to pursue funding for a decentralized community wastewater sys-

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tem. These were major accomplishments for a community plagued by long-standing wastewater problems and lacking the necessary attention of county government offices to pursue a solution. Despite the fact that the first grant application submitted was not selected for funding, NRCRAP remained committed to the Maple Hill residents and their quest for a community wide sewer system. In March 2006, NRCRAP and Cape Fear RC&D submitted a joint application to the NC Department of Justice's Environmental Enhancement Grant program to fund comprehensive water quality testing in the community. In April, all project partners were very pleased to learn that NRCRAP's original application submitted to the NC Rural Center's Unsewered Communities Grant program was provisionally allocated \$2.8 million due to a surplus of funds. This was an important financial step to bring needed wastewater services to the Maple Hill community. On June 1st, NRCRAP submitted a grant application to the Clean Water Management Trust Fund to finance the remaining portion of the \$3.4 million community wastewater system. NRCRAP is hopeful that this project will now be fully funded and anticipates the results of all funding decisions by December 2006.

## 2006 NRCRAP Wastewater Workshop



On April 5th, 2006, NRCRAP hosted the "Meadows Sewer District Site Visit and Wastewater Workshop" in Halifax County. Six presenters and 105 people from the community and the Southeast Rural Community Assistant Project attended the workshop to discuss the future of wastewater options in Hollister, NC.