

June 2005

Southeast RCAP Board of  
Directors Meeting

# Progress in North Carolina

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



## Recent Project Highlights in North Carolina

### Water System Assessment in Ridgedale

The Ridgedale community is a mobile home development in Buncombe County that consists of approximately 40 households. The majority of the residents are connected to a community well that is operational, but under the threat of being shut down. In March, NCRCAP was contacted by the NC Public Water Supply Section and the Buncombe County Environmental Health Department. The agencies requested NCRCAP to investigate the Ridgedale Water System and help the residents maintain their rights to the community well while ensuring that the well meets Public Water Supply standards. The community has been threatened by the original developer to have the water system shut down due to a variety of reasons, among them for past monies owed for the maintenance and operation of the system. As a result, several of the residents tried to drill private wells on their lots, but the wells were con-

demned by the County Health Department because they were sited too close to septic systems. The community has no alternative for a water source other than the current community well on the developers' property.

NCRCAP has worked with the community to find legal advice through Legal Aid of NC and has encouraged the community to reestablish their Homeowners Association so they can begin to collect dues, maintain the water system properly, and possibly pay for an attorney. In addition, NCRCAP has facilitated community meetings, discussed the situation with the developer, and communicated with local and state agencies. NCRCAP will continue to work with Ridgedale to resume its Homeowners Association so they may continue to use the well as a source of drinking water.

#### 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

Gaby Fornari, Construction  
Coordinator  
Email: fornari@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

Leah Schinasi, Latino Outreach  
Coordinator  
Email: healthyhomes@nrcap.org

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

#### Statistics in North Carolina

Technitrain  
7 projects  
3 Board Trainings

EPA Wastewater  
3 projects

EPA Safe Drinking Water  
2 projects

OCS  
3 projects



### Soil Testing in the Hollister Community

As part of the Alternative Wastewater Systems Campaign Project, North Carolina State University Agricultural Extension Agents test the soil in Hollister. This analysis will provide information for the feasibility study funded by a recent Capacity Building Grant award, which will determine what type of wastewater system is appropriate for the community.

NCRCAP photo

## Small Water System Board Member Trainings

The North Carolina Rural Communities Assistance Project is conducting training workshops for board and council members who have the decision making responsibilities for your community's water system. The training is scheduled for a date, time, and location that is most convenient for your community's board or council. The training is free of charge and participants receive a manual on technical, managerial, and financial topics.

The training will cover:

- Board Responsibilities
- Drinking Water Regulatory History
- Water System Basics
- Operation and Maintenance
- Working with Consultants and Assistance Providers
- Personnel Management
- Communications
- Financial Management
- Financial Options
- Water System Security



Comprehensive training for every community's water future!

## “*PROTECTING YOUR DRINKING WATER AT ITS SOURCE*”

~~~~~  
*a hands-on conference for every community's water future!*  
~~~~~

**Saturday June 18  
10 AM-4:30 PM  
at UNC-Greensboro, Health & Human Perform. Bldg.**

**A uniquely collaborative, fun and inexpensive opportunity to learn about protecting the source of YOUR water supply!**

**Who should come?** Public water customers, well users, civic and watershed groups, water supply officials, public health advocates, elected officials, educators, emergency managers, businesses—*anyone who cares about protecting drinking water!*

*Sessions will include:*

- *Getting to know your local Source Water Assessment Report and locating potential contaminant sources*
- *Protecting public and private groundwater sources*
- *Building surface water source protection through public collaboration and conservation easements*
- *Financial strategies for protecting water supplies*
- *Political action for drinking water protection*