

Pitt County Environmental Planning

Winter Issue

January – March 2004

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This quarterly newsletter is intended to increase public awareness and provide educational information on the importance of environmental planning and implementation on the local, state and federal levels.

Environmental Excellence Award Program

Pitt County Planning staff and the Technical Review Committee have developed an Environmental Excellence Award Program (EEAP) to recognize developers who excel in the installation and maintenance of best management practices while developing under Pitt County's Soil Erosion and Sedimentation Control Ordinance. The EEAP awards points (0-5, 0-lowest, 5-highest) for each inspection conducted for a given project. At the end of each calendar year the development/developer with the highest point average will be the recipient of the award. Awards will be granted to the developer, development, and the contractor. The EEAP award includes the following:

- Recognition of recipients and their development in the County Page of the Daily Reflector;
- Presentation of the award at a January Board of Commissioners meeting;
- Display of accomplishments on the Planning Department's web page;
- A plaque; and
- Sign posted on development site citing 'EEAP Award Recipient'.

~For more information about the Environmental Excellence Award Program contact Dwane Jones, at (252)902-3250.

Pitt County Stormwater Management Program

The implementation of a Nutrient Sensitive Waters Management Strategy within Pitt County is near. With the submittal of the Pitt County Local Stormwater Program to the Division of Water Quality, county officials have moved closer to finalizing stormwater guidelines within the Tar-Pamlico River Basin. These guidelines, which must be implemented locally by August 13, 2004, include several requirements that seek to reduce nutrient and phosphorus loading to the Tar-Pamlico estuary from new developments. Additionally, the requirements seek to limit the nitrogen and phosphorus loading to the Tar-Pamlico estuary from existing developments. The requirements will provide control for peak stormwater flow as well.

County staff will continue to present educational seminars on the impacts of stormwater runoff at many events within the community.

~For more information contact the Pitt County Planning Department at (252)902-3250 or visit our website at www.co.pitt.nc.us/depts/planning



Properly installed Best Management Practices, such as silt fencing, are an essential component for minimizing soil erosion and sedimentation.

New Non-Encroachment Areas in Pitt County

Newly adopted Federal Flood Insurance Rate Maps have changed the non-encroachment areas in Pitt County. Adopted by Pitt County on January 2, 2004, the Federal Flood Insurance Rate Maps provide the county with an enhanced database for property classification. The new non-encroachment areas strictly prohibit any new construction in specified floodway areas. However, if a structure is proven not to affect water flow by a certified engineer study, it may be permitted at the discretion of county officials. Existing structures may remain, but may not be rebuilt in the instance of flood damage, external weathering or any other reason requiring construction.

~For more information about the federal maps or Pitt County requirements visit our website at www.co.pitt.nc.us/depts/planning or contact Pitt County Floodplain Administrator Stephen Smith at (252)902-3250

Pitt County Named NC Community of the Year

Pitt County received the North Carolina Community of the Year award from the North Carolina Association of Floodplain Managers (NCFM) for achievements in hazard mitigation. This award, which was presented at the NCFM annual conference on April 19th in Asheville, NC, recognized Pitt County for actions that make the community less vulnerable to natural disasters.

~For more information about the Pitt County Hazard Mitigation Plan, contact the Pitt County Planning Department at (252)902-3250 or visit our website at www.co.pitt.nc.us/depts/planning

Stormwater Seminar at NC State University

NC State University will be hosting an educational seminar entitled, "Stormwater: Emerging Issues for Local Communities," from April 19th through the 22nd, in Asheville. This seminar will provide a forum for local governments and watershed organizations to share information and ideas pertaining to stormwater quality. The seminar will focus on the sharing of ideas for implementation of local programs to meet requirements set forth by the EPA's NPDES Phase II Stormwater Program.

~for more information and registration details: www.soil.ncsu.edu/swetc/stormwaterconf/main.htm

Important Dates of the Upcoming Meetings

Planning Board Meetings – 3rd Wednesday of each month at 5:30 PM

County Commissioners Meetings – 1st and 3rd Monday of every month (9am and 6pm, respectively)

Beaver Management Assistance Program Oversight Committee Meeting (BMAP) – August, 11, 2004

Stormwater Management Best Management Practice Workshop – Hosted by Bill Hunt of NCSU March 23, 2004, from 8a.m.-5p.m.

Training Opportunities

Water Resources Research Institute Annual Conference – March 30-31, 2004, in Raleigh

***Stormwater: Emerging Issues... For Local Communities** – April 19-22, 2004, in Asheville

***Sediment and erosion Control: Latest Information with Hands-on Demonstrations** – May 7, 2004, NCSU in Raleigh

***Southeastern Conference on Stream Restoration** – June 21-24, 2004, in Winston Salem

*For more information visit the WRRI website at <http://www2.ncsu.edu/ncsu/CIL/WRRI/> or contact Frankie Alt at (252)902-3250



Map: FEMA designated Pitt County and other Phase I areas as the most affected by the natural hazards that accompanied Hurricane Floyd.

Jan - March Activity Reports

	Jan	Feb	March
New Projects	4	2	2
Site Inspections	20	23	40
Notices of Violations	10	8	2
Disturbed Area (acres)	32.77	4.53	11.56

Pitt County Planning Department

To be added to our growing list of readers:

Please contact:

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