

## ALBEMARLE RESOURCE CONSERVATION & DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL



Wisely Conserving Natural Resources and Creating Opportunities for Positive Economic & Community Development



### Stabilizing a Key Shoreline in Perquimans County

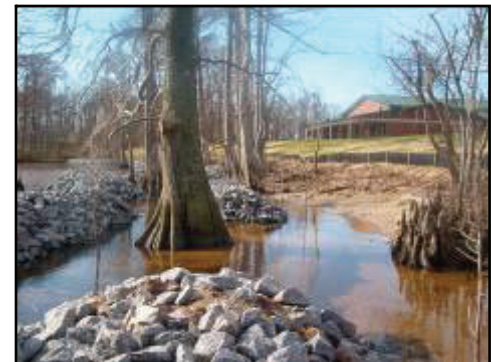
Number 13, March 2009

Storm surge and heavy rain from Hurricane Isabel removed about 30 feet of shoreline bluff in front of the multi-million dollar Recreation Center in Perquimans County. The county, with technical assistance from Albemarle RC&D Council, Perquimans Soil and Water, and Natural Resources Conservation Service has stabilized about 450 ft of shoreline bluff in front of the Recreation Center building, and installed about 1,000 ft of rock sill in shallow water along the property shoreline. Native trees, shrubs and grasses will be planted along the bluff and shoreline to help stabilize this important piece of public property.



The project installed about 1,000 ft of rock sill to help prevent shoreline erosion.

A nature trail will be constructed along the shoreline and through the woods next to the Recreation Center. Three wetlands were constructed last year at key drainage outlets at the Commerce Centre to help filter stormwater and protect water quality.



The project also re-graded about 450 ft of shoreline bluff, which will be stabilized with native trees, shrubs and grasses.

The project is funded through a grant from the Clean Water Management Trust Fund and matching funds from Perquimans County.

With a grant from the Public Beach and Coastal Waterfront Access Program, Perquimans County will construct a 200 ft long fishing pier with handicap access from the Recreation Center building. The county will also construct a launch site for canoes and kayaks.

### RC&D Calendar

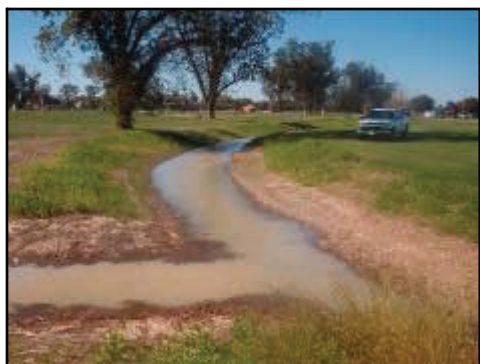
#### April 9th, 2009

Albemarle RC&D Executive Committee Meeting  
9:30am, Suite B, 730 N Granville Street, Edenton

#### May 12th, 2009

Albemarle RC&D Council Meeting/Annual Seafood Dinner  
Location: Perquimans County Community Center at 310 Granby Street (Hertford)  
6:00 pm, Tour of shoreline stabilization, constructed wetland and recreational facilities  
6:30 pm, Reception  
7:00 pm, Seafood Dinner

## New Wetland at the River Road Middle School Benefits Science Students and the Public



A drainage ditch between the RRMS and recreational soccer fields was converted into a living wetland.



The new wetland next to the RRMS has a handicap accessible pier for classroom instruction and two platforms for water sampling.

Close to a major U.S. Coast Guard Base and Elizabeth City State University, River Road Middle School (RRMS) is located in one of the fastest growing areas of Elizabeth City. Farm land on all sides of the school is being converted to residential housing. Non-point stormwater runoff from the school and new residential areas is a major concern for water quality because the area drains directly to the Pasquotank River. The stormwater runoff from this area carries N and P fertilizers from recreational fields and lawns. Stormwater is also known to be a major carrier of fecal coliform bacteria, which contaminates the river and negatively affects shellfish harvesting.

The Albemarle RC&D Council partnered with River Road Middle School, Pasquotank Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) and Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) to construct a stormwater wetland at the school. The wetland will filter stormwater from the school property, about 10 acres of baseball fields and about 15 acres of new soccer fields.

Science teachers at the Middle School are using the wetland as an outdoor classroom for biology and environmental education. Results are being assessed through water quality samples, pre & post education surveys and wetland monitoring.

The River Road Middle School wetland project is funded by the North Carolina Section 319(h) Nonpoint Source Grant Program.

### Albemarle RC&D Council Website

The Albemarle RC&D launched its official website [www.albemarlercd.org](http://www.albemarlercd.org) late last year. Designed to provide both an overview of RC&D to the casual viewer and more technical details about projects and accomplishments for others, the website is easy to access and “navigate” through its 10 pages.

- Photos of current and past projects have been included to illustrate the variety of activities supported by Albemarle RC&D.
- Current and past projects are listed by county and include a summary of total grant dollars of support received by each county.
- Links can easily connect the reader to related resources, including RC&D annual reports, newsletters & related local, state and national organizations.

Readers can send questions directly to Albemarle RC&D by clicking on “Contact us”!

This new website is updated regularly so that the calendar of events, links and projects will reflect the current focus of the Albemarle RC&D. We invite your feedback to help us continually improve the “user-ability” of the website. Call Linda Peterson at 252-482-7437 x4, or better yet...click on “contact us” on the website, and send us your comments!

## Waterfront Renovation Project in Plymouth Nears Completion

On the banks of the Roanoke River, the Town of Plymouth is actively promoting its waterfront to stimulate and diversify its economy, and to encourage water-based recreation for its local citizens and the general public. The downtown riverfront is anchored by the Port O'Plymouth Civil War Museum at the east end, and the Roanoke River Lighthouse and Maritime Museum at the west end. In-between the two tourist attractions is the Riverfront Park, which is the site of many public events and general public use throughout the year.

The tourist attractions and public events demonstrate the importance of the waterfront to the town's tourism industry and its local citizens. The waterfront also provides many opportunities for the public to enjoy fishing, picnicking and boating on the scenic Roanoke River.

With funding from the Public Beach and Coastal Waterfront Access Program, the Town of Plymouth has repaired existing boardwalks, piers and gazebos to improve public access and use on the west end of the waterfront. The project also constructed a new boardwalk to link existing piers and boardwalks with housing for senior citizens. Weather resistant lighting was installed along the boardwalks and piers to improve public safety.

The Albemarle RC&D Council provided technical and administrative support to the project.



The project renovated three fishing piers and constructed a new boardwalk connector to provide handicap access.



## Legislative Update

In response to threats of RC&D funding being omitted from President Obama's final budget, the national RC&D office issued a call for contacting Members of Congress to urge their support of RC&D programs in the FY10 appropriation process. Thank you to the many ARC&D Council members and supporters who faxed their letters of support to Senators Burr and Hagan and Representatives Jones and Butterfield. At the time of this publication, level funding for RC&D is anticipated in the FY10 budget. However, we continue to seek increased support and funding, so it will be important to maintain your communication with your congressmen about your support for RC&D Councils.

Please use the RC&D County Fact Sheets on our website ([www.albemarlercd.org/publications](http://www.albemarlercd.org/publications)) to provide data that reinforces your letters of support. If you have any questions about how or where to send your letters of support, Linda Peterson would be glad to clarify the process. Contact her via e-mail at [albemarlercandd@yahoo.com](mailto:albemarlercandd@yahoo.com) or by calling 252-482-7437.

## On-Going Projects

### Camden County

- Treasure Point Community Park
- Dismal Swamp State Park Boardwalk and Nature Trail

### Chowan County

- Chowan County Nature Tourism
- Cape Colony Neighborhood Access
- Chowan County Water Quality & Water Management Study
- Cowan County Water Quality Improvement Project

### Currituck County

- Whalehead Club Shoreline Protection and Water Quality Improvement

### Dare County

- Roanoke Island Festival Park Canoe/Kayak Access and Maritime Forest Trail

### Hyde County

- Ocracoke Resource Development
- Englehard Park Lighting
- Hyde County Water Management Study

### Pasquotank County

- Frog Island Public Boat Access
- River Road Middle School Constructed Wetlands
- Regional Baseball Heritage
- Upper Little River Watershed Protection

### Perquimans County

- Commerce Park Shoreline Stabilization and Constructed Wetlands
- Perquimans County Nature Tourism Development
- Perquimans County Community Center Phase II
- Perquimans County Community Center Fishing Pier and Canoe/Kayak Access
- Water Quality Improvement and Water Management Study
- Perquimans River Riparian Forest Conservation
- Hertford Kayak Launches

### Tyrrell County

- Alligator & Goatneck Community House Lifting and Septic Tank Repair

### Washington County

- Plymouth Riverfront Renovation
- Pungo River Drainage District Water Management

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The Albemarle RC&D Council is a 501(C)(3) private non-profit organization that serves the people of Camden, Chowan, Currituck, Dare, Gates, Hyde, Pasquotank, Perquimans, Tyrrell & Washington Counties

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All programs and services of the Albemarle RC&D Council are offered on a non-discriminatory basis, without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, age, marital or family status, disability or political beliefs.

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Questions or Comments? Contact [albemarlercandd@yahoo.com](mailto:albemarlercandd@yahoo.com)  
or call 252-482-7437, ext 4