

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**November 19, 2009**

**Albemarle Resource Conservation and Development Council**

**Town of Edenton Installs First Filterra® Stormwater Filtration System in North Carolina**

The Town of Edenton recently completed the installation of a Filterra® stormwater filtration system in a new parking lot at John A. Holmes High School which will help protect the water quality of Edenton Bay and the Albemarle Sound. The innovative system, which is the first Filterra® system installed in North Carolina, will demonstrate how coastal communities can effectively treat stormwater in urban environments. According to Anne-Marie Knighton, Edenton Town Manager, many small coastal towns and communities lack cost-effective options for effectively treating stormwater before it drains into local bays and sounds. “We are proud to be the first in the state to install this state-of-the art system,” said Knighton. She said this project is part of the Town of Edenton’s ongoing commitment to water quality protection and conservation efforts.”

The Filterra® stormwater filtration system is effective in removing pollutants such as petroleum, heavy metals, phosphorus, nitrogen, sediments and bacteria. Stormwater moves through a specially designed filter media mixture contained in a landscaped concrete container. The filter media captures pollutants, which are then immobilized, decomposed and incorporated into the system’s living biomass. The filtered stormwater discharges from the container to the Town’s stormwater system. This system is also an urban solution for Low Impact Development (LID), an approach that provides a more effective conservation alternative to detention ponds and retention basins.

In addition to protecting water quality, Edenton-Chowan Schools Superintendent, Dr. Allan Smith, indicated that the installation of the Filterra® system will be incorporated into the High School’s science curriculum. According to Dr. Smith, “science students at the High School will be able to measure the effectiveness of the stormwater filtration system by comparing water samples from the system to water samples from an adjacent stormwater outlet.”

This stormwater treatment demonstration project was funded by a grant from the North Carolina Clean Water Management Trust Fund. Project partners included the Town of Edenton, Chowan County, John A. Holmes High School, Albemarle Resource Conservation and Development Council and the Chowan Soil and Water Conservation District.

For more information on the project, contact the Albemarle Resource Conservation and Development Council in Edenton: 252-482-7437, ext 4; [www.albemarlercd.org](http://www.albemarlercd.org)



Scott Alons of Chowan Soil and Water stands next to the Filterra® stormwater filtration system at John A. Holmes High School in Edenton. This is the first system of its kind installed in North Carolina.