

Albemarle RC&D

RESOURCE
CONSERVATION
& DEVELOPMENT

2015 – 2016 Annual Report



Pembroke Creek Park, Edenton

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

The Albemarle Resource Conservation and Development Council, Inc. (ARC&D) is a 501c3 non-profit organization that assists local governments and community groups in northeast NC with projects that protect land and water resources while promoting economic development.

*Since 1972, ARC&D has partnered with our 10 counties to complete over 500 projects using \$15 million in grants that continue to make the Albemarle Region a great place to live and work. We have delivered an overall return-on-investment (ROI) of \$3:1. **Every dollar invested by a local government or community has returned at least \$3 in value!***

The ARC&D serves the people of Camden, Chowan, Currituck, Dare, Gates, Hyde, Pasquotank, Perquimans, Tyrrell & Washington Counties.

Chowan County improved public access at **Pembroke Creek Park** in Edenton with new handicap parking areas, an improved entrance, and two 50 foot piers from the existing boardwalk to improve fishing. A new bulkhead is protecting shoreline on the eastern side of the park. The county also installed a floating kayak and canoe launch, solar lighting and storage shed for kayaks and canoes. The ARC&D assisted the county with project design and grant writing. It also provided technical support for the construction phase. The project was funded through a \$149,720 grant from the NC Public Beach and Coastal Waterfront Access Program with matching funds from the county.

Regional Approach to Water Quality Protection

The ARC&D, The Albemarle Commission, Soil and Water Conservation Districts and other partners are developing a regional approach to address key water quality issues, which include algal blooms, impaired waterways, loss of wetland forests, alligator weed, hydrilla, trees and woody debris in waterways after storm events, shoreline erosion and salt water intrusion.

**Camden High School Wetland & Outdoor
Environmental Classroom**



**US Fish & Wildlife Service, NCDEQ-
Water Resources, Camden Soil & Water**



For more information on Albemarle RC&D Council programs and services:

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Snapshots of 2015-2016 Albemarle RC&D Council Projects

4,800' of in-stream wetland and buffer in the upper Little River watershed.



1,700' of in-stream wetland and buffer in the Little River watershed.



Little River Watershed Restoration

The ARC&D constructed two in-stream wetlands on main drainage canals above the Impaired section of the Little River.

A \$141,878 grant from the Clean Water Management Trust Fund and a \$25,000 grant from the US Fish and Wildlife Service were used to construct an in-stream wetland on 4,800 feet of a main canal that drains about six thousand acres of farmland in the headwaters of the watershed. Bald cypress has been planted on four acres of existing wetland to improve wildlife habitat. Pasquotank County and Pasquotank Soil and Water Conservation District are providing matching funds for the project.

A \$90,475 grant from the US EPA 319 program was used to construct 1,700 feet of in-stream wetland on a main canal that drains about 600 acres of farmland just above the Impaired section of the Little River. Perquimans County and Perquimans Soil and Water Conservation District are providing matching funds.

NCSU Department of Biological and Agricultural Engineering is monitoring water quality for both in-stream wetland projects.

These projects will demonstrate how in-stream wetlands may be used to effectively manage stormwater on privately-owned canals that flow into the Little River throughout the watershed.

New Project Grant Applications

Chowan County - Pembroke Creek Park Phase II, CAMA Public Access, \$57,566

Tyrrell County - Scuppernong River Park Phase II, CAMA Public Access, \$110,930

Tyrrell County - Alligator River Marina Dockage Improvement Project, Boating Infrastructure Grant, \$199,630

Dare County - Kitty Hawk Landing Association Harbor Jetty and Breakwater Repair and Channel Maintenance Dredging Project, NCDEQ Water Resources, \$230,000

Regional - Albemarle Water Quality Protection and Water Management, NCDEQ Water Resources, \$47,500



Tyrrell County Waterfront Park

With an \$85,500 grant from the NC Public Beach and Coastal Waterfront Access Program, Tyrrell County improved public access to the county park on the Scuppernong River across from the Columbia waterfront. The county constructed a fishing pier and boardwalks to improve handicap access to the park. The county also installed a gazebo, picnic tables, grills, trash receptacles and solar lighting. The ARC&D assisted with project design and grant writing. The council also assisted the county with project management during the construction phase.