



N.C. Department of Environment and Natural Resources

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Albemarle-Pamlico National Estuary Program Seeks Grant Applications

RALEIGH – The Albemarle-Pamlico National Estuary Program is soliciting proposals for projects that would protect the environment in a coastal region considered one of the nation’s most biologically diverse and productive.

Grants of up to \$25,000 may be awarded for projects in the program’s 36-county watershed in northeastern North Carolina and southeastern Virginia. Grant proposals must be received by 5 p.m. Nov. 30.

Proposed projects must protect, restore or enhance the environment and promote environmental education in the region. Educational, nonprofit, tribal and government institutions are all eligible for funding. More information on eligibility requirements and other details are available at the program’s website, www.apnep.org.

The Albemarle-Pamlico National Estuary Program Citizens’ Advisory Committee will select which grant proposals to fund and determine funding amounts. All awards depend upon the availability of funds.

Estuaries are areas where river and ocean waters mix, supporting a rich array of terrestrial and aquatic life. The Albemarle-Pamlico estuarine system provides a key nursery area for many coastal fish and shellfish, which in turn support the region’s fishing and tourism industries. Estuaries also provide other important functions, including coastal storm protection and the filtration of runoff. The Albemarle-Pamlico estuarine system has been designated an "estuary of national significance" by the Environmental Protection Agency, which provides funding to support the Albemarle-Pamlico National Estuary Program’s mission.

Further inquiries may be directed to Jim Hawhee, APNEP’s community specialist, at (919) 733-0121 or jim.hawhee@ncdenr.gov.

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