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Albemarle-Pamlico National Estuary Partnership (APNEP) March 2018 View this email in your browser



#### **The Albemarle-Pamlico National Estuary Partnership**

# **Sound Stories**

March 2018



As of April, APNEP officially has a new home - we are now part of the Secretary's Office within the NC Department of Environmental Quality and are housed in the <u>Green Square building complex</u> in downtown Raleigh. Stop by and say hello at our new location!

In early March, APNEP's <u>Science and Technical Advisory Committee (STAC)</u> met to discuss the APNEP <u>Monitoring and Assessment Teams'</u> combined list of potential ecological indicators for the Albemarle-Pamlico region. Feedback from the STAC will be

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from National Estuary Programs (NEPs) across the country met to identify opportunities for increasing the collective effectiveness of the EPA and NEPs through enhanced partnerships. APNEP's 2015 <u>National Coastal Condition Assessment</u> (NCCA) intensification effort was featured at the meeting as a potential strategy for NEPs to utilize in gathering data for monitoring efforts.

Upcoming events include the first meeting of APNEP's newly restructured Leadership Council on April 30th. Meetings are open to the public; please email apnep@ncdenr.gov if you are interested in attending. This April 19th, we invite you to join regional partners at the 2018 North Landing River / Albemarle Sound Estuarine Symposium: Building a Shared Vision. Symposium topics stem from APNEP's recently updated Memorandum of Understanding, which focuses on strengthening partnerships between North Carolina and Virginia to address interstate environmental issues in the Albemarle-Pamlico estuarine system. The Symposium is an important step towards putting this MOU into practice within the shared waterways of the Pasquotank River Basin.

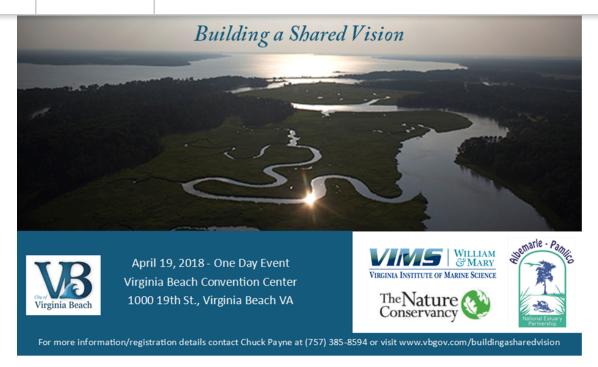
Sincerely,

Dr. Bill Crowell

APNEP Director

### **APNEP News**

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### Register for the 2018 North Landing River/Albemarle Sound Estuarine Symposium

On April 19th, join regional partners at the 2018 North Landing River / Albemarle Sound Estuarine Symposium: Building a Shared Vision. The City of Virginia Beach, in affiliation with the Albemarle-Pamlico National Estuary Partnership (APNEP), Virginia Institute of Marine Science (VIMS) and The Nature Conservancy (TNC), is hosting the Symposium at the Virginia Beach Convention Center.

This one-day event is designed to cultivate stakeholder collaboration in order to identify, protect, and restore the significant resources of the North Landing River and Albemarle Sound. Sample topics of discussion include the cultural history of the North Landing Watershed, an overview of the Albemarle-Pamlico Estuarine System, and opportunities for collaboration and partnerships between Virginia and North Carolina agencies, non-profits, and educational institutions. Afternoon panel discussions, networking opportunities and poster sessions are also planned.

Register for the Symposium

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#### **APNEP Educates at NC Coastal Envirothon**

In March, APNEP staff discussed current environmental issues at the <u>NC Coastal Envirothon</u>, a team competition that encourages middle and high school students to learn about natural resource management issues while giving them the chance to speak with professionals working in a variety of environmental fields. *Photo credit: Coastal Envirothon* 

#### Learn more about the NC Envirothon



### **EPA Publishes Storymap Highlighting National Estuary Program**

Did you know that APNEP is part of the <u>U.S. Environmental Protection Agency</u>'s National Estuary Program? Check out this new GIS Storymap to learn how APNEP and other NEPs work to protect and restore estuaries nationwide!

**View the Storymap** 

#### **APNEP Staff Updates**

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Department of Environmental Quality's Water Resources Development Grant program. She will be working alongside the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and local governments to maximize the use of available resources in resolving water management issues. We wish Coley the best of luck in her future endeavors!

managor, Dr. Coloy Cordono, who is joining the





#### **APNEP Committee Updates**

APNEP's <u>Science and Technical Advisory Committee</u> (STAC) met in early March to discuss the list of potential ecological indicators for the Albemarle-Pamlico region generated by each <u>Monitoring and Assessment Team</u>. Feedback from the STAC will be used by the MATs to further refine their list of indicators, which will be integrated into APNEP's monitoring strategy and subsequent <u>Ecosystem Assessments</u>.

The Engagement and Stewardship Action Team convened to discuss efforts to inventory and map current regional efforts relating to the team's CCMP Actions; the Team is working with the NC Office of Environmental Education and Public Affairs to map these efforts as well as make improvements to the Office's resource database. APNEP is also requesting the team's assistance creating an inventory of materials designed to increase public understanding of the relationship between ecosystem health and human health advisories relating to water, fish and game.

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#### **Upcoming Events & Meetings**

All meetings associated with APNEP's committees, Action Teams, and Monitoring & Assessment Teams are free and open to the public. For more information, please contact <a href="mailto:apnep@ncdenr.gov">apnep@ncdenr.gov</a>.

- April 19, 8:00am 4:00pm | North Landing River/Albemarle Sound Estuarine Symposium (Virginia Beach, VA)
- April 30, 10:30am 4:30pm | <u>APNEP Leadership Council Meeting</u> (Raleigh, NC)

### **Current Grant Opportunities**



- April 6, 2018 NOAA Environmental Literacy Grants
- May 4, 2018 FY2018 RFP for the 319(h) Nonprofit Source Grant
- May 7, 2018 EPA Wetland Program Development Grants

**Grant Details** 

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# **Partner Spotlight**



## Community Collaborative Rain, Hail, and Snow Network (CoCoRaHS)

CoCoRaHS (pronounced KO-ko-rozz) is a volunteer network of backyard weather observers who work together to measure and map precipitation in their local communities. The only requirements to join are an enthusiasm for watching and reporting weather conditions and a desire to learn more about how weather can affect and impact lives! More information about CoCoRaHS.

Become a volunteer observer and join the CoCoRaHS Network!

#### What We're Reading

- · Yes, Virginia, There's a River that Might Stand up to Sea Level Rise
- What's the Future of Fishways?
- Our Coast's History: Drawing the VA-NC Line

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