



*Welcome to the Albemarle-Pamlico National Estuary Program **E-Update** – a monthly summary of selected activities of the APNEP staff, committees and our partners...*

The Albemarle-Pamlico National Estuary Program (APNEP)

will hold a combined meeting of its advisory committees on November 8th at the Exploris in Raleigh, beginning at 10:00am. It is the first time since the APNEP's organizational restructuring that the Policy Board (PB), Science and Technical Advisory Committee (STAC), the Citizens' Advisory Committee (CAC), and the newly formed Management Advisory Committee (MAC) will meet together. Agenda items include presentations on Green Infrastructure Planning, Landscape Change in the AP Region, Indicators of Estuarine Health, and a luncheon presentation given by Tim Jones, U.S. EPA Office of Wetlands, Oceans, and Watersheds, pertaining to the EPA and the National Estuary Program. For more information contact Joan Giordano at: joan.Giordano@ncmail.net

APNEP Management Advisory Committee (MAC) members have been nominated and await confirmation by the Policy Board. The committee they form brings to completion the three-pronged advisory committee approach to APNEP's new organizational structure called for in Governor Easley's Executive Order #74. The Management Advisory Committee is broad-based and includes representation from federal, state, and local agencies with environmental and natural resource management responsibilities within the Albemarle-Pamlico watershed.

The MAC is responsible for coordinating, supporting, and advocating Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan (CCMP) implementation strategy at a state and federal agency level, through advisement and consultation with the Policy Board, CAC and STAC. Expecting to meet approximately twice yearly, the MAC will serve as a forum for the exchange of management information about the Albemarle-Pamlico estuarine system.

New Rule Boosts Protection of Underground Drinking

Water - More than 100 million Americans will enjoy greater protection of their drinking water under a new rule signed by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency on October 11. The rule targets utilities that provide water from underground sources and requires greater vigilance for potential contamination by disease-causing microorganisms.

"The Bush Administration's Ground Water Rule boosts drinking water purity and public health security," said Benjamin H. Grumbles, assistant administrator for Water. "These first-ever standards will help communities prevent, detect and correct tainted ground water problems so citizens continue to have clean and affordable drinking water." The risk-targeting strategy incorporated in the rule provides for: regular sanitary surveys of public water systems to look for significant deficiencies in key operational areas; triggered source-water monitoring when a system that does not sufficiently disinfect drinking water identifies a positive sample during its regular monitoring to comply with existing rules; implementation of corrective actions by ground water systems with a significant deficiency or evidence of source water fecal contamination; compliance monitoring for systems that are sufficiently treating drinking water to ensure effective removal of pathogens

A ground water system is subject to triggered source-water monitoring if its treatment methods don't already remove 99.99 percent of viruses. Systems must begin to comply with the new requirements by Dec. 1, 2009. For more on the Ground Water Rule and information about drinking water go to: <http://epa.gov/safewater/disinfection/gwr/>

The next Environmental Education Community Outreach

meeting will be held at the NC Zoological Park on Tuesday, November 14, 2006. The meeting will include a tour of the Zoo!

The NC Zoo's mission is to encourage the understanding of and commitment to the conservation of the world's wildlife and wild places through the recognition of the interdependence of people and nature. The Zoo does this by creating a sense of enjoyment, wonder and discovery throughout the Park and in their outreach programs.

Sign-in begins at 9:30 a.m. and the meeting will begin promptly at 10:00 am with a networking lunch at noon. If you plan on attending and would like to order lunch, the cost is \$10.00 and payment will be collected at registration. The deadline for ordering lunch is November 8.

EE Community Outreach meetings provide an open and informal opportunity to share information and ideas with others who have an interest in quality environmental education. Meetings are held throughout the state. All are welcome. Additional information about the meetings, including information about past and upcoming meetings, can be found at <http://www.eenorthcarolina.org/newsandevents.htm> For your planning purposes, check out our schedule of [upcoming meetings](#) for 2006 and 2007.

Renew your Sense of Wonder with Environmental Educators of North Carolina (EENC) at the Annual EENC Conference November 2-5, 2006 at Fort Bragg, NC. The 2006 Conference theme, "Renewing a Sense of Wonder" celebrates the centennial of Rachel Carson (born May 27, 1907), "the patron saint of the environmental movement." Broadway actress and television star, Kaiulani Lee, will inspire you with her captivating portrayal of Carson in her original play, "A Sense of Wonder."

Also confirmed on the program are two experts cited in Richard Louv's popular book, *Last Child in the Woods*. Dr. Paul Dayton of Scripps Institution of Oceanography at the University of California in San Diego, CA and Robin Moore, Professor in the School of Design at North Carolina State University, will lead a dinner table conversation about children's "nature-deficit disorder."

Larry Earley, NC author of *Looking for Longleaf, the Fall and Rise of an American Forest*, will challenge attendees to make a commitment to the survival of native longleaf pine trees as they disperse into the woods on unique field trips. The Conference will be the first ever held in the Sandhills by EENC.

Plan to attend the 2006 EENC Annual Conference for once-in-a-lifetime experiences in a unique habitat! This gathering promises to renew your sense of wonder with outstanding professional development, celebrating excellence in environmental education and the richness of biodiversity in the NC Sandhills. For more information go to: <http://www.eenc.org/conference.html> or email: conference@eenc.org

The North Carolina Estuarium, located in Washington on the Pamlico River, describes the ecology of North Carolina's estuaries (especially the Tar-Pamlico River and Pamlico Sounds), some of the threats facing these waters, and some ways humans have used the estuary for thousands of years.

This river is part of the Pamlico Sound estuary, which in turn is part of the Albemarle-Pamlico estuary. [Click here for more information about the Albemarle-Pamlico estuary and peninsula.](#)

As one of North Carolina's most innovative environmental centers, the Estuarium houses more than 200 scientific and historic exhibits that the whole family will enjoy. Features and activities include:

- Artwork featuring environmental themes by regional artists, including a room-size interactive sculpture in the lobby
- Aquariums and terrariums with live estuarine species
- A 3/4-mile boardwalk along Pamlico River
- Historic artifacts and boats
- Special programs for scheduled groups
- Hands-on educational displays
- Captivating audio-visual presentations including a spectacular film of the Albemarle-Pamlico region
- River Roving, a pontoon boat tour of the Pamlico-Tar River waterways (Ages 8 & up. Reservations required.)
- Programs, classes and other regularly scheduled activities. Environmental educators on staff

The Estuarium offers special educational programs for scheduled groups as well as programs and events for the public. Pre-visit materials are available.

[Click here for more information on group programs and scheduling.](#)

[Click here for a list of programs and events scheduled for the public.](#)

Hours of Operation: Tuesday – Saturday 10 am - 4 pm.

Giant, old oaks draped in Spanish moss welcome you to this special world where broad, lazy Goose Creek joins the Pamlico River. A primitive camping area, picnic sites, swim beach and hiking and canoeing trails offer a variety of ways to savor the tranquil surroundings at **Goose Creek State Park**, or consider participating in one of the exciting environmental experiences listed here:

[Sat, November 4, 2006 Astronomy in the Park](#), 6 p.m. - 7:45 p.m.

Did you know that the phase of the moon and its position in the sky can reveal the time of day - or night - on Earth? Make a Moon Dial that will help you tell time by the light of the moon? Weather permitting we will go outside to use our new timepieces and to observe the fall constellations. Meet in the auditorium of the Environmental Education and Visitor Center for this family oriented program.

[Sat, November 4, 2006 Backyard Bird Feeding](#) 2 p.m. As winter approaches, birds are left with fewer sources of food. That's when bird feeders become more important! Come and see Goose Creek's own Bird-Feeder Station, learn some techniques to attract birds to your backyard and get some practice in how to identify some of the common backyard birds of fall and winter. Meet in the Environmental Education and Visitor Center at 3 p.m. for this one-hour program.

[Sun, November 5, 2006 Fall Nature Hike](#) 2 - 4 p.m. Enjoy the crisp fall weather on this two-mile hike on the Flatty Creek Trail. The ranger will point out the many changes occurring in the forest as winter approaches. Bring binoculars if you have them and dress appropriately for the out-of-doors. Pre-registration is required. Call 252/923-2191.

[Sat, November 11, 2006 Tot Discoveries: Terrific Turkeys!](#) 9 a.m. - 10 a.m.

Come and enjoy this program designed just for inquisitive 3-5 year-olds. Through games, story time, and a craft we will discover more about our favorite November bird – the wild turkey! No registration is required, but an adult must accompany children. Please meet in the Environmental Education and Visitor Center.

[Sun, November 12, 2006 Day Shift, Night Shift](#) 4 p.m.-5 p.m. In the natural world, animals take turns by being active either during the daytime or at night. Learn about some of these animals and take a short hike to see the sunset switch as it occurs! Dress warmly for the hike. Please meet in the Environmental Education and Visitor Center.

[Fri, November 24, 2006 Hunters in the Night](#) 3 p.m. - 4 p.m. Come and be fascinated by the otherworldly lives of our nighttime neighbors – owls. Learn about the many ways owls are adapted to performing precision tasks in the dark of night. Find out which owls may be lurking in your neighborhood! Please meet in the Environmental Education and Visitor Center.

[Sat, November 25, 2006 Fall Nature Hike](#) 2 - 4 p.m. Enjoy the crisp fall weather on this two-mile hike on the Flatty Creek Trail. The ranger will point out the many changes occurring in the forest as winter approaches. Bring binoculars if you have them and dress appropriately for the out-of-doors. Pre-registration is required. Call 252-923-2191.

November Dates of Interest include: **November 9**-NC Environmental Management Commission Meeting, 9:00am. Ground Floor Hearing Room, Archdale Building, 512 S. Salisbury Street, Raleigh, NC. Contact: EMC Recording Clerk, 919-733-7015 x 202; **November 16-17** NC Coastal Resources Commission Meeting. The Sheraton, Fort Macon Road, Atlantic Beach, NC. Contact: NC Division of Coastal Management, 252-808-2808. 1-888-4RCOAST; **November 30-Dec. 1** NC Marine Fisheries Commission Meeting. Public Welcome. Hatteras, NC Contact: NC Division of Marine Fisheries, 252-726-7201 or 800-682-2632.

Virginia's Department of Conservation and Recreation

(DCR) is the agency with which NC DENR signed a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) in October 2001. Designed to heighten awareness of each other's programs regarding the goals and objectives of the APNEP Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan (CCMP), the objective of the MOA is to improve environmental and economic resources in the Albemarle-Pamlico Sounds watershed. The APNEP region extends into 19 counties and incorporated cities in Virginia and thus establishes the Commonwealth as a full partner in implementing the APNEP CCMP.

Among its other involvements, VADCR is a major player in recreation planning and land management. They help local parks and recreation departments through funding, expertise and training. Through these local partnerships, more than 50,000 acres have been purchased for parks and recreation in more than 400 parks around the state. Since 1967, the department has provided more than \$72 million in state funds and channeled more than \$61 million in federal funds to local parks. More than \$300 million in local matching funds have been generated for local parks.

People usually think of parks as places for enjoyment. Actually, they're also economic necessities. In fact, tourism is Virginia's largest industry. The Commonwealth's pleasant climate and outdoor recreational offerings entice business and industry to the state.

DCR provides policy and direction to the public and private sectors so they may better manage recreational resources, and outdoor and open spaces. For example, they promote the use of conservation land easements as a method landowners can employ to protect their land's character. In a similar vein, DCR works with more than 60 localities as the lead agency in land use tax assessment for open space. Open space is further protected through programs enabling the department to accept philanthropic gifts of money, securities and other property.

DCR workers served on a team that wrote management plans for Virginia's two national forests. The forests provide about 1.6 million acres of open space, opportunities for recreation and biological diversity.

As well, DCR programs address scenic rivers, highways and byways. The agency's experience with local planners makes it a natural to help localities plan for greenways. Greenways are corridors of open space that connect recreational, cultural or natural

areas. Be sure to check out the Virginia Tourism Corporation's [John Smith Water Trail Map](#) website to learn more about the captain's historic venture.

Further, the department lends engineering expertise to localities by coordinating flood prevention, public beach and shoreline erosion programs, and by writing permits for about 440 regulated dams.

Chippokes Plantation State Park in Virginia is one of the oldest working farms in the United States. Chippokes is a living historical exhibit located in a rural agricultural area along the James River in Surry County. In addition, the park has a wide variety of traditional park offerings, including a swimming complex, visitor center, picnic facilities, and hiking and biking trails. The plantation has kept its original boundaries since the 1600s and has a variety of cultivated gardens and native woodland. Azaleas, crepe myrtle, boxwood and seasonal flowers accent the formal gardens surrounding the Chippokes Mansion. The plantation grounds are also home to the [Chippokes Farm and Forestry Museum](#).

Chippokes Plantation State Park is operated by the Department of Conservation and Recreation in cooperation with the Chippokes Plantation Farm Foundation. The Virginia General Assembly created the foundation in 1977 to establish, administer and maintain the model farm. Funding for the foundation comes from farmland rent payments, donations, admissions and gift shop sales.

Location: Surry County. From I-95 and I-295, take Route 10 towards Hopewell. Follow Route 10 East for approximately 40 miles to Surry. Turn left at the intersection of routes 10 and 31 (this continues on Route 10). Turn right at the blinking light. Turn left at Route 634 (Alliance Road), and the park entrance is four miles on the left. [Click here](#) for a Mapquest map. From southside Hampton Roads (Chesapeake, Norfolk, Portsmouth, Virginia Beach): Take I-64 East to 460 West. Take exit to Route 10 West (through Smithfield), approximately 15 miles. Make right on Alliance Road (Route 634). Park is four miles on left.



Photo Courtesy of Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation

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