

NEUSE RIVER BASIN REGIONAL COUNCIL

Wayne Center
Goldsboro, NC
March 24, 2000

MINUTES

The meeting was called to order at 10:00am by outgoing Chairman, Bill Ritchie. He asked Joan Giordano to call the roll. (See attachment A). Chairman Ritchie then asked for a motion to accept the minutes from the last meeting (February 11, 2000). It was noted that the very last line in the minutes contained an error. The date of the next meeting should have read "March 24, 2000, instead of March 31, 2000." Joan Giordano noted the correction and Sondra Riggs made a motion to accept the minutes as corrected. Andy McLawhorn seconded the motion, and it carried.

Chairman Ritchie then called upon Norman Ricks to present the Nominating Committee's report. Mr. Ricks stated that the Nominating Committee had met and proposed the following slate of nominees:

Andy McLawhorn	Chairman
Bruce Whitfield	Vice-Chairman
Joan Giordano	(Acting) Secretary

This slate of nominees was circulated to the general membership via the minutes from the last meeting, and there were no other nominations forthcoming. Chairman Ritchie accepted the Nominating Committee's report. He asked for nominations from the floor and, hearing none, he entertained a motion to close the nominations. A motion by Marguerite Whitfield, seconded by Sondra Riggs, to do so was made and the motion carried.

Chairman Ritchie then asked for a motion to affirm the slate of nominees as presented. By motion of Joe Hughes, seconded by Norman Ricks, the motion carried. The new officers will serve for one year.

Chairman Ritchie then turned to the issue of Regional Council vacancies. He explained that the work of the Neuse Regional Council needed to be spread evenly throughout the basin and that a full complement of representatives was necessary for the successful conduct of Council business. He urged those present to use the nomination form sent with the previous month's minutes to propose nominees to fill the interest-group categories which were vacant.

He also commented on the importance of fulfilling the Council by-laws which state that a Secretary will be elected from Council membership. He drew attention to the fine job Caroline Parker did in the past of recording Council minutes, and consented to preparing an outline to facilitate this task in the future. He felt a different member should consent to taking the meeting minutes at each meeting, if no one stepped forward and agreed to serve as Secretary.

The next agenda item was a presentation pertaining to hurricanes (most notably, Hurricanes Floyd and Fran) by Jerad Bales from the United States Geological Survey (USGS). Dr. Bales described hurricanes that made landfall in NC and compared three in 1955, with three occurring in 1999. He underscored the fact that "natural events are not natural disasters until people are in the way." He mentioned this relative to the need for land-use planning and the folly associated with building in flood plains. Numerous graphs depicted the affects of the hurricane events. To review the content of Dr. Bales' presentation, log-on to:

<http://nc.water.usgs.gov>



Discussion ensued.

As his last official act as Chairman, Bill Ritchie recommended that the year-end report covering the years 1999-2000 of NRBRC activity be dedicated to Caroline Parker. He agreed to help incoming Chair, Andy McLawhorn, with the preparation of this document. Chairman McLawhorn thanked Mr. Ritchie for his years of fine service as Chairman of the NRBRC. Chairman McLawhorn then assumed presiding over the meeting.

Chairman McLawhorn showed a short video taken at Swift Creek and reiterated his suggestion (from the last meeting) regarding each NRBRC member naming the 10 best-loved places, and the 10 places most needing attention, in the Neuse basin. He felt, after some distillation, the Council could make the list available to the public (by July 4th, 2000.) He suggested that NRBRC members e-mail or write to him at:

Aydenrec@ayden.com or

Andy McLawhorn
Rt. 1, Box 225
Winterville, NC 28590

In other business, Chairman McLawhorn agreed to write a letter to all NRBRC members urging them to again become involved in Council business. He also agreed to write to the county managers of those counties whose public officials are not participating. In both instances, he will ask that members not interested in continuing their membership resign, in order that other citizens and officials can be afforded a chance to participate. Joan Giordano agreed to reproducing the letters and mailing them.

In final business, Chairman McLawhorn asked that new Neuse Basinwide Water Quality Management plans be made available to the membership. Joan Giordano agreed to looking into the request.

The next meeting will be held on **Thursday, May 25, 2000** at the Wayne Center in Goldsboro. **Please note the irregularity of the date, due to the commencement of the Memorial Day weekend during the regularly scheduled meeting time.** The meeting will begin at 10:00am. Thanks to Norman Ricks for securing the place and to so generously providing drinks and donuts!

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.



Attendance
NRBRC
3/23/00

NAMEAffiliation

<u>NAME</u>	<u>Affiliation</u>	
Andy McLawhorn ✓	Pitt County	756 3343 ^{Reaston @} Coastalnet
Margaret U. Nalton ✓	Orange County	919-1339-Chapel Hill
Sandra Spick Riggs ✓	Jones County	252-224-7431
Marguerite Whitfield ✓	Hershel County	252-569-5421
David Smith ✓	Farmville	252 582 4171
Jan Hatten (Visitor for Orange Co.)		
JERAD BAUES	US GEOLOGICAL SURVEY	919-571-4048
Norman Ricks ✓	Wayne County	919-731-1417
Bruce R. Whitfield ✓	Person SWCO	336-597-4805
Joe Hughes ✓	Silviculture	252-633-7239
BILL RICHIE ✓		252-633-2396
Bill Telford (for Terry Kolan)	City of Durham	919-560-4384
Joan Giordano ✓	APNEP Staff	252-946-6481

1. Introduction

1.1 Background
1.2 Objectives

Methodology

Results

1.3 Scope
1.4 Limitations

1.5 Structure

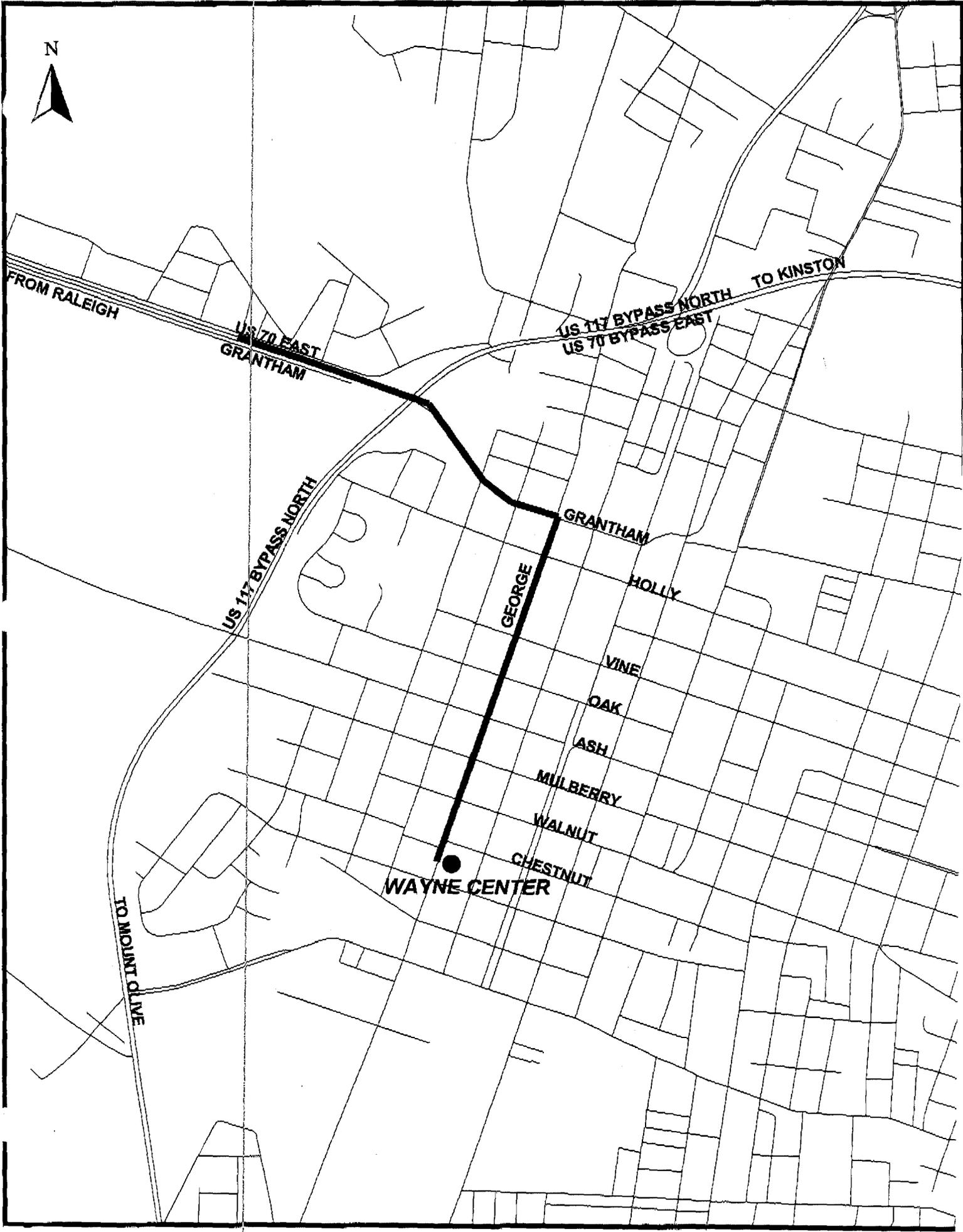
1.6 References

1.7 Conclusion

1.8 Summary

1.9 Appendix

1.10 Final Remarks





ENVIRO NOTES---WILL NC LEARN FROM 1999 HURRICANES?

Margaret Holton---December 1999

Will North Carolinians learn Disasters happen when people and property fall in the path of hurricanes and floods though these extremem natural events occur regularly? But these extreme natural events occur only when they intersect with manmade development. It takes local government allowing by permit private and public development in hazardous areas or floodprone areas to create disasters.

According to David Godschalk, city and regional planning at UNC-Chapel Hill, the Post-Fran Study Report in 1997 by the NC Disaster Recovery Task Force wisely acknowledged the important role of state government, as well as local, in mitigating the impacts of future natural disasters. The Task Force recommended assessing the need for new state hazard initiatives in three areas: *Legislation to require full disclosure and hazard notification to persons acquiring property on coastal barrier islands; *Legislation restricting future state subsidies and support of development in designated high hazard areas on barrier islands; * Establishment of a state hazardous acquisition program. By 1998, the political agenda had turned to other matters. Hurricane Fran and Bertha's wake-up call had not produced lasting awareness of the need to pursue hazard mitigation by the state.

The UNC report points out a number of deficiencies in the current system of hazardous-area definition. First we need new accurate maps of floodprone areas statewide. Then people buying property can be fully informed of the hazards they may face. Seven other states restrict or prohibit the expenditure of public funds in hazard-prone areas. Connecticut, Florida, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Rhode Island and Texas all have laws or programs to limit provision of infrastructure, such as roads, bridges and utilities, that could encourage or induce development in hazard areas. Finally the UNC report recommends that the state develop a comprehensive hazard-areas acquisition program with funding sources, statutory authority and procedures to permanently reduce flood damage vulnerability in high-risk areas. Such a program can also achieve other public goals, including flood plain storage capacity, protecting wetlands and other important environmental features, and provide public parks, beach access and open space.

Building on the experience of other states, we can and must forge new state hazard mitigation and programs. Only by understanding the linkage between landscape development and the health of our rivers and coast can we make wise decisions about the future.

ENVIRO NOTES---AUGUST 1999 Margaret U. Holton
CLEAN WATER ACT OF 1999----House Bill 1160---Hackney and Hardaway

NC House and Senate's Clean Water Initiative was signed into law on July 21, 1999.

Outline of Main Points for Citizens of North Carolina:

- * Extends Moratoria on construction or expansion of Swine Farms until July 1, 2001.
- * Requires the state to perform a risk assessment of all the abandoned and inactive lagoons in NC, including a ranking of their risk to the environment.
- * Extends Pilot Program for inspection of Animal Waste Management Systems until July 1, 2001 by the Division of Soil and Water Conservation of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR). As part of this pilot program, DENR shall establish procedures whereby resources within the local Soil and Conservation Districts serving the three pilot counties (Columbia, Jones, and Brunswick) are used for the quick response to complaints and reported problems.
- * Inventory inactive lagoons.
- * Increases penalties for Water Quality Violations, and also greatly increases the penalty for repeat offenders, effective October 1, 1999.
- * Authorizes DENR to distribute funds from the Wetlands Restoration Fund, also authorizes Soil and Water Conservation Districts (SWCD) to acquire easements under the Conservation Reserve Program, etc.
- * Provides immediate protection for hundreds of miles of rivers and streams (Temporary Rule) in the Cape Fear, Catawba and Tar-Pamlico river basins.
- * Require reports to Wastewater System Customers on Performance and Publication of Notice of Discharges of Untreated Wastewater, Untreated Waste, or Animal Waste..
- * Pilot Program for Inspection of Municipal and Domestic Wastewater Treatment Works.
- * Raises standards for Permits for New or Expanded Municipal or Domestic Wastewater Treatment Works that discharge to the waters of the state.
- * Environmental Management Commission (EMC) to develop Engineering Standards and to Implement A Permit Program for Municipal and Domestic Wastewater Collections.
- * Clarify that DENR may regulate Clean Water Loans from Bond Funds.

NOTE: Orange County OWASA is in the Cape Fear River Basin.

ENVIRONMENT REPORT---- August, 1999 MARGARET HOLTON

NC Legislative Action

- * CLEAN WATER ACT OF 1999---HACKNEY AND HARDAWAY
- * AMBIENT AIR QUALITY IMPROVEMENTS---CLODFELTER, ALBERTSON, AND KINNAIRD
- * ALSO passed a bill that creates a COMMISSION TO ADDRESS SMART GROWTH, GROWTH MANAGEENT AND DEVELOPMENT ISSUES.

The Water Resources Research Institute(WRRI) News reports concern for our state's water supply. Every summer more North Carolina cities are having water shortages that have led some Piedmont communities recently to limit growth and development. Of particular concern however, is the significant depletion of GROUNDWATER in the Coastal Plain. To help ad-

ENVIRO NOTES
EASTERN NORTH CAROLINA
(by Margaret U. Holton)

Our particular concern for Eastern NC is for **HUMAN** Health and Environment. Three hurricanes in two months have left this area with many environmental disasters due to flooding, since buildings, hog factories and lagoons, waste treatment plants and salvage companies were located in flood plains where they should never have been. In September, Hurricane Dennis (the Menace) pounded the Outer Banks for quite a time, erasing the sand dunes and stretch of sand adjacent to Hwy 12. Then Hurricane Floyd, labeled a 500-year event, poured thousands of gallons of water onto eastern NC, causing extreme flooding, the evacuation of many residents from their homes, and damage that cannot be repaired. In mid-October, Hurricane Irene added more water to the already soaked countryside. A Raleigh News and Observer reporter wrote, "Beyond its toll in human lives, misery and property damage, the flooding has plunged eastern NC into an unprecedented environmental catastrophe". We are concerned about disease that causes more human suffering, as well as safe drinking water (ground water needs to be tested).

North Carolinians have been sympathetic and have sent many truck loads of volunteers with supplies, but these efforts only help with emergency situations. Residents have lost their homes. FEMA is overloaded with applications, though the paper has said there will be an office in each of the 30 affected counties.

Governor Hunt has spoken out for **Smart Growth Planning** as we rebuild. NC needs a **Plan for Smart Growth to Guide Disaster Relief** that will **Reduce Future Damage** and **Protect the Environment**. Nine of our major environmental groups have presented such a plan. It urges the leaders of our state to commit to principles that will decrease public health threats, environmental destruction and the property losses that face us in future

natural disasters. These *Principles* to keep our citizens out of harm's way include:

Remove sources of pollution from the 100-year floodplain.

1. Repair and relocate as necessary waste treatment facilities.
2. Do not rebuild or replace anaerobic lagoons for concentrated animal production facilities, but provide flexibility and incentives to use some public assistance for innovative technologies.
3. Do not build or replace hog factories and other concentrated animal operations in the 100-year flood plain, in wetlands, or in prior converted wetlands.
4. Relocate major pollution sources such as junkyards and hazardous materials storage from the floodplain.

Reduce subsidies of risk.

1. Relocate homes and businesses in extreme flood-prone areas.
2. Restrict development in high-risk portions of barrier islands and beaches.

Enhance our natural defenses against disaster.

1. Expand floodplain and wetland restoration programs.
2. Restore buffers to reduce flooding and protect water quality.

Improve future planning.

1. Reassess flood plain mapping as well as local flood plain management plans.
2. Assess status of residential drinking water wells and coordinate funding to relocate substandard wells.

Coordinate the multiple sources of state and federal relief and infrastructure funding to assure that wise planning principles are consistently observed.

BOARD PROFILES

Gwen Griswold belonged to a civic group very like LWV in Atlanta in the late '50s/early '60s. After moving to NY, she joined the White Plains LWV and was a member for almost 30 years. After a few years she left their Board to return to teaching. On retiring and returning to NC in 1995 (she grew up in western NC and graduated from the Woman's College), she joined the Carrboro-Chapel Hill LWV. Gwen lives in Durham and has spent her three years on the Board establishing a presence for LWV-CHA in Durham.

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UPCOMING FORUMS

September 18, 2000
Land Use
and Watershed Planning

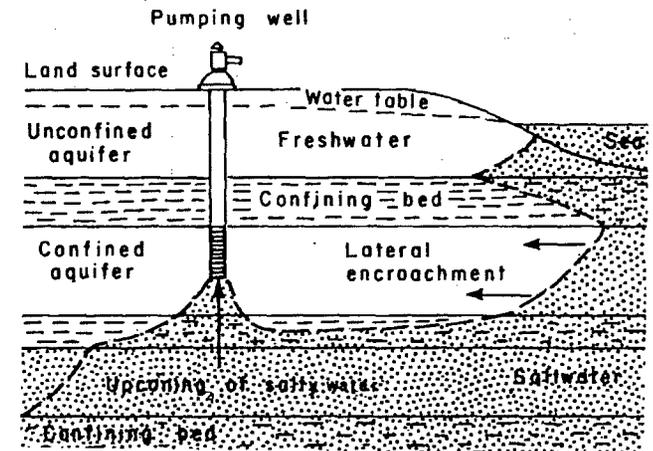
December 4, 2000
Endocrine Disrupters
in the Environment

WATER RESOURCES RESEARCH INSTITUTE
of The University of North Carolina
Box 7912, NCSU
Raleigh, NC 27695-7912

13745 JOAN GIORDANO
DENR APES REG OFFICE
943 WASH SQ MALL
WASHINGTON NC 16-04-01

North Carolina Water Resources Association
NCWRA
North Carolina Section of the American Water Resources Association

Luncheon &
Forum
on
**Overuse of Eastern
North Carolina
Aquifers**



Two aspects of saltwater encroachment.
From *Basic Ground-Water Hydrology*.

April 10, 2000
11:30 am Registration
Jane S. McKimmon Center
North Carolina State University
Raleigh, NC

NCWRA Luncheon and Forum on

Overuse of Eastern North Carolina Aquifers

featuring

Richard Spruill
Department of Geology
East Carolina University

Dr. Spruill will discuss the hydrologic solutions to overuse of the Cretaceous aquifers of Eastern North Carolina. Ground water levels are declining and salt water intrusion will occur in the aquifer systems of North Carolina's Coastal Plain. Innovative methods will be needed to provide drinking water for this region of North Carolina in the future. Dr. Spruill will provide specific examples from Onslow County, New Bern, and Greenville.

An NCWRA Board meeting will take place after the forum.

NCWRA LUNCHEON AND FORUM ON OVERUSE OF EASTERN NORTH CAROLINA AQUIFERS

\$10 for NCWRA members**\$15 for nonmembers
\$10 for Student Chapter members** Duke N.C. State University

** Preregistration is required. Registration form and payment must be received by Friday, March 31. After that date \$5 will be added as a late fee.

REGISTRATION FORM

Name _____
Affiliation _____
Address _____ Phone _____

Make check payable to **NCWRA**
Send check and form to Water Resources Research Institute, Box 7912, N.C. State University, Raleigh, NC 27695-7912. If you have questions call Julie Mason, WRRRI (919) 515-2815.

SAVE MONEY ON NCWRA LUNCHEONS. JOIN NCWRA!

North Carolina Water Resources Association MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Regular membership: \$15; Student membership: \$5
I would like to become a member of NCWRA. Enclosed is my check.
Membership year runs January - December 2000.

Name _____ Affiliation _____
Address _____
City/State/Zip _____ Phone _____

Make check payable to NCWRA.
Send check and form to: Water Resources Research Institute, Box 7912,
N.C. State University, Raleigh, NC 27695-7912