

Regional Update

A Monthly Report of Activities on the Eastern Shore of Virginia

August 2004

Household Hazardous Waste Collection August 18th at ESO

The Eastern Shore of Virginia Ground Water Committee, in cooperation with Accomack County, Northampton County, the Accomack-Northampton Planning District Commission, the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality, the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation, and the ESO Arts Center will offer a Household Hazardous Waste Collection from 1:00 to 5:00 PM on Wednesday, August 18, 2004 at the ESO Arts Center in Belle Haven. The collection will allow householders to dispose of hazardous materials properly rather than illegally dispose of them in the trash or flush them down the drain.

Householders who preregister can dispose of up to 30 pounds of hazardous waste for free. Additional hazardous waste will cost 91 cents per pound to dispose.

Items to be collected include leftover garden chemicals, poisons, repellants, degreasers, fuels (gasoline and kerosene) fungicides, wood preservatives, paint products, wood stain, paint thinner, paint remover, driveway sealers, epoxy, rodent poison, and other hazardous waste.

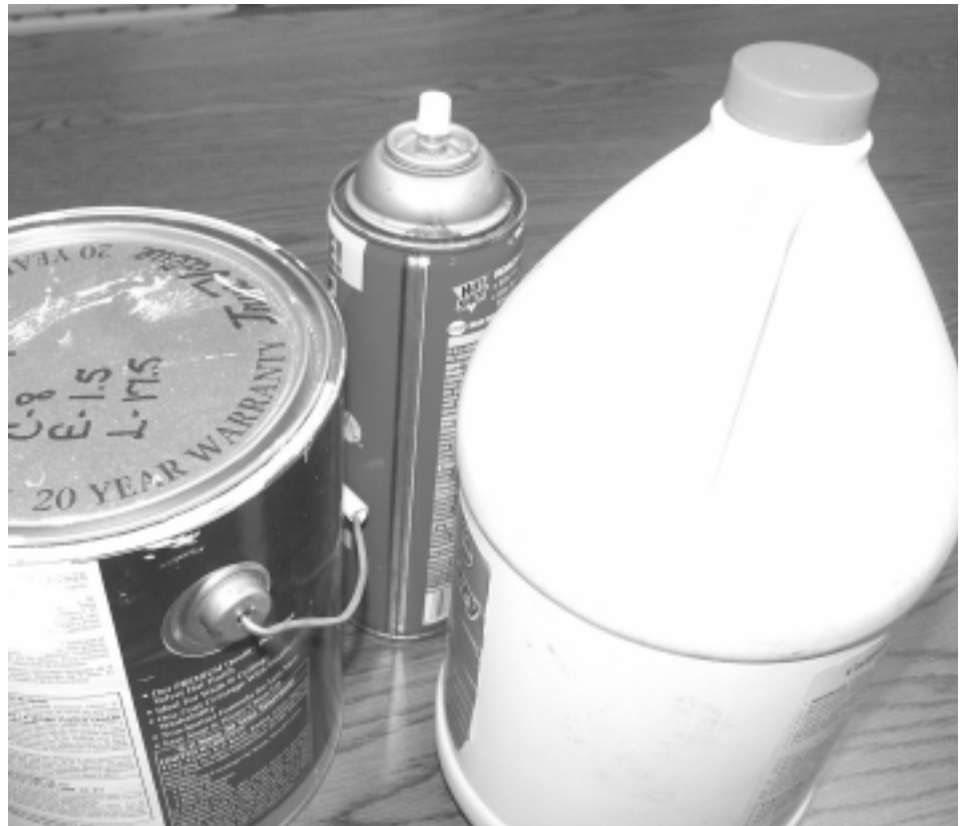
No commercial or industrial waste, car batteries, tires, motor oil, explosives, asbestos, medical or bio-

logical waste, medicines, PCBs, smoke detectors, freon, propane tanks, or empty containers of any kind will be accepted.

Car batteries, motor oil, and tires can be brought to the Accomack County and Northampton County land-

fills. A representative from the Eastern Shore Food Bank will be on hand to accept usable paint.

If you are interested in participating in the collection, register by calling the A-NPDC at 757-787-2936.



Dispose of household hazardous waste properly by bringing it to the ESO Arts Center in Belle Haven on August 18th

Eastern Shore of Virginia Heritage Trail

The idea of an Eastern Shore Heritage Trail goes back to 1994, when Northampton County received a VDOT Transportation Enhancement Grant to develop the Northampton Heritage Trail. Recently the Eastern Shore Regional Partnership adopted the idea and the Tourism Commission's Jamestown 2007 Committee selected the Heritage Trail as its legacy project.

Over the last few months, Greg Manter (Eastern Shore Economic Development Commission Director) and a small group of Eastern Shore residents have turned the long-talked-about Trail into a reality. The new Heritage Trail website will be online by August 9 and will encourage travelers to get off busy Route 13 and enjoy the scenic beauty, natural areas and history of the Shore. Major points of interest include historic towns, waterfront villages, scenic roads, museums, and parks.

The Eastern Shore is well known for its fishing and farming heritage, and is a popular vacation destination for those seeking natural areas, historic vil-

lages, fishing, hunting, boating, and quiet back roads for bicycling and driving. Chincoteague Island hosts visitors year-round who are attracted by Chincoteague National Wildlife Refuge and Assateague National Seashore. Other Eastern Shore towns offer restaurants, lodging, museums, and historic districts to visitors exploring our region's natural and cultural heritage. Tangier Island, located in the middle of the Chesapeake Bay, is reached by tourists via a seasonal passenger/bicycle ferry.

The Eastern Shore Heritage Trail will also promote economic development by bringing business to local restaurants, shops, motels and inns.

The Trail is organized in four easy-to-navigate loops. The website includes descriptions of attractions, a multitude of photos, driving directions, and maps. Links to other websites provide even more information. The website address is www.easternshore.org/trail/. Visitors will be able to easily learn about and visit our historic, natural and scenic attractions.



The Eastern Shore Heritage Trail includes historic, scenic and natural attractions

State to Hold VTrans Public Hearings

Virginia will hold a series of regional public meetings on the VTrans2025 Statewide Multimodal Long-Range Transportation Plan during August 2004. VTrans2025 is a long range planning effort to create a more integrated, convenient, and efficient transportation system for Virginia's traveling public and for visitors. This effort marks the first time that all of Virginia's agencies responsible for providing transportation services and facilities have come together to analyze the future trends and needs of highway motorists, rail and transit passengers, freight shippers, airline passengers, bicyclists and pedestrians.

Two VTrans2025 public meetings will be held in the Virginia Department of Transportation's Hampton Roads District, which includes the Eastern Shore of Virginia. The meetings will be held from 4:00 to 8:00 PM on Wednesday, August 11th at Thomas Nelson Community College in Hampton and from 4:00 to 8:00 PM on Thursday, August 12th at the Hampton Roads PDC in Chesapeake.

The VTrans2025 planning process, which completed its first phase in 2002, will continue until the final plan is published in the summer of 2005. So far, planners have held focus groups around the state, vision-framing sessions with key stakeholders, and developed a website to keep the public informed.

To review the draft plan visit www.vtrans.org. For more information on the VTrans meetings, email statewideplan@virginia.org or call 1-866-835-607.

Training for Business Start-Ups

Do you want to start a business on the Eastern Shore of Virginia? The next *NxLevel for Business Start-Ups* class begins Wednesday September 15th at the Eastern Shore Chamber of Commerce in Melfa from 6-9:15pm.

This 10-session class will meet every Wednesday night through December 1st. The instructor is Paula Youngs of ECM Inc. The cost of \$125 includes books. You must preregister by calling Tracey Lankford at 757-789-1751 or email her at tlankford@es.vccs.edu.

These are popular classes, so sign up early.

Berge A-NPDC Executive Director 25 Years

August 15, 2004 will be Paul F. Berge's 25th anniversary as the Executive Director of the A-NPDC. Paul came to the Eastern Shore in 1979 after working as a regional planner at the New River Planning District Commission in Radford.

Paul also serves as the Secretary - Treasurer of the Economic Development Commission, Regional Partnership; and as Executive Director of the Regional Housing Authority, Housing & Redevelopment Corporation, and the Public Service Authority.



How to Contact the A-NPDC

If you have questions or comments about anything in this publication, please don't hesitate to contact the Planning District Commission.

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