

# Regional Update

A Monthly Report of Activities on the Eastern Shore of Virginia

July 2005

## Forty-three Participants Dispose of 2 Tons of Household Hazardous Waste Including DDT

The Eastern Shore of Virginia Ground Water Committee, Accomack County, Northampton County, Eastern Shore Soil and Water Conservation District, Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation, ESO Arts Center and the Accomack-Northampton Planning District Commission held the 2005 Household Hazardous Waste Collection at the ESO Arts Center in Belle Haven on June 25th.

The Eastern Shore Groundwater Committee organizes the collection so that the Eastern Shore's groundwater can be protected from illegal disposal of material onto the ground or through septic or sewer drains. This year, the Honorable Ms. Wanda Thornton, Chairperson of the Accomack County Board of Supervisors, appeared in several radiospots encouraging residents to use the collection to protect our groundwater from contamination.

No commercial or industrial waste was accepted. Persons who registered were allowed to dispose of 30 pounds free. Other household hazardous waste could be disposed of for 93¢ per pound. Usable paint was donated to the Eastern Shore Food Bank.

The collection was a success. Three thousand six hundred and fifty six pounds were collected, just under two

tons of material. PDC staff received \$1,708 for disposal of waste.

There were 43 participants in the collection and they brought a wide range of hazardous waste. Types of waste included asbestos shingles, paint, contaminated gasoline, garden chemicals and a half gallon of DDT. DDT is an insecticide that was banned in the United States thirty-two years ago because it is not metabolized by animals.

The half life of this poison in animals is 8 years.

Many householders commented that they were very happy this was being offered to residents of the Eastern Shore of Virginia and some expressed the wish that it could be done more than once a year. Others said that this was good for the Shore's environment.

For more information, contact Jim McGowan at (757)787-2936 x. 114.



*Residents dispose of various types of household hazardous waste on June 25th at the 2005 Household Hazardous Waste Collection.*

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# David F. Annis, Director of Housing Production, Marks 20 Years at PDC

David F. Annis began working for the PDC June 27, 1985. His first position was as a Housing Specialist where he wrote specifications for new home construction and inspected rental units for the program now known as Section 8. He began writing CDBG applications and was promoted to Community Development Coordinator and then Director of Housing Production. Mr. Annis has worked in numerous communities on the Eastern Shore. These include Whitesville, Tangier, Cape Charles, Onancock, Treherneville, Macedonia, West Horntown, Keller, Melfa, Birdsnest, Withams, Bayview, East Fairview, Saxis and Makemie Park among others. He has found \$14.4 million in funding to improve housing on the Eastern Shore.

Mr. Annis has been a true asset for the PDC. He has worked on meeting many of the Shore's needs. He has been involved in the construction or rehabili-

tation of hundreds of homes. This has included providing migrant housing, housing for AIDS patients, housing for low-income persons, and providing community sewer. In the Makemie Park Self-Help Sewer Project, Mr. Annis labored with residents to lay their new sewer lines. He also is on the Board of Directors of NCALL Research, Inc. a corporation that provides opportunities for safe, affordable housing to people on the Delmarva Peninsula. The A-NPDC recognizes and appreciates Mr. Annis' 20 years of service.



## Accomack Manor

On June 8, 2005, Governor Mark R. Warner announced that the Department of Housing & Community Development intends to offer the County of Accomack a Community Development Block Grant to help finance the infrastructure needed to construct 90 units of elderly housing in Metompkin. Accomack Manor will be located just north of Fisher's Corner, and will consist of 76 one-bedroom and 14 two-bedroom apartments. The funding is for an access road, an on-site water system and sewer system.

## Mill Run Phase II

The Accomack-Northampton Housing & Redevelopment Corporation received a letter of conditions from the DHCD stating their intention to help fund the expansion of Mill Run Apartments. The Mill Run Phase II project will construct eight apartments, 4 two-bedroom units and 4 three-bedroom units on the remaining unimproved lots in Mill Run.

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## Eastern Shore Lead Safe Homes Program Update

The initial grant for the Virginia Lead Safe Homes Program will terminate on July 31, 2005, having completed lead remediation and rehab on 17 units on the Eastern Shore, including 10 in Northampton County and 7 in Accomack County. In a flurry of activity, almost half of these will have been finished in the last four months of the contract, with the PDC having expended approximately \$400,000 to reduce lead hazards in these homes. The Lead Safe Homes Program will continue with CDBG funds allocated for lead remediation in another 18 homes.

The Eastern Shore has been identified as having a high incidence of children with lead poisoning. Young children are at risk of lead poisoning, which damages their brain and nervous system.

To be eligible for the Program, families must own or rent a home built before 1978, have children under the age of 6 spending significant time there, and meet HUD income guidelines for low-to-moderate income households. For more information or to apply for the Program, contact Patti Merritt at (757)787-2936 x.120.

## Nassawadox Planning Grant

On June 27, 2005, the Nassawadox Town Council entered into a Planning Grant contract with the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development. This \$25,000 Planning Grant will fund changes to the Preliminary Engineering Report and Environmental Report for Phase I of the Northern Northampton Wastewater Project that includes Nassawadox and its environs. The Grant will also fund a household user survey which will help in the determination of the actual project area. The Grant will be administered by the Public Service Authority.

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## Housing Partners Notes

Accessible Space, Inc., submitted an application requesting \$1.2 million for construction and \$200,000 for rental assistance from the HUD Section 811 Program to build 15 rental units in Exmore to serve persons with disabilities. ASI was sponsored by the Eastern Shore Center for Independent Living and the A-NPDC Housing for Persons with Disabilities Task Force.

The Eastern Shore Community Services Board and the A-NPDC applied for \$68,000 from the HUD Continuum of Care Homeless Assistance Program to assist 5 chronically homeless individuals and establish a homeless information system. The application was sponsored by the Homeless Prevention Task Force of the United Coalition of the Eastern Shore.

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## VDOT Awards A-NPDC \$30,000 STP Grant

The Virginia Department of Transportation has awarded a \$30,000 State Transportation Grant to the A-NPDC to complete the Eastern Shore Alternative Transportation Mode Study for Disabled, Elderly, Low-Income and Youth Populations. This study will look at linking alternative transportation to various important sectors of the Eastern Shore including: employment centers, major retail locations, medical facilities and residential areas. Although \$5.4 million dollars was requested statewide, only \$1.4 million dollars was awarded. The A-NPDC application was among 15 successful applications. For more information, contact Elaine Meil at (757)787-2936 x. 127.



### How to Contact the A-NPDC

If you have questions or would like to discontinue your subscription, please contact the Planning District Commission.

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