

Coordinator's Report – January 30, 2008 – March 31, 2008

Meetings/Events Attended

- February 5 – Albemarle-Chowan Watershed Roundtable, Wakefield
- February 12 – River Day planning meeting, Franklin
- February 19 – Environmental Education Demonstration Project planning, Prince George
- February 26 – Forestry Committee Meeting, Wakefield
- March 6 – VASWCD Area VI Spring Meeting, Wakefield
- March 10 – Uriah Branch Trail Meeting, Emporia
- March 13 – USDA Outreach Conference, VSU, Petersburg
- March 19 – James River SWCD Environthon Competition, Chesterfield
- March 20 - Albemarle-Chowan Watershed Roundtable, Franklin
- March 20 - Hopewell Ruritan Club, Hopewell
- March 25 – FOLAR Meeting, Petersburg

Project Updates

- **Educator and Youth Mini-Grants** –The following schools have been approved for mini-grant awards since last Council meeting:
 - Patrick Copeland Elementary School (Hopewell)
 - Woodlawn Learning Center (Hopewell)
 - (2) Sutherland Elementary School (Dinwiddie)
 - Sussex County Elementary Schools
 - Southampton County Middle School

A total of 10 mini-grants have been awarded or approved for \$4,750. See attachment for project summaries.

Southern Rivers Grant – Mid project report was submitted to DCR on March 17, 2008 summarizing mini-grants that have been awarded and approved.

- **Albemarle - Chowan Watershed Roundtable** – Two Roundtable meetings have been held since last meeting. The first meeting was held on February 5th in Wakefield with 32 people in attendance. The second meeting was held on March 20th in Franklin with 19 people in attendance. Roundtable projects and activities are as follows:
 - Albemarle-Chowan Watershed & Rivers Day program will be held on April 19, 2008 at Blackwater Landing in Franklin, VA. The program will consist of river day clean up, bus tours for elected officials to view clean up efforts, youth fishing tournament, exhibit booths and displays of partnering agencies and organizations.
 - The Roundtable is also sponsoring a Logo Contest for students in grades 9-12. Applications were mailed out in February to 25 high schools for students to submit their logo designs. The logo designs have to be postmarked by April 11th and winners will be chosen at the Rivers Day program.
 - Educational Workshops will be conducted by South Hampton Roads and Old Dominion RC&D Council.

The next Roundtable meeting has been scheduled for June 26, 2008 in Greensville County.

- **Biodiesel Seminar** – The date of the seminar has been change from April 9th to May 8th. A tentative agenda has been put together and speakers are being confirmed. We also have invited Prince George High School to make a presentation on their Biodiesel Project. The seminar will be held in Prince George Human Service Building.
- **Well Capping** – Letters were mailed to 45 homeowners in Hopewell in January. The RC&D office has not received any request for assistance from those homeowners in Hopewell. Therefore we need to focus our attention on Petersburg to see if assistance is needed there to finish out the project.

Potential Projects

- **Environmental Education Demonstration Project** – This is a joint project with Virginia Cooperative Extension-Prince George, James River SWCD, NRCS and Prince George County Government. The group would like to develop educational demonstration plots on the grounds of the Prince George Human Services Building. Demonstration plots will be used to educate youth, seniors and general public on various home gardening topics. The Council's role would be finding grant money and possibly acting as a fiscal agent for the first year of the project.

Other Items

- **Council Appointments** – Vandy Jones has been appointed by the City of Petersburg to replace Ron Reekes. To our knowledge Jerry Skalsky and Dama Rice have been reappointed to the Council.

Patrick Vincent
RC&D Coordinator