

# Crane's Creek Chronicle

Newsletter of the Crane's Creek Watershed Planning Team



Greetings,

At our August meeting, we were able to view photographs our stakeholders took in the watershed. These photos represent their concerns, both problems and solutions. Since we are at a point in the watershed planning process where we are determining the problems before choosing the solutions, we concentrated on the photos identifying problems. The pictures representing solutions, such as agricultural and water quality best management practices will be used at a later date. In this issue of the Crane's Creek News, we have tried to summarize the concerns brought up at our last meeting.

Also in this newsletter is a schematic that visually explains the watershed planning process, and a list of recommendations that other local watershed plans have included. We hope this list can better give you an idea of the range of issues and ideas we may be able to consider over the next few months. The list is only an example, so please do not limit yourselves to what is found there.

At our last meeting, Jim Stanfill of NC Wetlands Restoration Program gave some examples, some case histories, of other projects involving restoration. We hope that helped you to see the many possible solutions available.

As always, let us know if we can answer any questions for you.  
See you soon.

Regards,  
Patrick Beggs – Watershed Education for Communities and Local Officials

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**Our Next Meeting: October 23, 2002 6:30 pm**  
**Cameron Fire Department**

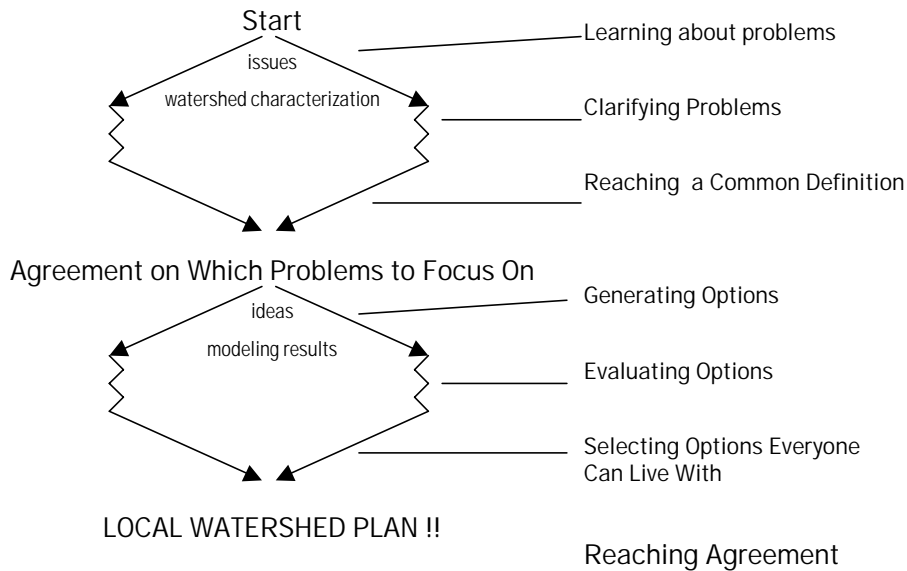
**directions:**

From Cameron and Route 1, head West on 24/27.  
Pass the Cameron Elementary School  
Bear Right on Red Hill Road.  
Fire Department will be on your Right.

Watershed Education for  
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& Local Officials

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# Watershed Planning Process



There are two overall steps to the **Watershed Planning Process: the Problem Space & the Solution Space**

**Problem Space**, the beginning, involves learning about and defining the problems and then agreeing on what they are.

**Solution Space**, the next step, involves coming up with answers to the problems from above.

We are looking for what problems are most important, from many points of view. We will look at BLUE, LWI's findings, the Division of Water Quality's findings, the findings of other local studies, and the input of the local stakeholders to determine what problems to focus on. As we move through this process, we will move right into Solutions – which will mean more decisions to make!

**Other Local Watershed Plans** in North Carolina have included recommendations spanning many concerns. The following list is meant only as an example, to give you an idea of what could come of the Local Watershed Planning process. It is not meant to be limiting in any way.

- \* wetland and stream restoration projects
- \* future land use
- \* protection of natural resources
- \* protection of farmland
- \* property rights
- \* conservation easements
- \* agricultural easements
- \* streamside buffers
- \* wetland and open space protection
- \* water and waste water infrastructure
- \* educational programs
- \* funding of projects
- \* use of state monies
- \* ideas for better program enforcement
- \* future involvement of citizens

## August 22, 2002 Meeting Roster Team members and guests present:

Ken Averitte, NC DWQ	Jerry Hall, SWCD. - Moore County
Patrick Beggs, WECO	Harry Huberth, Mooreforce
Jeff Boyles, student, O'Neal School	Lauren Israel, student, UPHS
Deborah Branson, landowner, teacher – O'Neal School	Cori Johnson, student, UPHS
Bert Coffer, Cooperative Extension – Moore County	Amanda Kellis, student, UPHS
David Cooley, teacher – Union Pines High School	Laura Lee Matthews, landowner
Jade Frank, student, O'Neal School	Rosemary Maurath, Woodlake Committee
Gene Frazelle, Woodlake Committee	Christy Perrin, WECO
Russ Hardee, NC DFR	Jim Stanfill, NC WRP

## Stakeholder Concerns (continued on page 4)

In June, the stakeholders were given disposable cameras and asked to take pictures of their concerns in the watershed. At our August meeting, we split up the members into 4 groups and gave each group a stack of photographs. Groups were asked to choose pictures that represented their concerns, and to explain those concerns. Some of the pictures represented solutions, such as best management practices for water quality and agriculture that are already being followed in the watershed. We asked the stakeholders to limit this day's concerns to the problems represented. The pictures representing solutions will be used at a later date. The following is a summary of the concerns brought up at the August meeting. Not all concerns were represented in pictures. WECO has taken the liberty of grouping these concerns into larger categories. There are other ways to categorize the concerns, and we may have to look into those also. The pictures taken by the stakeholders can be viewed on the WECO website: [www.ces.ncsu.edu/WECO](http://www.ces.ncsu.edu/WECO)

### WOOD LAKE

- Burning construction debris
- lack of **sediment control**, construction silt fences lacking or not maintained
- **Septic tanks:** . The state calls for a distance of 50 ft. between a septic tank and the lake, Wood Lake calls for a distance of 100ft, but does not enforce the rule.
- **bulkheads:** what are the rules? Does the US Army Corps of Engineers issue permits?
- **shoreline erosion** due to wave action causes silting in. It is already a shallow lake.
- **Wood Lake Marina** – oil and gas leaking into water
- **no lakeside buffer**, grass is planted right to the edge of lake or bulkhead, allowing for fertilizer **runoff** from both golfcourse and private lawns
- **septic tanks/fields** are at/below water level. Is this allowed – what are the rules?
- **lawn clippings dumped** in lake
- Dead birds. **Avian Vacuolar Myelinopathy (AVM)** is a disease of birds that has been found to exist at Wood Lake. The following website gives information concerning AVM: [http://www.mvk.usace.army.mil/offices/od/odm/avm/avm\\_main.htm](http://www.mvk.usace.army.mil/offices/od/odm/avm/avm_main.htm)
- **Hydrilla** (an exotic water plant) is a problem at Wood Lake, including the movement of hydrilla from Wood Lake to other places via boats and trailers.
- Wood Lake filters Crane's Creek for everyone downstream, it should be managed well and given that consideration.
- fecal count is higher upstream of Wood Lake than down.

(water supply issues have been handled in another category)

### WATER SUPPLY / IRRIGATION

- What about the **quarry**? Do they have an intake on Crane's Creek? How much do they remove? Is there a limit to the volume of water they can withdraw?
- What are the rules regarding **intakes on Crane's Creek**? irrigation upstream of Wood Lake causes reduced flows (Wood Lake)
- private irrigation pumphouses draw water from Wood Lake. (Wood Lake)

### RUNOFF

stormwater runoff may contain pollutants

- runoff from road
- runoff from nursery
- runoff from autoparts store
- streamside trash may be leaching contaminants into stormwater runoff
- tobacco farm – no buffers

### BUFFERS

- paths in streamside buffer behind Union Pines High School
- lack of vegetation on logging road
- everyone wants to be next to stream, so they clear vegetation away to have stream access, removing streamside buffers
- un-vegetated shoulder on road where utilities were put in. It has not been planted yet, cause of lots of runoff

## Stakeholder Concerns (continued)

### AGRICULTURE

- animals near water, runoff of waste, nutrients
- algae growth
- poultry houses – much larger than previous operations, yet follow the same rules that the small farmer does, contributing to erosion
- steep slopes contribute to erosion, both at poultry houses and new horse farm
- Cows in creek and wetlands – degradation of streambanks due to erosion from cattle walking
- Farmland preservation: potential loss of farmland to other land uses in the future
- manure piles in creek

### SEDIMENT

- sediment in stream behind Union Pines High School
- sediment piles in stream, often very clayey
- sediment in the creek

### DUMPING

- stream and surrounding area used as appliance dump site
- dead animals/carcasses thrown bridge
- Trash behind Piggly Wiggly. Storm-water runoff flows from parking lot down to railroad tracks and then down to Little River.

### DEVELOPMENT

- near Thurlow Lake, there is a lot of construction.
- construction very close to water
- new developments are crowded
- In Lee County, at the intersection of Nicholson and Pine Forest Road, there has recently been a HUGE clearing of land. What is it for?
- Planned equestrian community – the size of the farms seems small to allow keeping horses. How many horses are allowed to be kept on land?

### OTHER CONCERNS

- Canada geese are becoming non-migratory. Their waste fouls land and water. They can be large polluters. Is there a hunting season for them?
- Crane's Creek Watershed drains to the James River, which becomes supply for Fayetteville. Things that occur here in Crane's Creek Watershed have far reaching affects.
- streambanks are impassable due to trees downed from storms. Can we get this cleaned up?



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**WE ARE WECO**

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N.C. Wetlands Restoration Program  
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