Hampton Roads Watershed Roundtable: Annual Report 2009

Presentation to the Hampton Roads Planning District Commission
By

Eric J. Walberg, Physical & Environmental Planning
Administrator
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What is a Roundtable?

Established in each of the major watersheds in Virginia in 2001. Comprised of representatives of local governments, business and industry, agriculture, forestry, fishing and environmental organizations, and other groups of special importance to the various watersheds.



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Intended to advise agencies of the Commonwealth of Virginia on refinement and implementation of Tributary Strategies for Nutrient and Sediment Reduction and related water quality initiatives.

Provided a mechanism for educating participants on water quality issues, funding opportunities and technologies, and techniques for achieving water quality and living resource goals.



In 1995, the Hampton Roads region's sixteen (16) local governments established the Hampton Roads Tributary Strategies Project Steering Committee.

Establishment of the Lower James River (Hampton Roads) Watershed Roundtable proposed in February 2001.

Restructured to form Hampton Roads Watershed Roundtable in 2007.



- Meetings focused on areas of interest identified by the Roundtable and on the continuing evolution of the Roundtable structure and membership.
- Topics and activities included:
 - Energy co-generation at the regional landfill;
 - Kayak tour and discussion of the Lynnhaven River;
 - Training on public involvement strategies for local governments and non-profit organizations.





Participants included representatives from local government, environmental groups, chambers of commerce, soil and water conservation districts, and citizens groups.



- Develop electronic methods of communication for member groups, including a calendar of regional events.
- Seek out small/start-up groups for inclusion in the Roundtable.
- Develop advance meeting schedule and distribute to membership.
- Continue to provide watershed experiences (James River/Hoffler Creek).
- Continue to provide a forum for discussion of topics of regional and common interest, including the Chesapeake Bay TMDL.



