

APPENDIX XII

The following is excerpted from Lockwood Folly River Water Quality Study:

- (1) (a) Assess water quality risk according to natural systems in the watershed and develop future land use policies and ordinances that fit land use density and landscape design to the level of water quality risk.
- (b) Sewer extension policies that: 1) give priority services to communities with malfunctioning septic tanks; and 2) ensure that land use and development policies in wastewater service areas are consistent with risks to water quality.

These strategies would look at hydrologic features and assign water quality risk factors and use them to determine the appropriate type and density of development. Possible implementation options include using cluster housing neighborhood design for a given amount of development and limiting built-upon surfaces in the most vulnerable areas.

- (2) Incorporate low impact development (LID) technology into county site design and development policies. The strategy will include methods to integrate this tool into the county's existing development management program as an option for developers. LID is a comprehensive land planning and engineering design approach that seeks to maintain and improve the pre-development hydrology of a developing watershed. LID uses the natural capacity of land to soak up rainfall and prevent contaminated stormwater runoff from entering water bodies. These techniques were the basis for a national conference held in Wilmington in March, which featured Brunswick County's work on the Lockwood Folly as a case study. For more information about LID, visit www.lowimpactdevelopment.org.
- (3) Coordinate state, local and federal regulatory programs with Brunswick County taking the lead enforcement role and fostering inter-local cooperation. This strategy suggests policy changes and a financial plan to implement it.
- (4) Create an action plan to acquire strategic sites and properties to protect and restore water quality. Sites would be targeted according to a comprehensive selection method, and would be acquired from willing property owners by partnerships with the nonprofit community and state and federal agencies.
- (5) (A) Develop a public education, information and outreach program. Involve the public so that protecting and restoring water quality in the Lockwood Folly River becomes an important local priority.

(B) Recognize the environmental and cultural significance of the Lockwood Folly River through federal Wild and Scenic River designation. This non-regulatory designation will underscore the special nature of the river as development in the area continues to increase.
- (6) Protect stream edges in the watershed by implementing a "living shorelines" program. A living shoreline is an innovative alternative to bulkheads for shoreline stabilization, erosion control and stormwater buffer, and wildlife habitat restoration. This strategy involves

possibly creating a cost-share program for living shoreline restoration projects and incorporating language supporting living shorelines into the county's CAMA land use plan.

- (7) Identify sites for water quality “retrofit” to reduce or eliminate unwanted runoff. The county should work with state agencies such as the NC Ecosystem Enhancement Program and non-profit organizations to secure funding to address targeted sites for retrofit identified by the Roundtable.
- (8) Develop a financial incentive program that encourages developers to take alternative approaches that support water quality objectives. Development practices, such as LID, conservation easements and preservation of wetlands, which are protective of water quality, would be rewarded with mechanisms such as a streamlined review process, favorable *ad valorem* tax treatment, and tax-advantaged donations.
- (9) Develop a working waterfront program that assists in the preservation of traditional waterfront businesses, such as fish houses and commercial marinas, and public access sites, such as boat ramps and fishing piers.

The full report on the Roundtable's findings and strategy implementation options and the first tabloid are available on the county's website a www.brunsko.net. Check the website for notice of the work sessions that the county will hold to plan to how to put the strategies into action.