

Neuse Education Team i m p a c t s

Urban Impacts 2.

Wetland Winners *A project in the lower Neuse River basin community of River Bend shows Eastern North Carolina communities a better way to manage stormwater runoff.*

NC STATE UNIVERSITY

COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE AND LIFE SCIENCES

"I can not say enough about these Neuse Team members. We now have a demonstration site we are proud to show our citizens."

*—John Kirkland,
River Bend Town Council*

Research tells us that stormwater wetlands provide the most effective means in treating nitrogen — the targeted pollutant in the Neuse River Basin. The Neuse Education Team, working closely with the River Bend community in the lower basin, installed a stormwater wetland recently. The wetland uses about ½ acre of land to treat 70 acres of runoff.

A key part of the project for the Neuse Education Team is to balance the science of improving water quality with educational impact. The wetland is more than a water improvement area. It serves aesthetic, recreation and educational purposes.

.....
• Neuse Team contact:
• David Hardy
• 252.633.1477
•
•



- Bill Hunt and David Hardy plant swamp tupelo, a plant that thrives in a wetlands environment. Located near the Trent River, which is a major tributary of the Neuse, the site is designed to educate communities about a water-management tool they can use to achieve the state-mandated nitrogen goal.
- Such wetlands are likely to become the most widely used best management practice in eastern North Carolina.
- The River Bend project shows the North Carolina Cooperative Extension Service at its finest. An agent is working side-by-side with a specialist to meet a community need — clean water.
- The partners the Neuse Education Team has brought together are an integral part to the success of the River Bend wetland. River Bend's Waterways Advisory Board, the North Carolina Division of Water Resources, Craven County's Planning and Environmental Health Departments and several other state and local agencies make this demonstration site possible.

