

**SUMMARY OF THE  
MEETING OF THE  
ELIZABETH RIVER STEERING COMMITTEE  
August 2, 2013**

**1. Meeting Summary:**

The summary from the May meeting was accepted.

**2. Nutrient Pulsing Study in Lafayette River**

Will Hunley, HRSD, provided a presentation of HRSD's ongoing project in the Lafayette River to study the delivery of nutrients to the River. This study is a partnership between ODU and HRSD and data collected will be incorporated into the James River Chlorophyll a study. The two year study is scheduled to be completed in October 2013. The purpose of the study is to relate storm events to bloom dynamics in the Lafayette River. Data is being collected from 2 storm stations, 2 pier sampling locations, and via a data flow cruise track. Additional details about the study can be found in Attachment 1B of the November Steering Committee agenda.

**3. Committee Reports:**

**DEQ:** DEQ is currently undergoing the process of integrating the stormwater programs from DCR.

**Norfolk:** Norfolk is continuing to study opportunities for retrofits to meet the Bay TMDL requirements. Pond and ditch retrofits are under design and the City is considering a buffer restoration project on Mayflower Avenue. The Colley Bay north restoration project is complete and Colley Bay south will begin in the fall. The Myrtle Park restoration will begin construction this fall and the Greenway Park project is going out to bid next week. The kayak launch and wetlands restoration project adjacent to the zoo is progressing. The City has also applied for a walkable watershed grant in Fairway Park.

**Portsmouth:** Staff is working with Suffolk to collect bacteria samples in Hoffler Creek.

**Virginia Beach:** Public works has finished the BMP retrofit project at Larkspur Middle School. Final permits have been issued for the wetlands restoration project in Kempsville. The City has a new policy requiring mitigation for shoreline encroachments. Owners must install a living shoreline or contribute to a living shoreline trust fund. Utilities is having issues with PNG not marking all active lines.

**HRSD:** HRSD is considering closing the Chesapeake-Elizabeth treatment plant in 2021 and converting it into a wet weather storage facility. Construction on the Virginia Initiative Plant is still scheduled to begin in 2017 to upgrade the nutrient removal technology. Construction at the Army base plant will begin in 2014.

ERP: ERP is conducting bacteria source tracking with HRSD in the Paradise Creek watershed. The Knitting Mill Creek oyster reef project has been completed. 1.5 million spat on shell were released for both the Knitting Mill and Granby Street bridge reefs. An application was submitted to NFWF for an innovative nutrient grant to expand the River Star Homes program throughout Norfolk. The Lafayette River is on track to be delisted for bacteria next year. ERP is still working with VDH to reclassify the river for shellfishing.

CBF: Deployed 375 reef balls in the Lafayette River.

**4. Next Meeting:**

The December meeting has been moved to November 1. Meeting materials will now be posted to the HRPDC website ([www.hrpdcva.gov](http://www.hrpdcva.gov)). Agendas, attachments, and presentations can be accessed through the calendar posting for the ER Steering Committee meeting.

**ATTENDEES**

HRPDC	Jenny Tribo
Chesapeake	Jennifer White
Norfolk	Justin Shafer
Portsmouth	Kelsey Crist, Kari Lynch
Virginia Beach	Clay Bernick, Rich Nettleton
CBF	Chris Moore
DEQ	Roger Everton, John McLeod
HRSD	Jamie Mitchell, Will Hunley
ODU	KC Filippino
ERP	Joe Rieger
NOAA Fisheries	David O'Brien