



UNC Coastal Studies Institute

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MANTEO ROTARY CLUB TO HOLD PUBLIC HEARING FOR AWARD WINNING BOWSERTOWN LANDFILL PROJECT

MANTEO- The Manteo Rotary club recently received the Best Cooperative Projects Award from Rotary International for their centennial project on reclaiming the former Bowsertown landfill for community use. Following the promising results of the toxicology monitoring performed by North Carolina State University (NCSU), the Manteo Rotary Club and UNC Coastal Studies Institute are planning a public visioning and input session to help develop recommendations for future community use of the site. The public input session will be held at 108 Budleigh Street on Monday, January 23rd at 7 pm.

The Best Cooperative Projects award given to the Manteo Rotary club is designed to recognize outstanding Rotary club service projects done in cooperation with other organizations. Rotary club partners in this project included Dare County, N.C. Division of Water Resources, North Carolina State University and the UNC Coastal Studies Institute. "Our club is honored to be one of 120 clubs out of 33,000 Rotary clubs worldwide to receive the Best Cooperative Project award for the Bowsertown Landfill project. We are most excited about being able help the community reclaim the old landfill site for public use," stated John Dawson, Manteo Rotary Club President.

Bowsertown was used as a landfill for over twenty years before the county changed it to a transfer station. Dare County plans to discontinue its use within the first half of the year. The toxicology study performed by NCSU analyzed water and sediment samples from eight sites surrounding the landfill. Samples were examined for hundreds of potential contaminants of concern, including pesticides, solvents, metals, petroleum products and synthetic and industrial chemicals. Analysis found that concentrations of most chemicals are similar to those found in a relatively untouched environment.

The Manteo Rotary club is eager to hear the public's vision for the future use of the Bowsertown landfill site. "The Bowsertown landfill reclamation project is one of the most important community projects in a number of years in Dare County. The Manteo Rotary Club is honored to be one of the participating organizations. We are excited to now be at a point where we can invite the public to come together to help us develop plans that will lead to the final phases of the project." said Tim Shearin, Chairman of the Rotary committee spearheading the project. The input gathered from sessions like this will be used to make recommendations to Dare County for the development and public use of the site. Manteo residents and other who have an interest in the site are encouraged to attend this important meeting.

For more information or a copy of the toxicology report, please contact John McCord at the UNC Coastal Studies Institute at 252-475-3663 or by email at jmccord@csi.northcarolina.edu.

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