

Watershed Project Planned For Maxwell Creek Area



A petition was signed by 132 people calling for the project

Owners of land in the Maxwell Creek area of south-central Duplin County hope to organize to reduce flood and erosion in its watershed.

A committee composed of Hubert Brown, Wendell Evans, Jimmy Stroud, J.P. Smith, Ray Sanderson, J.H. Rouse, Bobby Brown, Lara Kenan, H.B. Hawkins, Oliver Dobson, Joe Brock and Mike Brown was appointed last week during a planning meeting held Wednesday at Elder Chapel Church south of Kenansville. Hubert Brown was elected temporary chairman.

A petition signed by 132 people calling for the watershed project was presented to the Soil Conservation Service.

Maxwell Creek originates in Ritters Pond, an old mill pond near Johnson Church, three miles southeast of Warsaw. It takes a meandering southeast course of about 25 miles to empty into the Northeast Cape Fear River about four miles north of Chinquapin and three miles south of Hallsville, a straight-line distance of about 14 miles.

Duplin County soil conservationist Kenneth Futreal estimated the main stream and its tributaries create about 50 miles of waterway.

Futreal said the watershed covers 48,370 acres, with 33,357 acres of forest and 15,013 in crops.

Landowners such as Sanderson of Rose Hill claim the creek and its tributaries overflow onto their woods

and cropland, killing trees and crops as well as eroding soil. The channels of the creek and its branches are clogged with silt and debris from two centuries of farm and forest operations.

"You need to understand it would be a local project with federal assistance, not a federal project," said John Garrett of the state Soil Conservation Service staff in Raleigh.

Under a law authorizing federal participation in small watershed projects, the U.S. government finances 100 percent of the cost of flood control in such projects and up to 50 percent of the cost of drainage and erosion control work, Garrett said.

Futreal told the group, "We're here to find out what you want. We'll help you with your application, but

you will have to put the application together."

He said the application must show the value of benefits from the project to be greater than the project's cost before it can be considered by the Soil Conservation Service.

He also warned the landowners that they would have to donate all easements needed for the project. Land treatment measures would also be required to reduce the amount of runoff and silt coming into the channels.

Futreal emphasized that nothing can happen overnight. "We have 12 years of time invested in the Limestone Creek project, and the channel work is just beginning," he said.

The Limestone Creek watershed project is in southeastern Duplin County.



The hummingbird is the only bird that can hover in one spot like a helicopter.

Duplin Baseball

Any town or community interested in entering a team in the Duplin County Baseball League (ages 12-14) should attend the meeting scheduled for Wednesday, March 30 at 7 p.m. at the Wallace Parks and Recreation Department office located at Clement Park. Details for the upcoming summer league will be discussed.

If you cannot attend but are interested, contact one of the following by March 30: Mitch Perserson at 285-2905 or Neal Turlington at 293-7182.

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Time To Apply For Social Security Number

Young people in the Wayne-Duplin County area who are planning to apply soon for their first summer job and who do not have a Social Security number should remember to apply for a number at least two weeks before they will need it. Betty Broadhead, Social Security field representative in Goldsboro, said recently.

Most employers will not accept applications from people who do not have a Social Security number, so it is a good idea to get a number before looking for a job. Mrs. Broadhead said.

To get a Social Security number, a person must provide proof of date of birth, identity, and U.S. citizenship or immigrant status. People 18 or over must apply in person.

The best proof of date of birth and citizenship is a public or hospital birth record recorded before age 5 or a religious record of birth, or baptism recorded before age 5. Foreign born applicants should provide their immigration or naturalization documents as well.

Identity can be established by such records as driver's license, State identity card, voter's registration, school record school ID, report card, marriage record, work badge or building pass, labor or fraternal organization record, draft card or military

ID, U.S. passport, newspaper birth announcement, adoption record, court order for change of name, church membership or confirmation record, welfare case record, medical or hospital record, vaccination certificate, insurance policy, day care or nursery school record, Boy or Girl Scout membership, or any other document showing identifying data such as physical description, photograph or signature.

Applications for a Social Security number can be obtained at the Goldsboro Social Security office located at 134 N. John Street

Kenansville Softball Meeting

The Kenansville/Magnolia Softball League will have an organizational meeting at 8 p.m. on Thursday, April 7 at the Town Hall in Kenansville. Anyone interested in having a team during the summer season should be at this meeting.



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