



## Groundwater Level Affected by Heavy Rains

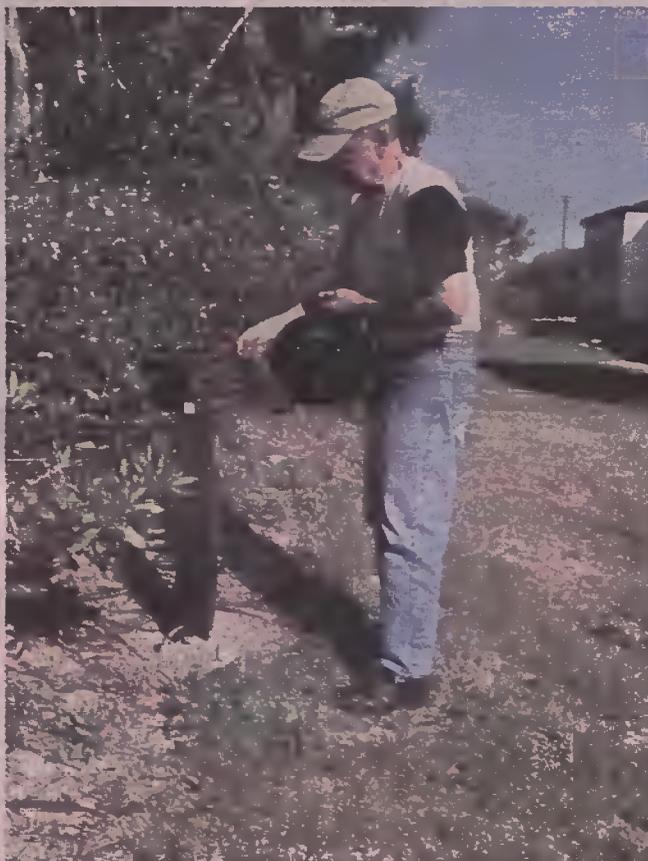
By Walt Zaenker

The groundwater level study underway since late August has provided dramatic measurements following a period that included an 11-day significant rain event. The Department of Geological Sciences at East Carolina University in Greenville is conducting this study with Dr. Alex Manda as principal investigator.

The study covers all of Bogue Banks. Thirty groundwater wells have been installed, and resident volunteers have been taking measurements. I am one of those volunteers; my assigned wells are well #12 near the Pine Knoll Shores firehouse and well #14 across the road from the Clam Digger.

The wells penetrate into a level at which the sand is saturated with *fresh* water. Shallow wells used for irrigation tap into this groundwater, the upper surface of which may be as deep as 20 feet or only a few feet below the ground surface. The groundwater occupies the space beneath the water table. The depth to the water table depends on the topography of the area and other factors. To be clear, this study does not deal with the Castle-Hayne aquifer, the source of our drinking water, which is several hundred feet below the surface.

The readings taken at both wells #12 and #14 are very similar, so to simplify this discussion only readings from #12 will be presented. All readings were taken around 10 a.m., and presented as elevation above sea level.



Walt Zaenker measures the water at well #12 at the Pine Knoll Shores firehouse.—Photo by J. Clarke Sibley

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## America Recycles Day

By Sarah Williams

November 15 is America Recycles Day. As I was looking into the resources offered for this special day, I found a pledge from Keep America Beautiful:

For America Recycles Day 2015, I pledge to:

- **Learn.** I will find out what materials are collected for recycling in my community.
- **Act.** Reduce my personal waste by recycling. Within the next month, I will recycle more.
- **Share.** In the next month, I will encourage one family member or one friend to take the pledge.

After reading the pledge, I reflected on those three points, which are required for a successful recycling program: Learn, Act and Share. I encourage everyone to take this pledge and to spend a few moments thinking about each act.

**Learn:** Learn the Pine Knoll Shores pick-up days. With changes made to the pick-up schedule several months ago, it can be hard to start a new routine. Please remember to put your household garbage and recyclables out the night before. Waste Industries typically runs its route early in the morning, and if your containers are not outside the night before, you run the risk of not getting your recycling and garbage picked up. Recycling is every other Monday and the town is split into two sections.

Depending on where your home is, you will be either an "A" week or a "B" week. "A" week is Sycamore to the east and "B" week is everything west of Sycamore. To consult a map, visit [townofpks.com](http://townofpks.com) and access our blog, where our map is located. As always, please call us at town hall at 247-4353 with any questions.

With so many different sources out there today, the basics of recycling can become muddled and leave you confused and staring at your recycling bin wondering what is allowed and what is not. The town accepts plastics labeled 1 and 2, aluminum, glass, paper and cardboard. If you ever have a question as to what is and what isn't recyclable, a simple Google search may yield some results—or you can call town hall for advice.

**Act:** Now that you have the tools available to you, recycle. If your current container is too small or cumbersome, consider buying a rolling container. Ace Hardware in Atlantic Beach is offering \$5 off recycling roll-out containers. Just come by town hall to pick up your coupon. The town does not require a certain container, so you can look around and find a container that suits you and your needs.

**Share:** Can you imagine the impact that we would have if you convinced a friend to recycle? Encourage him or her to keep a small container in the kitchen or by the back door in which to deposit recyclables. Remember, plastic bags are not recyclable so recycling needs some kind of container. Dry and loose items are best for recycling, and recycling can be easy.

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**1610 AM PINE KNOLL SHORES RADIO**  
The Pine Knoll Shores Radio Station broadcasts 24 hours a day with weather and emergency info.  
**EMERGENCY - CALL 911**  
**ECC 726-1911 • PUBLIC SAFETY 247-2474**

Standard Pre-Sort Permit #35  
Atlantic Beach, NC 28512  
**THE Shoreline**