

CRC Summarizes Areas Under Proposed Regulations

The N. C. Coastal Resources Commission is finalizing details of a proposed management program which could affect development of lots along the state's oceanfront, inlets, inland waterways, and other fragile areas.

Hearings have been scheduled in each of the 20 coastal counties during the end of April and early May to receive public opinion on the Commission's proposals for the selection and designation of Areas of Environmental Concern.

Under the terms of the N. C. Coastal Area Management Act of 1974, the commission must designate environmentally fragile areas where development could adversely affect public resources or adjacent privately held property; they must also identify appropriate uses for these areas. Decisions are expected around July 1.

The Commission's proposals would result in most permits being administered by participating local governments. The commission would be responsible for development projects greater than twenty acres, buildings which occupy at least sixty thousand square feet on a site, or projects which currently require a state permit.

The following list summarizes areas proposed by the Coastal Resources Commission for regulation and examples of appropriate land uses:

1-3 Coastal Wetlands, Estuarine Waters, Public Trust Areas—these areas comprise approximately 85 per cent of the total land and water under consideration as Areas of Environmental Concern. They are currently under a variety of state and federal regulatory programs; inclusion of these areas is intended to bring about comprehensive oversight of development and streamline permitting. The areas provide a vital link in the food chain for marine life and waterfowl, and they retard shoreline erosion and serve as a barrier against flood damage. Appropriate uses include docks, piers, erosion control structures, navigation channels, marinas, and similar uses.

4. Estuarine Shorelines Within 75 Feet of Normal Water Level—are interrelated to the function of estuarine waters. Shoreline developments should minimize negative impacts on the water; up-to-date information concerning hazards of estuarine shoreline development should be provided to

property owners; developers proposing to alter the estuarine shoreline should notify adjacent owners.

5-8. Ocean Beaches, frontal Dunes, Inlet Lands, Ocean Erodible Areas—serve as a buffer for storm surges and wind action and are subject to severe erosion and migration. Appropriate uses seaward of the frontal

dunes would include piers, accessways, lifeguard stands, etc. Development on frontal dunes should not reduce the protective value of the dune; however, residential structures could be appropriate in cases where no other practical use or enlargement of a lot is available. Publicly supported services such as roads, water and sewer

facilities would not be appropriate in any of these four areas.

9. Small Surface Water Supply Watersheds—these are the catchment areas of Tranters Creek in Beaufort County, Toomers Creek in New Hanover County and the fresh water lake on Bodie Island in Dare County which provide community raw water supply. Ap-

propriate uses should not pollute the waters or subject them to eroded soil.

10. Public Water Supply Well Fields—as identified by the N. C. Department of Human Resources—these are the shallow community wells operated by the Cape Hatteras Water Association (on Hatteras Island) and the City of Elizabeth City (in the Dismal Swamp). Ap-

propriate uses should not introduce salt water or pollutants into the wells, nor significantly reduce the quantity or recharge of the wells.

11-13. Coastal Areas That Sustain Remnant Species, Coastal Complex Natural Areas, Unique Coastal Geologic Formations—These are categories of plants or animal habitat, or

geologic features which are rare or otherwise significant for scientific and educational purposes. Specific sites to meet these categories must be nominated by the public and evaluated by local governments and the Coastal Resources Commission. Appropriate uses should preserve or enhance the characteristics of these

areas, rather than diminish them.

For further information about specific areas under consideration or the schedule of public hearings write to the Coastal Resources Commission, P. O. Box 27687, Raleigh, N. C. 27611, 919-733-2293.

The record will remain open for public comments through June 19.

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The Albemarle Babe Ruth League, Inc. will start its season on the 6th of June. The 13-15 year old age group will play on Tuesday and Wednesday nights starting at 7:00 P.M. The 16-18 year old age group will play on Monday and Thursday nights starting at 7:00 P.M. Half of the games for the 16-18 group will be played in Edenton and the other half at Hertford. In the 13-15 group, more games will be played in Edenton. The Regional Babe Ruth League Tournament will be played in Edenton at the middle of the season.

There will be a Babe Ruth League Umpires Clinic at the Edenton National Guard Armory on Friday night, May 13, at 7:30 P.M. and on Saturday morning, May 14, at 10:00 A.M. All persons interested in umpiring Babe Ruth League Baseball must attend this clinic.

All persons interested in coaching girls softball; ages 9-14, must get in contact with Dee Doub at the Edenton Recreation Department, or call 482-8595.

Little League baseball season will start on June 6. They will play one game a night starting at 6:00 P.M., and play Monday through Friday nights. All games will be played behind John A. Holmes High School.



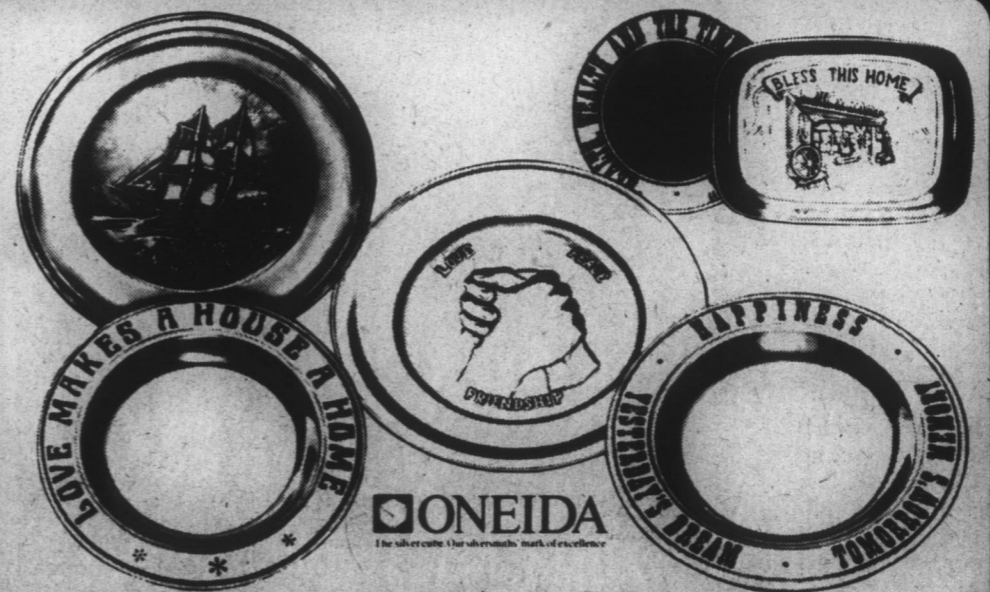
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