

**Carroll County
ENVIRONMENTAL
ADVISORY COUNCIL**



225 N Center Street
Westminster, MD 21157-5194
Telephone: 410-386-2145
Fax: 410-386-2924
eac@ccg.carr.org

**Sandra Zebal, Chair
Kim Petry, Vice Chair
December 13, 2011 3:00 pm**

**Brenda Dinne, Staff Liaison
Department of Land Use,
Planning, and Development**

Members Present:

Sandra Zebal, Chair
Robyn Gilden
Josh Hatkin
Karen Leatherwood
Kim Petry
David Pyatt
Brian Rhoten

Members Absent:

Chris Spaur
Suzanne Hill

Other Attendees:

Jon Richardson, CC Health Dept.

County Government:

Cindy Myers-Crumbacker, Recording Secretary
Brenda Dinne, Special Projects Coordinator

CALL TO ORDER - Ms. Sandra Zebal, Chair, officially called the December 13, 2011, meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

Ms. Zebal asked for approval of the November 8, 2011 minutes. Ms. Zebal asked that it be noted that the Art Carts contest was in coordination with America Recycles Day. Chris Spaur e-mailed his additions to Secretary Cindy Myers-Crumbacker, and they were discussed prior to approval of the minutes. A discussion was held in reference to Commissioner Howard's suggestion to focus on "Celebrating America." Karen Leatherwood thought it would be good to coordinate planting of chestnut trees from the American Chestnut Foundation with the Celebrating America initiatives. Mr. Rhoten asked if the trees have to be planted at Hashawha, as suggested by Brad Rogers. The suggestion was made to have a press release done about the chestnut trees. The Environmental Advisory Council (EAC) would like more trees for planting at other historical sites in the county.

1. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES – MOTION NO. 146-11:** Motion was made by Robyn Gilden, seconded by Kim Petry, approving the November 8, 2011 minutes with the changes. Motion carried.
2. **ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE CHAIR** – Ms. Zebal announced that a meeting is to be held the morning of December 14, 2011, with Mr. Mike Whitson, Mr. Joe Barrington, John Modica, Brenda Dinne, and Kim Petry (by phone) at Mr. Whitson's office at the Carroll County Maintenance Center. The meeting is being held to discuss the contract with Johnson Controls and ENERnoc and to answer the questions sent to Mr. Whitson regarding energy usage monitoring.
3. **COMMUNICATIONS** – None.
4. **ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM LIASION** –
 - a. Environmental Awareness Awards – No nominations yet. Information and forms were posted on the Carroll County website on November 17, 2011. A press release was sent to the Carroll County

Times and has been published. Ms. Myers-Crumbacker distributed the forms and criteria both in hardcopy and electronically.

b. Ms. Dinne announced that the list of 2012 Meeting Dates have been posted on the EAC web page.

5. **PRESENTATION** - Brenda Dinne gave a presentation titled “Septic Related Recommendations of Sustainable Growth and Wastewater Disposal Task Force.” (See attachment) Jon Richardson (Carroll County Health Dept) explained Best Available Technology (BAT) as it relates to septic systems. Ms. Dinne indicated that the 28-member Task Force was to be making recommendations to the Governor.

6. **OLD BUSINESS** –

a. The EAC members discussed the draft work plan and indicated revisions to be made. Text will be added to Item #3 referencing environmental legislation to indicate that the EAC also may review other environmental legislation if desired by the Board. In addition, the waste to energy reference in Item #2 will be deleted and text added to reference evaluation of measures to reduce the waste stream and other options for solid waste management. Text will also be added relating to coordination between the EAC and County staff.

7. **NEW BUSINESS** – None.

8. **TREE COMMISSION** – Kim Petry advised that five trees are needed for the environmental awards. They are to be planted instead of awarding a plaque, as in the past. Brian Rhoten asked if the trees to be planted also could be incorporated with Arbor Day activities (Arbor Day is April 29). Karen Leatherwood mentioned that Earth Day is also on April 22. Maybe something could be done to celebrate that as well. Brian Rhoten will work on getting five trees donated. Since the awards are given biennially, Ms. Petry suggested that two or three trees could be planted this year, with the balance planted next year.

9. **COMMITTEE REPORTS** –

a. Solid Waste – Dave Pyatt said there was nothing more to report. Items were already discussed under the work plan agenda topic.

10. **TOPICS FOR FUTURE DISCUSSION** –

a. The next meeting will be held on January 10, 2012, at 3:00 in Room 003. The EAC will meet with the Commissioners until 4:00. The regular meeting agenda will continue at the conclusion of the joint agenda item with the Commissioners.

b. Kim Petry offered to take notes and summarize the meeting with Mike Whitson on December 14.

11. **ADJOURN: MOTION NO. 147-11:** Motion made by Dave Pyatt, seconded by Brian Rhoten, to adjourn. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 4:45 p.m.

Please inform the secretary if you are unable to attend

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ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COUNCIL (EAC)
2012 Meeting Dates

The 2012 afternoon meetings will be held on the second Tuesday,
each month in Room 003/004, (unless otherwise noted),
3:00 P.M. – 5:00 P.M.

The 2012 evening meetings will be held on the second Tuesday,
referenced below, in Room 003/004 (unless otherwise noted),
6:30 P.M. – 8:30 P.M.

Tuesday, January 10, 2012 – afternoon meeting

Tuesday, February 14, 2012 – afternoon meeting

Tuesday, March 13, 2012 – evening meeting

Tuesday, April 10, 2012 – afternoon meeting

Tuesday, May 8, 2012 – evening meeting

Tuesday, June 13, 2012 – afternoon meeting

Tuesday, July 10, 2012 – evening meeting

Tuesday, August 14, 2012 – afternoon meeting

Tuesday, September 11, 2012 – afternoon meeting

Tuesday, October 9, 2012 – evening meeting

Tuesday, November 13, 2012 – afternoon meeting

Tuesday, December 11, 2012 – afternoon meeting

R:\EAC\2012 EAC Meeting dates.doc
Adopted Motion No. 144-11 Date 11/8/2011

Sustainable Growth & Wastewater Disposal Task Force Septic-Related Recommendations

*Presented to EAC
December 13, 2011*

HB 1107 / SB 846 (2011)

- Sustainable Growth and Agricultural Preservation Act proposed in 2011 Legislative Session
- Goal to reduce nitrogen load to Bay
- Proposed:
 - Prohibiting new individual residential septic systems for subdivisions of 5 lots
 - Requiring nitrogen removal technology for subdivisions of 4 lots
 - Prohibiting further subdivision of a residential minor subdivision after initial subdivision

Task Force

- Governor appointed Task Force via Executive Order to study septic issue
- 28 members, chaired by Delegate McIntosh
- Met July to November 2011
- Report due to Governor December 1 (but not yet submitted)

Four-Tiered Approach

- Tier 1 → Priority Funding Areas (PFAs) →
 - Sewer expected
- Tier 2 → Designated Growth Areas (DGAs) outside PFAs →
 - Sewer expected, but limited allowance for septic or shared facilities
 - No set number recommended
 - Proposed septic subject to MDE discharge permit
 - Require offsets for all new nitrogen loads

Four-Tiered Approach (continued)

- Tier 3 → outside DGA and outside areas targeted for preservation →
 - Not targeted for sewer
 - Agricultural funding to be limited
 - Septic development very restricted (exceptions for rural villages)
 - Septics subject to MDE discharge permit

Four-Tiered Approach (continued)

- Tier 4 → outside DGA, targeted for protection →
 - Includes protected agricultural and resource conservation lands and Priority Preservation Area
 - Most restrictive for septics

Additional Recommendations

- Allow landowners subject to septic restrictions to make development decisions over time
- Require all new septics & expanding replacements to use best available technology (BAT)
- Implement operation & maintenance regulations for BAT septics
- Allow shared systems with controlling authority (MDE approved)
- Additional recommendations for funding options

Future Legislation

- 2012 legislative session starts January 11
- New bill will be introduced; Task Force recommendations will be considered in drafting