



N.C. Department of Environment and Natural Resources

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Contact: Sharon Gladwell, (919) 715-6514
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State agencies help rebuild recreation area for Kinston

Flood damaged materials used in environmentally sustainable rebuild project

Raleigh – Four North Carolina state agencies have begun a project that symbolizes the recovery and restoration of life to Eastern North Carolina and to the state's environment.

The project calls for a Pavilion to be constructed of the wood from deconstructed materials of flooded houses in Kinston. Plans will be demonstrated as part of N.C. Clean & Green: Celebrating Environmental Sustainability in Government.

The Pavilion will be placed in a Kinston multicultural park this summer to be used by all ethnic communities for recreation, concerts, sporting events, weddings and other occasions.

The Pavilion Project arose as part of North Carolina State Government's initiative of environmental sustainability. Not only does this project support the communities' recovery, but also demonstrates the reuse of building materials deconstructed from old or damaged structures – materials that otherwise add to the massive burden of hurricane debris on the landfills and the environment.

Employees from four agencies are contributing to the Pavilion Project, which is being led by the Division of Emergency Management in the Department of Crime Control and Public Safety. Other state agencies involved are the departments of Correction, Administration, and Environment and Natural Resources. The federal government is involved as Federal Emergency Management Agency supports North Carolina through buyout of flooded homes. Home Depot, a private sector contributor, is providing materials and tools for the rebuild project. Kinston's Parks and Recreation Director Bill Ellis has selected the site and is participating in the design.

"The Pavilion project draws from the heart of many state employees," said Mark Munden, Emergency Management's infrastructure support coordinator who is serving as coordinator of the Kinston Pavilion project. "The capability of the four state agencies and creativity and commitment of their employees will result in a lasting contribution to enhancing the life of many in Eastern North Carolina. At the same time, state and local governments are learning how to be more sustainable in our normal operation by methods of reuse of our resources."

On display this Friday will be the first module of the Pavilion, which has been assembled, with wood from deconstructed homes from along the Neuse River in Kinston that were flooded or destroyed by hurricanes Fran and Floyd. Also on display will be materials re-milled and prepared for reuse, and videos, photos and site plans used during the project process will be available.

About N.C. Clean and Green 2000 and North Carolina Project Green

In Fall 1998 Governor James B. Hunt Jr. issued a challenge to state government to set an example of environmental stewardship in the way it conducts operations and businesses. Across state government, this challenge was heard and taken to heart. Both state agencies and universities quickly discovered that they were already engaged in numerous activities to reduce the negative impacts their operations have on the environment. Today, North Carolina is a national leader in its efforts. For more information about N.C. Project Green and N.C. Clean and Green 2000, visit this Web site at www.sustainablenc.org.

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