

💧Kensington North Watershed News💧

Public Meeting

There will be a public meeting to address the formation of a new association of watersheds in the Kensington North area. The meeting will be held on **Wednesday, April 2 at 7:00** at the **Town Hall in Kensington**. Representatives of the Dept. of Environment, and Provincial Treasurer Hon. Wes Sheridan will be in attendance. The purpose of the meeting is to form a single group made up of several watersheds in our area. Examples of similar groups in our region are the Trout River Environmental Coalition (TREC), and the Bedeque Bay Environmental Management Association (BBEMA). While our new group will no doubt work closely with other groups, we will be in the position to set our own agenda and goals.

The amalgamation effort has been spearheaded by the Sea View Watershed Association, and the Indian River Watershed Association. The main work that these two groups have done in the past has been stream restoration and tree planting. The aim is to form a larger, efficient group that will operate in a sustainable fashion. The new larger group could be run by a small board of local volunteers, who would expand this work to other areas. A new group may decide to expand its mandate to include topics and issues such as water quality, public awareness, natural habitat conservation, and soil erosion.

What A New Stronger Group Can Do

There is a strong history of watershed groups doing work in our area. In many riparian zones (riverbanks) and around homes. Trees have been planted along field boundaries in co-operation with landowners to reduce wind erosion. Cleanups and sign posting have been done along our coastal areas. All these activities contribute to our communities' heightened awareness of watershed issues. A new group can quite easily expand this type of work to other neighborhoods in our area. A new group may decide to expand its mandate to include topics and issues such as water quality, public awareness, natural habitat conservation, and more work on soil erosion. The concern for a healthy environment and clean water is shared by citizens of both rural and urban areas.

What A New Group Must Avoid

A new group must be aware that we are not the Department of Environment. We cannot be involved with enforcement issues. A group of volunteers may be short lived if it is in conflict with landowners and woodlot owners. A community based group such as a Watershed Association can succeed by supporting all sectors of the community, including residents, farmers, aquaculturists, fishermen, and recreational users.

What You Can Do

There are many ways that individuals can get involved in a watershed association. Our new group may decide to issue memberships. A good start would be to **Come to our Meeting** on April 2, sign up and officially join our new group. Aside for the need of a few strong leaders for a small board, there will be lots for volunteers to do. An incomplete list of work to be done may include aiding in stream work, helping with a web site, writing articles for newsletters, participating in tree planting days, and aiding in public awareness. Regular public meetings would keep interested individuals informed and involved.

We are at the beginning.

Help out. Join us.

Contact Us at 836-5253, or
kensingtonnorthwatershed@gmail.com

This newsletter had been funded in part by the Wildlife Conservation Fund and the Watershed Management Fund.

The following watersheds will be encouraged to make up Kensington North:

1. Barbara Weit R.
2. Indian River
3. Mills Point
4. Oyster Cove
5. Shipyard R.
6. Baltic R.
7. Sea View
8. Cousins Pond
9. Southwest R.
10. Tuplin Cr.
11. Durant Cr.
12. Long River
13. Paynters Cr.
14. French River
15. Campbell's Pond