

Water Quality Subcommittee (St. Marys River Management Committee)

MINUTES OF MEETING

August 6, 2012

6 p.m.

The Water Quality Subcommittee (of the St. Marys River Management Committee/SMRMC) held a meeting on August 6, 2012, at the Cedar River Seafood restaurant in Callahan, Florida.

Members in attendance:

Merrill Varn, Kevin Shell

Horsepen Creek Section 319 Grant Project

The subcommittee members discussed revisions to the Section 319 grant for remediating fecal coliform impairment at Horsepen Creek. The revisions are listed in detail below, and would include renaming impaired segments, shifting future sampling to Temple Creek, reallocating funding to study septic history in the Browntown area, and meeting with local governments and residents.

Revisions to Section 319 Project – DETAILS

Initial Plans

Sampling;

Directed Remediation;

On Site Disposal System (OSDS Septic) Maintenance Policy- 3 meetings with local officials to guide design of local or countywide inspection/pumping and septage policies

New Plans

1. Based on current hydrology, EPD will consider renaming the impaired segment Temple instead of Horsepen Creek

2. Based on one data point with high fecal numbers, owners of contiguous properties have been contacted. Any systems that are found to be impaired can be repaired or replaced by the grant. Will shift sampling to Temple Creek.

3. Based on lack of potential informative sampling locations, some sampling money will be reallocated to study septic history (records and interviews) in the Browntown/Flea Hill area.

4. Septic maintenance policy will be a combination of local government and grassroots residential meetings to be held after septic records are searched but before students begin interviews. There will also be more targeted meetings with Camden County officials to discuss septage handling issues.

SMRMC Involvement

SMRMC will be asked to host two meetings in the near future (possibly November):

1. A BBQ for residents (grant will pay for catering); SMRMC will organize the site and program. The subcommittee would like to print an informational brochure about SMRMC for distribution at the BBQ. They will also assist UGA in obtaining existing data.

2. An informational meeting for appropriate local government officials.

SMRMC needs to designate which subcommittee(s) will be in charge of these two meetings. Both are combined Land Use & Planning and Water Quality Issues. The BBQ will need all 7 people from both subcommittees to help.