



Maryland Planning
Directors' Roundtable



CAROLINE COUNTY
Planning and Codes
Administration

Sewerage Squad



“The us versus the y’alls”

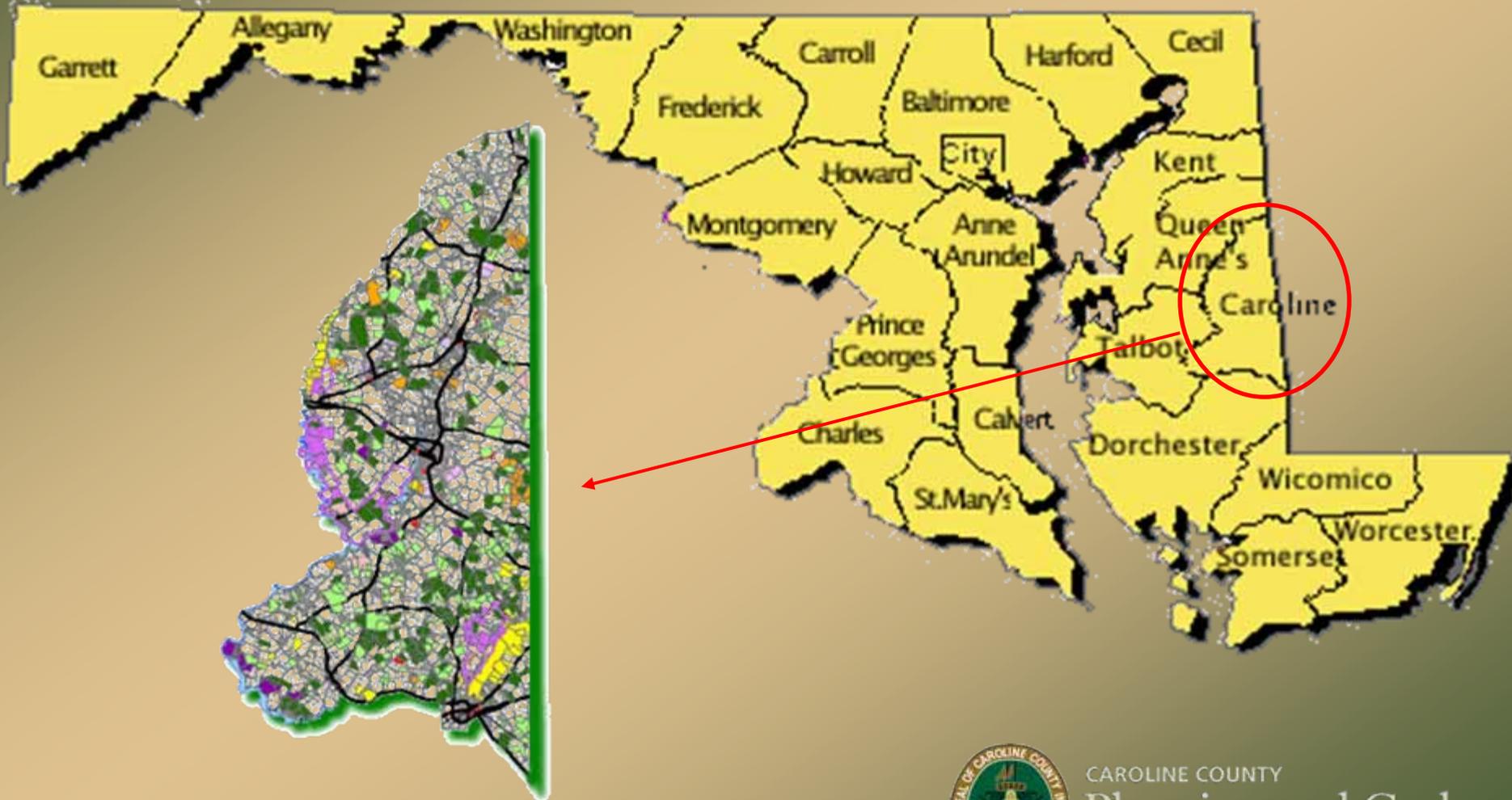
breaking down the barriers in Town and County relations and how it can help with the WRE

Stacey Weisner, Director
Caroline County
Planning and Codes Administration
March 6th, 2008



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Caroline County



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Municipalities

- Denton
- Federalsburg
- Goldsboro
- Greensboro
- Henderson



- Hillsboro
- Marydel
- Preston
- Ridgely
- Templeville



Department Background

- Department was created in 1985
- I am the second director, six months into the job
 - Encourage creative brainstorming and constructive criticism, as long as respectful dialogue
- County Commissioners & Administrator allowed a complete reorganization after two months
 - We went from two separate and distinct divisions into one cohesive department
 - Formed a team of staff members with diverse experience to be able to complete projects in house.



DEPARTMENT MISSION STATEMENT

To serve the public interest and protect the public health, safety, and welfare through sound land use and growth management practices while providing effective and high quality services to the people of Caroline County **and its local jurisdictions.**



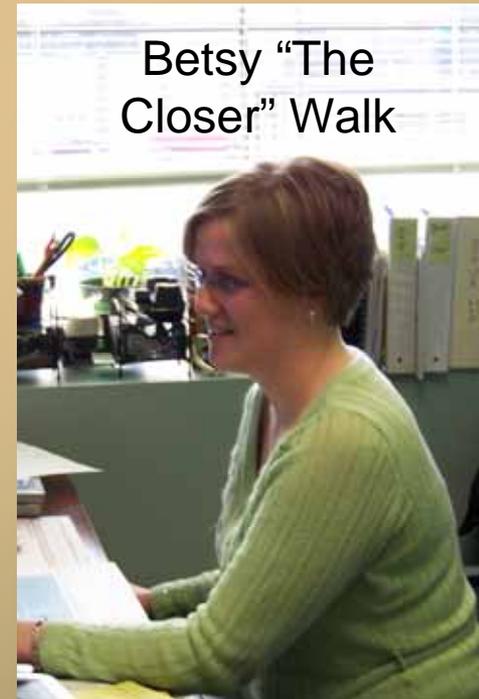
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Department Goals

- Exceptional customer service
 - New service survey
 - Regular staff evaluations
- Accomplish goals through teamwork and open communication
- **Nurture stronger working relationships with municipalities and provide assistance when requested**
- Continuous improvement by cross-training, education, and certification



- Look for “closers”; identify untapped resources
- We use either a team approach for each task or a backup for each position
 - Personality and Talent
- Interns – High School & College
- Data Collection Resources
 - ESRGC / SU
 - Horns Point Labs (UMCES)
 - MDP & MDE
 - Eastern Shore Land Conservancy
 - Upper Choptank Watershed Characterization (2007)



Association of Municipalities

- Invited to all meetings
- Next month the County is hosting
- Perfect opportunity for WRE updates
- Invited to be on interview panel for Town of Denton Planning Director
- County is proactive in offering assistance to all Municipalities



Front Row: Sandy Cook (Mayor, Henderson), **Stacey Weisner** (Planning Director, County), **Debbie Rowe** (President of Commissioners, Marydel), **Audrey Scott** (General Manager Land Planning, Cheney Enterprises); **Back Row: Dale Mumford** (Town Manager of Goldsboro and Henderson), **Jackie Naylor** (Codes Enforcement Officer/Planner, County) **Joyce Ward** (Commissioner, Marydel), **Allison Dungan** (Planner, County), **Betsy Walk** (Planner, County), **Jeff Ghrist** (County Commissioner), **Ernie Crofoot** (Attorney, County), **Nick Chamberlain** (Planner, County), **Mark Gradecak**, (Maryland Department of Planning)



Winter 2008 Maryland Planning Directors Roundtable



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County Council Of Governments

- Initially restarted with an appointed facilitator
- Now led by the P&C Department
- Great opportunity for WRE updates and feedback
- MOU's with Municipalities to work together on Comp Plans & WRE

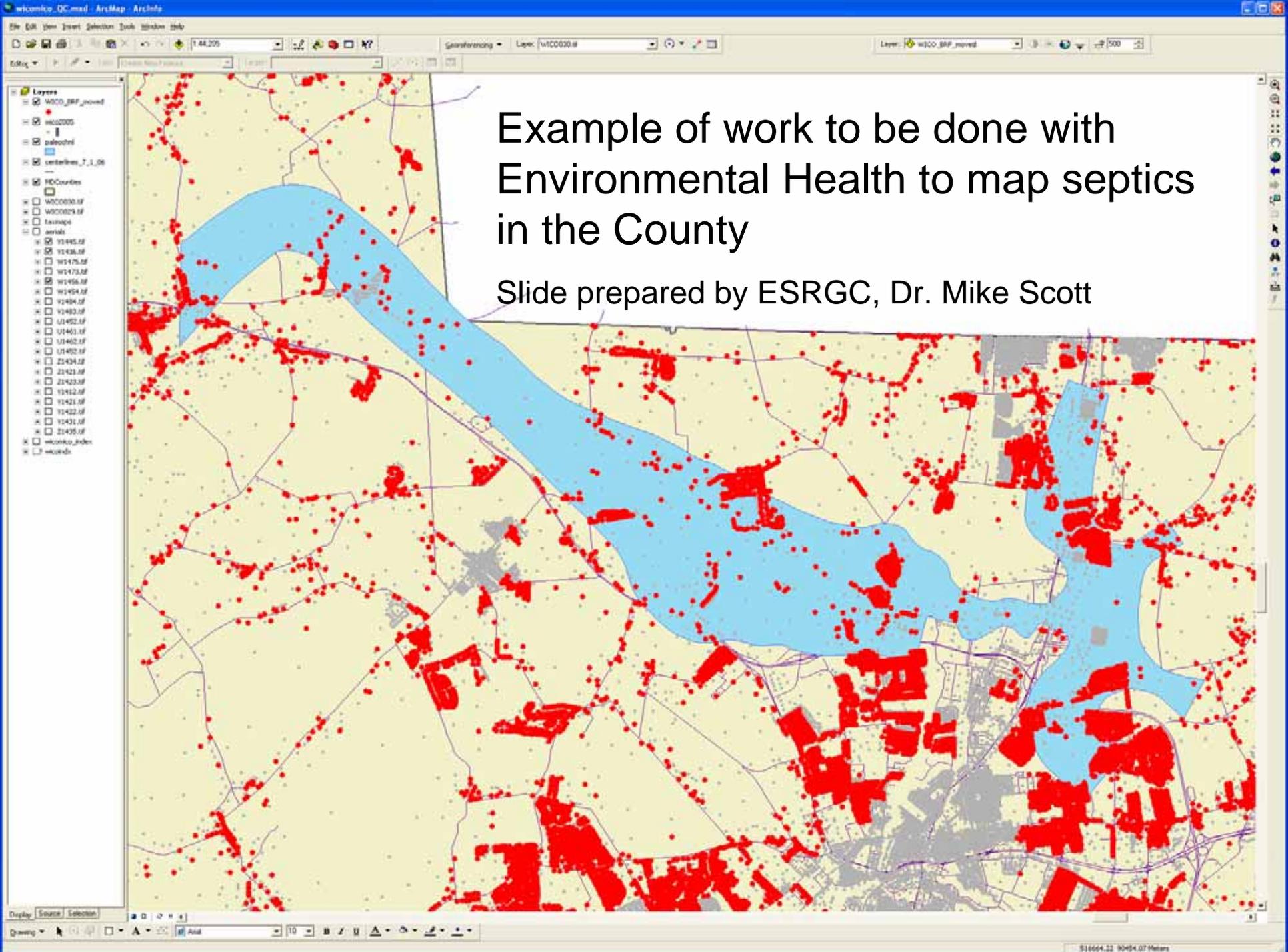


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Education and Collaboration

- **22 people attended 2 training session co-sponsored by MDP & MDE on the WRE.**
- 17 people, 10-26-07 at Chesapeake College
- 5 people, 12-7-07 at UMES
- E-mails to invite
- County Carpooled with Towns
- Director of Environmental Health also attended the workshop, and has offered to share files in order to help with the WRE





Example of work to be done with Environmental Health to map septics in the County

Slide prepared by ESRGC, Dr. Mike Scott

Make Your Workgroup Comprehensive

- Internal Team
- External Workgroup
- Encourage Public Participation
- Include Media at all junctures
- Monthly updates to Planning Commission
- COGG & Association of Municipalities
- Change meeting locations = respect



External Team

- Internal team

Plus

- Staff representatives from all Municipalities
- Representatives from MDP, MDE, Critical Area Commission, Soil Conservation, and other State agencies
 - Invite, but don't expect them at every meeting.
 - Have bullet points to e-mail these members
- Group to meet twice per month



Trust; Key to Cooperation

Every kind of peaceful cooperation among men is primarily based on mutual trust and only secondarily on institutions such as courts of justice and police.

- Albert Einstein



Acknowledgments

The County would like to offer its thanks to MDE and MDP for all of the support we have received in accomplishing this level of cooperation throughout the State, County, and Local Governments. As we all work together goals are becoming realities



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