



Embargoed Until Saturday, Aug. 6, 2011

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Carteret Marina Wins Pelican Award

Ocean – For making the most of the rain, Dudley's Marina in Carteret County received a 2010 Pelican Award from the N.C. Coastal Federation.

The marina in Cedar Point installed four large cisterns to capture the stormwater from the 20,000-square-foot roof of the building where boats are stored. It uses the water for landscaping and to wash down boats. That wash water is also recycled.

The federation gave the marina a Business of the Year Pelican Award for installing these and other measures to reduce polluted runoff from entering the White Oak River and Intracoastal Waterway.

The award was one of 15 Pelican Awards the federation gave to individuals, groups and agencies across North Carolina. The annual awards recognize exemplary action to protect and preserve the coastal environment. The winners were recognized today at a ceremony at the federation's headquarters in Ocean in Carteret County.

Thanks to cost share funding from the Carteret County Soil and Water Community Conservation Assistance Program, Dudley's is becoming a real showcase for stormwater reduction techniques. In 2010, Dudley's added a bioretention area that acts like a grassed bowl to collect and treat runoff from about 32,384 square feet of additional roof top and parking lot. Instead of polluted stormwater runoff shooting directly into the Intracoastal Waterway, Dudley's is using the rain as a resource.

Dudley's Marina is one of three winners of the 2010 Pelican Awards along the central coast, which includes Carteret, Craven, Pamlico and parts of Onslow counties.

Other Pelican Award winners along the central coast are:

Education Partner of the Year Award: Stan Cross, Warren Wilson College: Cross is the education director at the college near Asheville where he leads the Warren Wilson's Environmental Leadership Center's environmental education programs. Warren Wilson sends interns to the federation each summer to help lead our environmental programming.

Volunteers of the Year Award: Emerald Isle Parrot Head Club: "Party with a Purpose." That's the motto of the Emerald Isle Parrot Head Club. But it's more than just a motto. Members of this non-profit organization believe in leaving something behind by assisting with community and environmental projects. Since 2006, the Emerald Isle club has provided more than 250 volunteer hours to clean up the federation's Hoop Pole Creek Preserve in Atlantic Beach and to help with the annual Native Plant Festival. They are a tremendous force in promoting the federation's mission and outreach efforts and come to every event with enthusiasm and an endless supply of cheer and laughter.

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