



RC&D and the Power of Partnerships

A Celebration of Collaboration

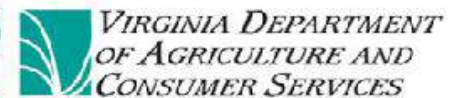




Eastern Shore Resource Conservation & Development Council (ES RC&D)



- Operating Since 1972/Once Federally Funded
- Supported in Part by Accomack & Northampton Counties
- Main Grant Support: EPA, DEQ, USDA, VDACS





Example of an RC&D Grant

Eastern Shore Watersheds Roundtable

- Supported by DEQ Annually (via EPA)
- Focus on Water Quality (Current \$14K)

Member Organizations

- A-N Planning District Commission
- Chesapeake Bay Foundation
- Chincoteague Bay Field Station
- Citizens for a Better Eastern Shore
- DCR's Natural Heritage Program
- Eastern Shore RC&D
- ES Soil & Water Conservation District
- VA Eastern ShoreKeeper
- Eastern Shore Health District, VA Dept. Health
- Natural Resources Conservation Services
- Resource Management Associates
- The Nature Conservancy
- VA Eastern Shore Land Trust
- Virginia Tech Eastern Shore AREC





Some Roundtable Activities

- Boys & Girls Club Field Trips
- Clean the Bay Day Support
- Science on the Shore Presentations
- Native Tree Planting & Workshops
- Earth Day Celebration Exmore Park





Boys & Girls Club Field Trip to CBFS



Chincoteague Bay
Field Station



BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS
OF SOUTHEAST VIRGINIA



Boys & Girls Club Field Trip to CBFS





Clean the Bay Day Support: Media and Signage



Clean the Bay Day



Science on the Shore Presentations



ES RC&D, ES Watersheds Roundtable, and VA Coastal Zone Management Program
present

Book Signing and Presentation

Earth Day - Friday, April 22 - 6:00-8:30 PM
Eastern Shore Community College, Great Hall

Restoring Nature's Relationships at Home
Please join us for this special Earth Day Presentation on behalf of clean water and wildlife habitat.

This free event is presented as part of the Science on the Shore program.

AGENDA

6:00 Book Signing by Doug Tallamy, Author
Exhibits by Eastern Shore Watersheds Roundtable Partners and regional organizations including Wetlands Watch, and the Plant Eastern Shore Natives Campaign
Light Refreshments

6:55 *Welcome/Science on the Shore*; Robin Rich-Coates, Associate Professor of Biology/Chemistry, Eastern Shore Community College

7:00 Presentation by Doug Tallamy: "Restoring Nature's Relationships at Home"

8:15 Brief Q & A

Sponsored in part thanks to:

The Case for Native Plants: Why Should You Consider Planting Native?
Specialized relationships between animals and plants are the norm to nature rather than the exception. Plants that evolve in concert with local animals provide for their needs better than plants that evolved elsewhere. Renowned author Doug Tallamy will explain why this is so, why specialized local relationships determine the stability and complexity of the local food webs that support animal diversity, why it is important to restore biodiversity to our residential properties, and what we need to do to make our landscapes function as ecosystems once again.

Douglas Tallamy is currently Professor and Chair of the Department of Entomology and Wildlife Ecology at the University of Delaware in Newark, Delaware. Doug won the Silver Medal from the Garden Writers' Association for his book, *Bringing Nature Home*.

Event Location: Eastern Shore Community College - 29300 Lankford Hwy, Melfa, VA 23410.
Pre-registration (highly recommended) Email: EasternShoreRCDE@gmail.com

This event is partially funded from the Virginia Coastal Zone Management Program through a grant from the NOAA Office for Coastal Management (NA13N054190135) under the federal Coastal Zone Management Act.

Eastern Shore Watersheds Roundtable Presents

BMP Lite: Easy BMPs for Landowners
Helping Mother Nature Do What She Does Best

Thursday, July 30 - 6:00-8:30 PM
Eastern Shore Community College, Great Hall

Chesapeake Bay Program
Science. Education. Partnership.

Please join us for this celebration of collaborations on behalf of clean water. Best Management Practices (BMPs) are techniques which help reduce pollution and improve water quality. Nick DiPasquale, EPA's Director of the Chesapeake Bay Program, will share insights about how everyone can do something to advance good stewardship of the Chesapeake Bay. Other presenters include the Virginia Eastern Shorekeeper, the Virginia Eastern Shore Land Trust, and the Virginia Coastal Zone Management (CZM) Program. This free event is presented as part of the Science on the Shore program.

AGENDA

6:00 ES Watersheds Roundtable Partner Exhibits; Light Refreshments

6:30 *Welcome/Science on the Shore*; Michael Bonsted, Wallops Flight Facility

6:35 *Easy BMPs for Businesses and Non-Profits*; Shorekeeper Certified Business; Jay Ford, Virginia Eastern Shorekeeper

6:50 *Benefits of conservation easements and other BMPs*; Peter Henderson, Director, VA Eastern Shore Land Trust; Local Landowner.

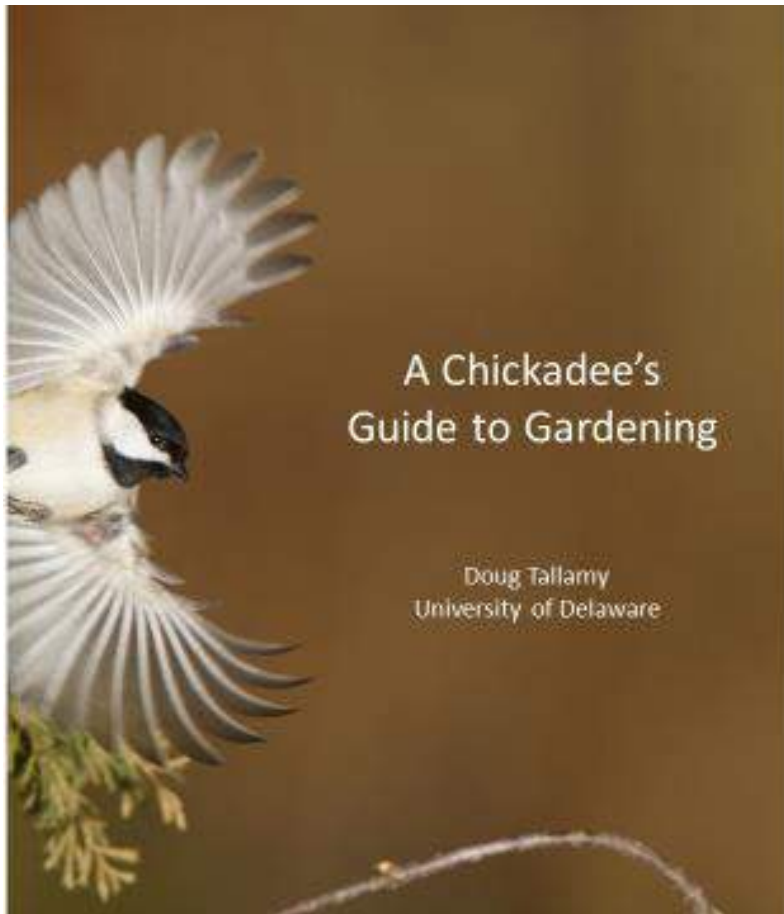
7:10 *Easiest BMP of All: Plant Eastern Shore Natives*; Dorothy Field, DCR/Division of Natural Heritage; Virginia Witmer, VA Coastal Zone Management Program

7:30 *Everyone can do something to advance good stewardship of the Chesapeake Bay*; Nicholas DiPasquale, Director, Chesapeake Bay Program

8:15 Brief Q & A

Event Location: Eastern Shore Community College - 29300 Lankford Hwy, Melfa, VA 23410.
Pre-registration (highly recommended) Email: esrcd.projectsdirector@gmail.com

Science on the Shore Presentations



Doug Tallamy: Restoring Nature's Relationships at Home



Science on the Shore Presentations

RESILIENT LANDSCAPES - RESILIENT SHORELINES

Erosion Control ♦ Water Quality ♦ Beautification



Picture by: Lynnhaven River NOW



Photo by K. During, VIMS

Living shorelines may incorporate materials that include marsh plantings, shrubs and trees, low profile sills and breakwaters, strategically placed organic material, and other techniques that recreate the natural functions of a shoreline ecosystem.



Shareen Hughes, Wetlands
Watch: Resilient Landscapes





Another RC&D Grant

Specialty Crop Grant: Current \$44K

- VDACS Semi Annually via USDA
- Focus on Sustainable Agriculture

Partner Organizations

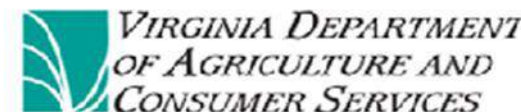
- Future Harvest / Chesapeake Alliance for Sustainable Agriculture
- VSU Small Farmer Outreach
- Virginia Tech Eastern Shore and Hampton Roads AREC
- Eastern Shore Health District, VA Dept. Health





Specialty Crop Grant Activities

- Workshops for Small Farmers
- On-Farm Trainings
- Outreach on the Health Benefits of Consuming Fresh Fruits & Veggies
- Assessment of Consumer Access



Small Farmer Workshops/On-Farm Training



FOODSHED FIELD SCHOOL

Two-Day High Tunnel Intensive at Mighty Thundercloud Edible Forest

April 7th & 8th, 8:00 am - 4:00 pm

More info at: futureharvestcasa.org

Location: Mighty Thundercloud Edible Forest, Smith St, Birdsnest, VA

Join us for a two-day workshop for those interested in getting hands-on experience building a high tunnel and gaining expert information on what and how to grow in one.

REGISTRATION: <http://www.eventbrite.com/e/two-day-intensive-high-tunnel-workshop-tickets-295568967629>



Sponsored in part by the family owned Zimmerman's High Tunnels. Visit www.zimmermanshightunnels.com or call 414-918-9876

Future Harvest CASA is teaming up with the Eastern Shore Resource Conservation and Development Council and Virginia State University Extension specialists to bring you this two-day intensive on how to successfully build and grow in high tunnels. Construction and education will be led by Blain Snipstal of Black Dirt Farm and the workshop will be held at the newly emerging Mighty Thundercloud Edible Forest, a 7.5 acre farm owned and operated by beginning farmer Thelonius Cook.

Limited Spots! \$50 per person (includes lunch both days)

Questions? Contact Aleya Fraser: aleyaf@futureharvestcasa.org

Please direct scholarship inquiries to

Josephine Mooney: esrcdc.projectsdirector@gmail.com



SKINNING A HIGH TUNNEL

On-Farm High Tunnel Intensive Part 2 at Mighty Thundercloud Edible Forest

Tuesday May 24th, 7:30 am - 2:00 pm

More Information: 757-710-7266 or email: esrcdc.projectsdirector@gmail.com

Location: Mighty Thundercloud Edible Forest, Smith St., Birdsnest, VA 23307

Join the Eastern Shore RC&D and Greenhouse Expert Dr. Chris Mullins from VSU Cooperative Extension as we put the "skin" on a 48' x 30' Zimmerman high tunnel which was constructed during our two-day high tunnel intensive workshop in April.



Take advantage of this SPECIALLY SCHEDULED FREE hands-on workshop to learn all the expert finishing techniques required to complete the high tunnel enclosure including:

- | | |
|--|----------------------------------|
| Strategies of Pulling Plastic Over the Top | Why Use Drop Down Side Curtains? |
| Installing Wiggle Wire in C Channels | Curtain Wench Installation |
| Framing and Hanging Doors | Zig-Zag Stringing Options |
| Enclosing the End Caps | Pulley Assembly System |

This workshop will start very early to make the best of the low wind morning hours. We'll hit the ground running at 7:30 am and work through the morning with a break for a quick pot-luck meal around 11:00. Then we'll continue on and finish around 1:00 or 2:00 pm.

Very limited spots available for this Free Event! Participants from the two-day high tunnel construction workshop in April will be given first choice.

Register TODAY by phone or email to Josephine Mooney
(757) 710-7266 or esrcdc.projectsdirector@gmail.com



FOODSHED FIELD SCHOOL

Small Farm, Big Market Panel and Discussion

November 15, 2016, 2-5 pm

Location: Turtle Pace Farm, 17431 Killmontown Road, Melfa, VA 23410

Small Farm, Big Market Panel and Discussion

Come join Future Harvest CASA and the Eastern Shore RC&D at Turtle Pace Farm on the Eastern Shore of Virginia to learn the ins and outs of selling farm products on the wholesale market.

Representatives from Chesapeake Harvest Food Hub, Coastal Sunbelt Produce, Buy Fresh Buy Local and others will share how they source produce and what they are looking to buy from small farms.

Farmers will have a chance to ask questions and also share their experiences selling to larger markets.

POTLUCK STYLE MEAL WILL FOLLOW THE PANEL



This FREE EVENT is sponsored by the ES RC&D Specialty Crop Grant
PRE-REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED



Questions: Aleya@FutureHarvestCASA.org

Information:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/small-farm-big-markets-at-turtle-pace-farm-tickets-295568967629>

Registration:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/small-farm-big-markets-at-turtle-pace-farm-tickets-295568967629>

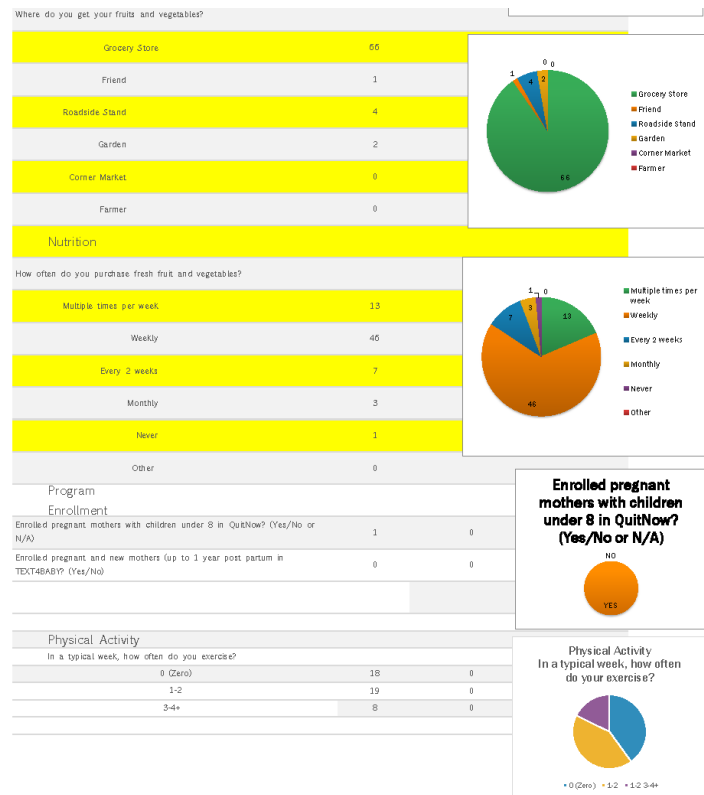
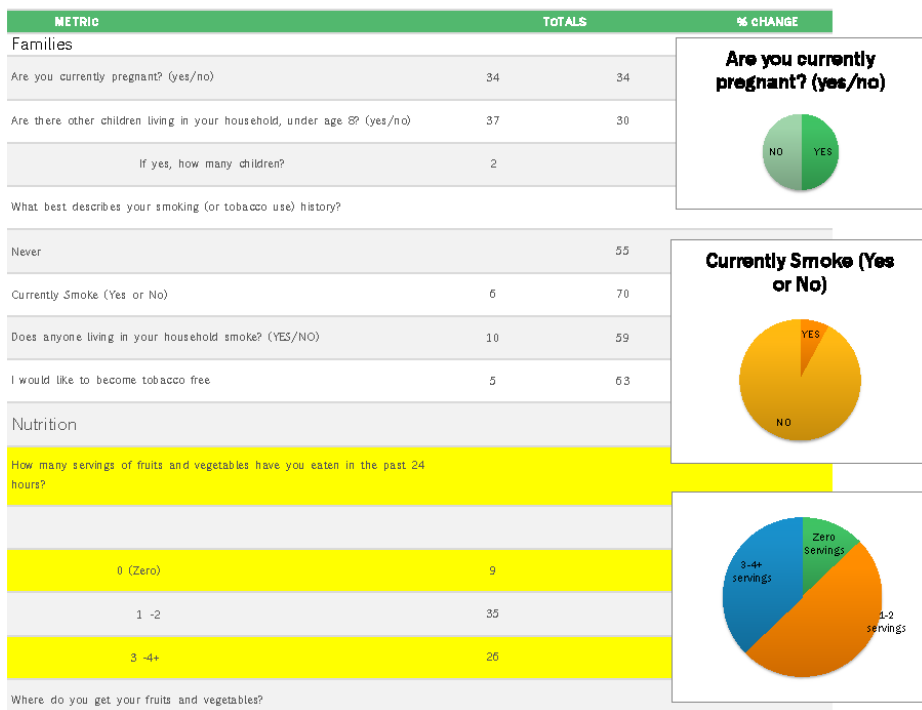


Assessing Healthy Food Access

Wellbeing Survey

Eastern Shore Health District

ALL METRICS



**Eastern Shore
Health District**





- *GIS Mapping project in partnership with VDH ESHD*

Working with Northampton County economic development to facilitate land access for potential small farmers, VDH EDHD has developed a series of detailed maps which plot all parcels of 5-200 acres zoned permaculture suitable for small acreage farms and showing access to highway, adjacent building appraisal value, land map designation and ownership.

Plan: To share with FHCASA future grads with small farmer certificates to know possibilities to acquire land and what will be needed to improve (structures, wells, etc.)... then move on to similar work with Accomack County

[illegible]A screenshot of a Microsoft Excel spreadsheet, tilted at an angle. The spreadsheet contains a large table with multiple columns and rows of data. The table is organized into several sections, with some cells highlighted in green. The Excel interface, including the ribbon and status bar, is visible around the edges of the spreadsheet.



Connecting Sustainable Farming and Clean Water

- Global water scarcity and water pollution are expected to increase.
- New and emerging technologies in sustainable farming can help solve the most pressing water challenges, improve water quality, usage, and access.





Connecting Sustainable Farming and Good Health

- *Preventable diseases like hypertension and diabetes and obesity result from unhealthy food consumption. By changing this, we can improve public health.*
- **Broken Food System**

Note: Click on the above link for a short video on our Broken Food System or use this link:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3-FlwnSKppk&feature=youtu.be>



**Eastern Shore
Health District**



Connecting Sustainable Farming and Healthy Communities

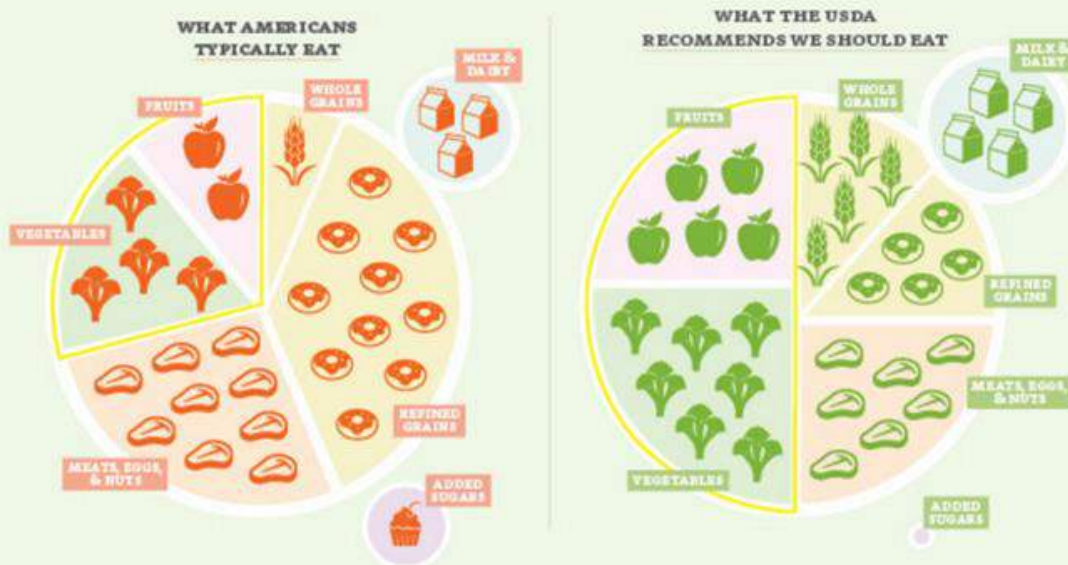


Eastern Shore
HEALTHY
COMMUNITIES



1. Americans **don't eat enough** fruits and vegetables.

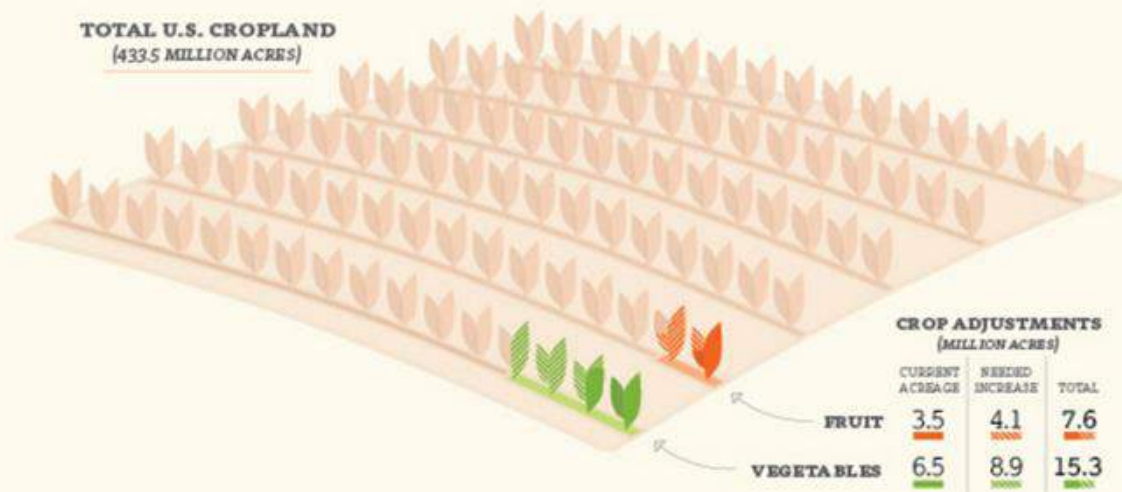
Americans eat **far fewer** fruits and vegetables and **far more** refined grains and added sugars than recommended by USDA dietary guidelines.



2. American farmers could **grow** the additional fruits and vegetables we **need**.

U.S. agriculture could meet **increased demand** for fruits and vegetables by **growing more** of these healthy foods. The needed increase would be **small** compared to total U.S. farm acreage.

TOTAL U.S. CROPLAND
(433.5 MILLION ACRES)

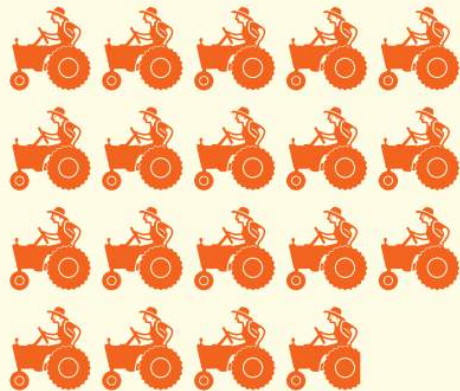


Connecting Sustainable Farming and Healthy Communities



3. Increasing fruit and vegetable production could bring **important benefits** to local economies.

Increased public support for local food systems would have a **significant positive impact** on job creation in regional economies. It would also make it **more possible** for Americans to eat **enough fruits and vegetables** to meet the USDA's dietary recommendations.



▲ **189,000** NEW JOBS IN LOCAL FOOD SYSTEMS



▲ **\$9.5 billion** INCREASED SALES OF HEALTHY FOOD

4. For America to **grow more** fruits and vegetables, local food systems need **increased** public support.

And the cost of this increased support is relatively **small** compared to current commodity crop subsidies.

Proposed Local Food Investment
(\$90 million)

Current Corn and Soybean Subsidies
(\$5.08 billion)

#1 Source: Wells, H.F. and J.C. Buzby, 2008. Dietary Assessment of Major Trends in U.S. Food Consumption, 1970-2005. USDA Economic Information Bulletin 33.
#2 Source: Buzby, J.C., H.F. Wells, and G. Vocke, 2006. Possible Implications for U.S. Agriculture from Adoption of Select Dietary Guidelines. USDA Economic Information Bulletin 31.
#3 Note: Projected increases in jobs and healthy food sales are associated with growth in local food sales.
Source: Union of Concerned Scientists, 2012. Ensuring the Harvest: Crop Insurance and Credit for a Healthy Farm and Food Future. Appendix, page 29.
#4 Note: Dollar figures are annual expenditures. Corn and soybean expenditures are for 2010.
Sources: Federal Crop Insurance Corporation, Environmental Working Group, and National Sustainable Agriculture Corporation.

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Union of Concerned Scientists
Citizens and Scientists for Environmental Solutions



The Power of Partnerships

- Celebration of Collaborations
- We Are All Connected
- Accomplish More Together



Eastern Shore
HEALTHY
COMMUNITIES

Eastern Shore
Health District



RC&D...a Celebration of Collaboration

Thank You for Listening

Partners, Sponsors, Collaborators:



Accomack County
Sandra Hart-Mears
Barney Selph
Dave Vaughn
Kenneth J. Savage
Ex-officio: Grayson Chesser

Northampton County
Butch Nottingham
Joseph Mysko
Sally Richardson
Stanley Plowden

**Accomack/Northampton
Planning District Commission**
Lynn Custis Thornton
Dr. Arthur Schwarzschild
E. Wayne Haycox

**Eastern Shore Soil & Water
Conservation District**
Ruth Boettcher
Edwin R. Long
Keith Privett
Daniel Chuquin

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Projects Director
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