



Applying knowledge to improve water quality

**New York - New Jersey
Puerto Rico - Virgin Islands**
Regional Water Coordination Program
A Partnership of USDA CSREES
& Land Grant Colleges and Universities

Annual Meeting Agenda

Carambola Resort, St. Croix, US Virgin Islands, June 11 – 12, 2007

This event will bring together the academic community and agency representatives to discuss water resource needs, current initiatives and opportunities for future collaboration. The meeting will focus on initiatives in animal agriculture, nutrient management, onsite wastewater treatment and watershed management, and discussions on other emerging issues.

Day 1 – Monday, June 11

8:30 AM - 10:30 AM Registration and Poster Set-up

Mr. Dale Morton, and Ms. Toni Thomas, Extension Agents, Cooperative Extension Service, and Ms. Christine Henry, Administrative Assistant, University of the Virgin Islands (UVI)

8:30 AM - 9:30 AM Regional Program Leadership Team Executive Meeting

9:00 AM - 10:30 AM Poster Viewing and Continental Breakfast

10:30 AM - 12:00 PM Opening Session (Tan Tan Room)

Moderator: Nana Kofi Boateng, Associate Director, Cooperative Extension Service, UVI

10:30 AM – 11:00 AM Welcome and Opening Remarks

Nana Kofi Boateng
Dr. Henry Smith, Vice Provost, Research and Public Service, UVI
Mr. Luther Renee, Assistant Commissioner, Virgin Islands Department of Agriculture

11:00 AM - 11:30 AM Update on the USDA Cooperative State Research, Education and Extension Service, National Integrated Water Quality Program and the Regional Water Coordination Program in US EPA Region 2 Update

Mr. Jeffrey Potent, Associate Coordinator, USDA Cooperative State Research, Education and Extension Service, Regional Water Coordination Program, and US EPA Region 2 / Land Grant University Liaison

11:30 PM – 11:50 PM Perspectives on University / Agency Collaboration in Puerto Rico and the US Virgin Islands

Dr. Rafael Davila, Agricultural and Civil Engineer, Agricultural Extension Service, University of Puerto Rico and Nana Kofi Boateng

11:50 PM – 1:00 PM Group Lunch and Networking

1:00 PM – 4:00 PM Onsite Wastewater Management in Puerto Rico and the US Virgin Islands – Strategy Session

Moderator: Mr. Jeffrey Potent

1:00 PM – 1:10 PM Purpose and Intended Outcomes of Strategy Session

Mr. Jeffrey Potent

1:00 PM – 1:25 PM National Onsite Wastewater Management Issues and Overview of the US EPA Decentralized Wastewater Treatment Program

Ms. Joyce Hudson, Manager, Decentralized Wastewater Treatment Program, US EPA Headquarters (by phone)

1:25 PM – 1:45 PM Onsite System Management Issues in the US Virgin Islands

Ms. Anita Nibbs, Supervisor, Water Pollution Control Program, Division of Environmental Protection, Virgin Islands Department of Planning and Natural Resources

- 1:45 PM – 2:05 PM **Onsite System Management Issues in PR**
Mr. Raul Santini, Coastal Zone Environmental Coordinator,
Puerto Rico Department of Environmental and Natural Resources
Mr. Yamil Toro, County Agent, Puerto Rico Water Resources
and Environmental Research Institute
- 2:05 PM – 2:30 PM **Audience/Speaker Discussion on Onsite Wastewater Management Issues**
- 2:30 PM – 2:45 PM **Break**
- 2:45 PM – 3:30 PM **Environmental Initiatives in Puerto Rico and the US Virgin Islands Related to Onsite Wastewater Management**
- 2:45 PM – 3:00 PM **Puerto Rico Watershed Stewardship Initiative**
Mr. Carl-Alex. Soderberg, Director, Caribbean Environmental Protection Division, US
EPA Region 2
- 3:00 PM – 3:15 PM **US EPA Virgin Islands Environmental Stewardship Initiative**
Mr. Jim Casey, Virgin Islands Coordinator, Caribbean Environmental Protection
Division, US EPA Region 2
- 3:15 PM – 3:30 PM **Jobos Bay Watershed in Puerto Rico**
Mr. Jeffrey Potent
- 3:30 PM – 4:00 PM **Putting Together the Pieces: Partnership Building and Creating a Strategic Approach to Onsite Wastewater Management in Puerto Rico and the US Virgin Islands (facilitated discussion)**
Dr. Rafael Davila and Mr. Jeffrey Potent
- 4:15 PM – 5:00 PM **Region 2 Water Program, Regional/State Coordinators Meeting**
- 7:00 PM – 9:30 PM** **Group Dinner at Carambola - Mahogany Room**
Keynote Address: Mr. Carl-Alex Soderberg

Day 2 – Tuesday, June 12

- 8:00 AM – 9:00 AM **Poster Viewing and Continental Breakfast**
- 9:00 AM – 9:15 AM **Welcome and Preview of Day 2 Activities**
Nana Kofi Boateng & Mr. Jeffrey Potent
- 9:15 AM – 11:30 AM** **Regional Water Program Focus Area Working Sessions (presentations and discussions)**
- Moderator: Mr. Yamil Toro
- 9:15 AM – 9:45 AM **Animal Waste Management**
Dr. Rafael F. Davila
- 9:45 AM – 10:15 AM **Nutrient Management**
Dr. Tammo Steenhuis, Professor, Department of Biological and Environmental
Engineering, Cornell University
(Session will also include a brief update on water quality trading by Mr. Jeffrey Potent)
- 10:30 AM – 10:45 AM **Break**
- 10:45 AM – 11:30 AM **Watershed Management**
a. **Stormwater Management and Watershed Restoration in New Jersey**
Ms. Katie Buckley, Program Associate, Water Resources Program, Rutgers
University

b. Extension Programming in Watershed Management

Mr. Greg Rusciano, Program Associate, Water Resources Program, Rutgers University

c. LEAPE in Puerto Rico (Locally-led Education and Action for Protecting the Environment)

Mr. Yamil Toro

11:30 AM – 11:50 AM **Emerging Water Resource Issues in the Caribbean and Linkages to Regional/National Issues (facilitated discussion)**
Nana Kofi Boateng

11:50 AM – 12:00 PM **Working Session Wrap-up and Preparation for Afternoon Tour**
Mr. Jeff Potent and Nana Kofi Boateng

12:00 PM – 12:15 PM **Break**

12:15 PM – 5:00 PM Group Lunch and St. Croix Agriculture Tour
Tour host: Nana Kofi Boateng

Lunch will be served at a local restaurant before the tour. The tour will start at the UVI Agriculture Experiment Station, Aquaponics Research facility, led by Dr. Jim Rakocy. We will also visit the UVI Research Model Farm and farm store. Our next stop will be the Frandan Farm, a small integrated farming system owned by Dr. Ralph DeCharbert, a member of the Virgin Islands Farmers' Cooperative. The farm has Boer goats, swine, horses, cattle and a mango orchard. If time permits, we will also have a short tour of Christiansted town.

5:00 PM Meeting Adjourns, Dinner on Your Own
Home Safe!

REGISTRATION FORM
USDA CSREES/Land Grant University
Regional Water Coordination Program Annual Meeting
June 10 – 11, 2007
Carambola Resort
St. Croix, US Virgin Islands

Name & Affiliation: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone/fax: _____

E-mail: _____

I would like to participate in the University of the Virgin Islands Campus/farm tour (please check) !____!

Registration: The deadline to register is Friday, June 1. While late registrations will be accepted, we urge you to at least provide a tentative commitment by this date so that we will have an approximate head count. The registration fee is \$150. It will include June 11 and 12 continental breakfasts, lunches and afternoon breaks, dinner on June 11 and conference materials and related costs. Dinner on June 12 will be on your own. Please make payment to University of the Virgin Islands (UVI), as follows:

Regional Water Program
Attention: Dr. Kofi Boateng
University of the Virgin Islands, Cooperative Extension Service
RR#1, Box 10,000 Kingshill
St. Croix, US Virgin Islands 00850

The Region 2 Water Quality Program is a partnership of the four Land Grant Universities serving the geographic area that constitutes US Environmental Protection Agency Region 2 (Cornell University, Rutgers University, the University of Puerto Rico and the University of the Virgin Islands). The program contributes to the protection and restoration of water resources by integrating research, education and extension through university partnerships and collaboration with US EPA and other federal, state and local agencies. The regional program is an element of the USDA Cooperative State Research, Education and Extension Service (CSREES), National Integrated Water Quality Program. Funding is provided by USDA-CSREES under Agreement No. 2005-51130-03318, with additional support provided by US EPA Region 2.

