

Department of Health
Bureau of Onsite Sewage Programs
Research Review and Advisory Committee

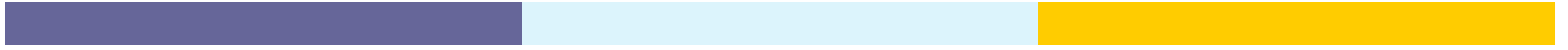
Wednesday September 10, 2009

1 pm - 5 pm



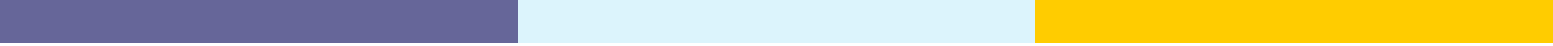
Agenda:

1. Introductions and Housekeeping
2. Review Minutes of Meeting on July 1, 2009
3. Presentation and Discussion on Town of Suwannee Study
4. Discussion on the Florida Nitrogen Reduction Strategies Study
5. Brief Updates on Ongoing and Future Projects
6. Other Business
7. Public Comment
8. Closing Comments, Next Meeting, and Adjournment



Introductions & Housekeeping

- Travel forms
- Roll call
- Identification of audience



Review Minutes of Meeting July 1, 2009

- See draft minutes

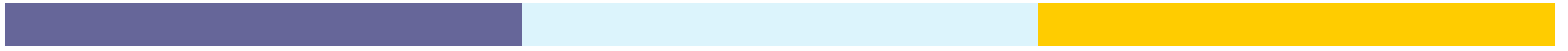


Town of Suwannee Study

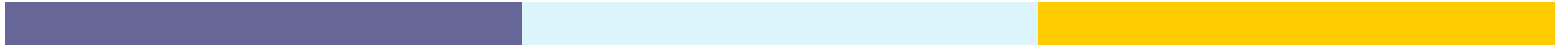
Purpose: Test the difference in water quality after central sewer has been installed in an area previously served by onsite sewage systems

Progress:

- Sampling completed, which included source tracking to detect human DNA component
- Final draft report is in, comments due to Elke by noon on Tuesday September 15th
- RRAC voted to renew the contract to conduct sampling again during December/January 2009 and paperwork is now routing



Presentation on Town of
Suwannee Study Results
by Environmental Consulting &
Technology (ECT)



Ongoing projects



Florida Onsite Sewage Nitrogen Reduction Strategies Study

Purpose: Develop passive strategies for nitrogen reduction that complement use of conventional onsite sewage treatment and disposal systems, and further develop cost-effective nitrogen reduction strategies



Florida Onsite Sewage Nitrogen Reduction Strategies Study

Progress:

- Numerous reports have been submitted and reviewed by RRAC and DOH:
 - Passive nitrogen removal study phase II quality assurance project plan
 - Literature review on onsite nitrogen reducing technologies
 - Classification, ranking, and prioritization of technologies
 - Prioritization of nitrogen reduction technologies
 - Literature review of nitrogen reduction by soils and shallow groundwater
 - Literature review on nitrogen fate and transport modeling
 - Report on selection of existing data sets for model calibration
- Dr. Smith and Josefin Edeback presented to the TRAP on the project
- Contract amendment, as recommended at last meeting, is currently being discussed with provider



Manatee Springs, Performance of Onsite Systems Phase II Karst Study

Purpose: Test the difference in water quality after nutrient reducing systems are installed in a Karst area

Progress:

- Original contracted sampling work completed
- Draft report submitted, comments sent back to provider (FSU)
- Final report received, is being reviewed by staff to ensure comments addressed, and final approved report will be distributed to RRAC in near future
- Final report on entire project to be submitted to EPA by end of September
- Added an additional sampling event during non-flood conditions which will occur during mid-September



Monroe County PBTS Assessment: Next Phase of Sampling in the Keys

Purpose: Evaluate effectiveness of
Performance Based Treatment Systems in
the Keys

Progress:

- Quality control of existing data ongoing
- All sampling completed
- Report summarizing this project being written



319 Project on Performance and Management of Advanced Onsite Systems

Purpose: Assess water quality protection by advanced onsite sewage treatment and disposal systems throughout the State of Florida

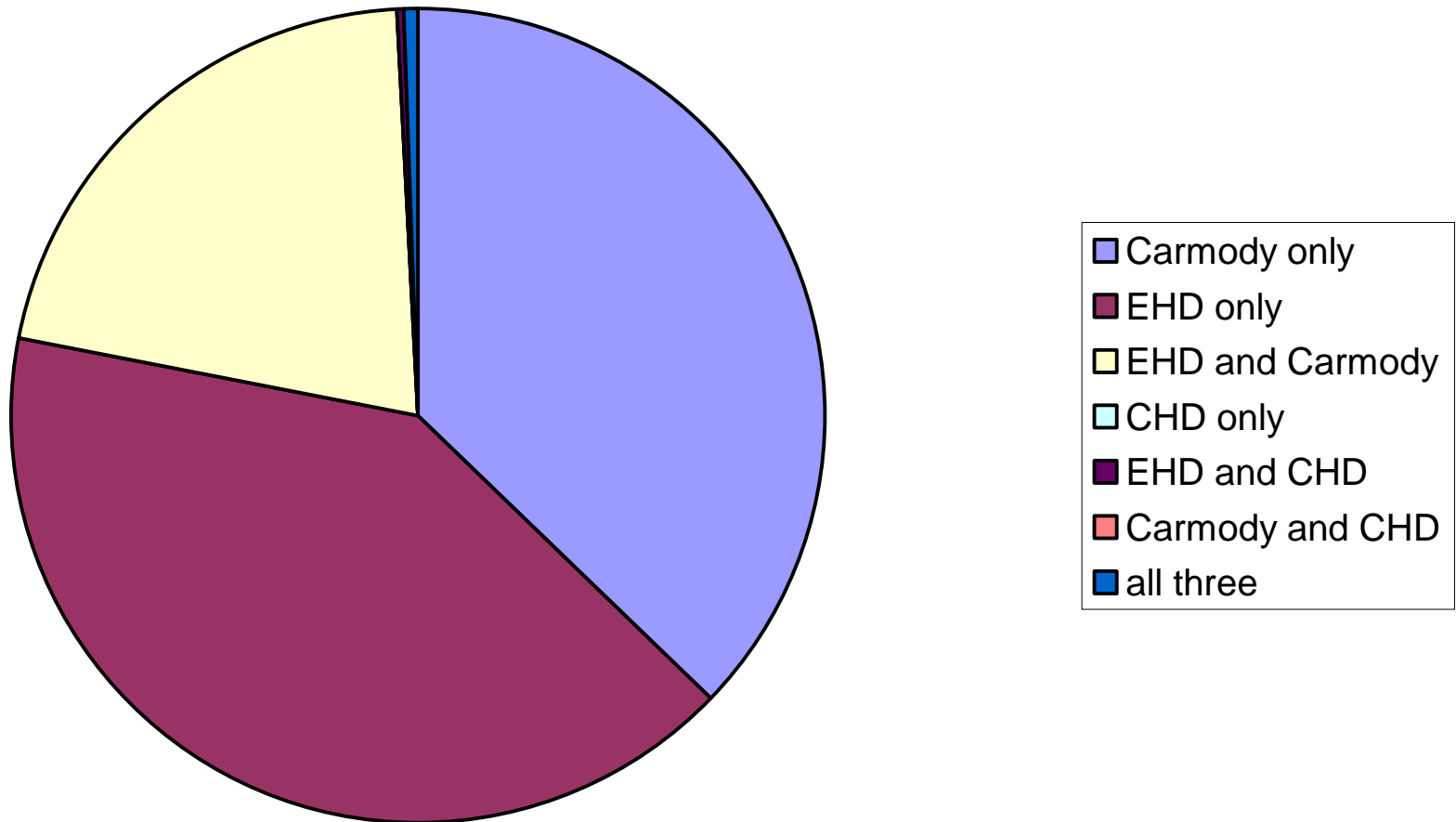
Progress:

- Database of advanced systems:
 - Data has been gathered from the state database, any county specific databases, and from Carmody
 - Data fields and database structure have been discussed and sketched
- Survey of user groups perceptions task:
 - Provider is Florida State University Survey Research Laboratory
 - Development of surveys is ongoing with several of the surveys nearing completion
- Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP) draft report submitted to RRAC
 - Discussion?
- Next steps: Finalization of QAPP, selection of homesites to sample (criteria?)



Review of Data

Matching of "Operating Permit" Records
(Total =16,529 distinct records)



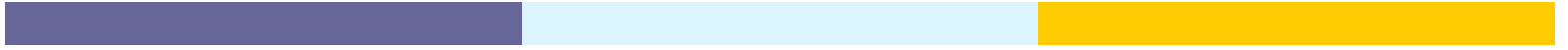


Optical Wastewater Tracers Study

Purpose: Test the feasibility of detecting wastewater inputs to Florida surface waters using optical characteristics such as optical brighteners from laundry detergents as tracers

Progress:

- Final report to EPA due end October



Upcoming projects



Statewide Inventory of Onsite Sewage Treatment and Disposal Systems in Florida Study

Purpose: To provide a comprehensive inventory of the OSTDS in the state

Progress:

- RRAC voted the continuation of this project as a priority at the May 27th meeting
- Initial internal discussions have begun on process forward
- Several counties, people involved in the BMAP process, and DEP personnel have expressed interested in obtaining and utilizing the data and the process of sharing the data is being streamlined

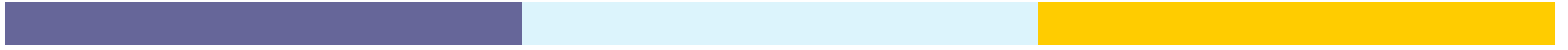


Columbia County Nitrogen Well Sampling Study

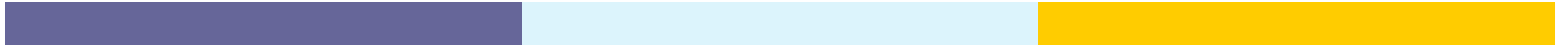
Purpose: To see whether pathogens and nutrients in well water on river-front lots are elevated and effected by either river or septic system influences, and whether there is any seasonal variability in this

Progress:

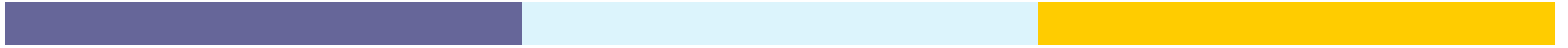
- Obtain purchase order with a lab that is able to do the sample analysis
- Coordinate with Columbia County Health Department staff to conduct the sampling



Other Business



Public Comment



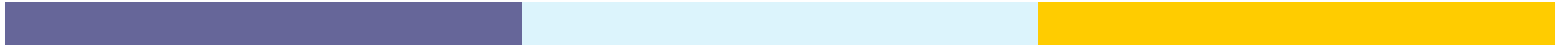
Next Meeting

Upcoming meeting topics:

Nitrogen Study Status Update

Proposed dates for next meeting:

- Suggestions?



Closing Comments and Adjournment