

**ORANGE COUNTY
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT, AGRICULTURE,
PARKS AND RECREATION**

MEMORANDUM

To: Commission for the Environment
From: Rich Shaw
Date: April 10, 2014
Subject: Environmental Summit 2014

The 2014 Environmental Summit will be **May 31 (9:30 am – 12 noon)** at the Maple View Agricultural Environmental Center. There will be refreshments and displays; presentations will begin at 10:00 am.

Dr. Norm Christensen (Duke Nicholas School of the Environment) has agreed to be keynote speaker for the event. Someone from DEAPR staff will provide an overview of the State of the Environment report, to be followed by a panel discussion of some key issues highlighted in the State of the Environment report. Hintz suggested having note cards for members of the audience to ask questions on any topic.

The CFE needs to identify topics and speakers for the panel discussion. Some potential topics mentioned at the February meeting were a) invasive species identification and remediation, b) energy efficiency and renewable energy options, c) the effects of the anticipated reductions in state monitoring of surface and groundwater resources, and d) the ongoing conversion of hardwood forest to pine plantations across the rural landscape. Saunders noted that people may also be interested in learning more about the recent coal ash spill and fracking.

The format and content of the meeting will be a topic of discussion at your next meeting.

An initial draft flier for advertising the summit is provided as Attachment 6.