

# HAMPTON VA

## NEWS RELEASE

For immediate release

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## Flooding workshop focuses on Hampton, Norfolk

**June 10, 2015** - Hampton's Newmarket Creek Watershed will be the focus of a special meeting in Norfolk next week that pairs Dutch urban designers, engineers and experts with their local, state and national counterparts to explore creative solutions to flood risks.

The upcoming "Dutch Dialogues" were first held in New Orleans after hurricane Katrina. Similar workshops have since been held in New York, Bridgeport, St. Louis, Tampa Bay and Los Angeles.

A combined Hampton/Newport News project, including the watershed and Norfolk's Tidewater District, will be studied June 19-23. Participants will include private stakeholders, regional experts and the public.

The name Dutch Dialogues reflects The Netherlands' history and experience as a low-lying country with an elaborate flood protection system.

In the 1990s, the Dutch began to recognize the unintended impact of anti-flooding measures on their environments and cities. Additionally, they began to assess the effects of changing climate, sea level rise, subsidence, increased winter and spring river flows, summer drought, groundwater depletion, and salt water intrusion on their landscape, economy, and public finance.

In response, a new water management paradigm has taken hold in the Netherlands, often described as going "from resistance to accommodation," or "living with water where possible."

The "living with water" approach – which is also the Hallmark of the New Orleans Urban Water Plan – strives to integrate flood risk mitigation, engineering, spatial planning, urban design, environmental goals, community amenity and economic development.

For more information on the Dutch Dialogues, read the [news release](#) from organizers or go to our [webpage](#).

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