



# CARTERET COUNTY

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## CROSSROADS

### ***History and Accomplishments***

In 1980 a group of citizens organized under the leadership of Dr. John Costlow to successfully oppose a liquefied-gas storage terminal on Radio Island. After this crisis passed, citizens saw a continuing need to monitor proposals and permits that would affect the environment of Carteret County. Crossroads was hence established as a non-profit, all-volunteer group supported by citizen dues and donations.

Over the years, we have challenged several permits, including:

- an oil refinery in the Newport marshes with pipelines under the Newport River to the port;
- a huge coal export facility on Radio Island that would have destroyed Morehead City due to the volume of train traffic that would have been generated;
- liquid ammonia storage on Radio Island (twice);
- marina permits in marshes;
- huge discharges of dust from phosphate loading at the Port
- condo and marina development on Hoop Pole Creek

Some of these challenges resulted in changes in CAMA regulations (marina rules) or in ordinances (County zoning of Radio Island as Port-Industrial).

We were instrumental in obtaining public access to a portion of Radio Island and in recent years have been central to the discussion of land use planning in Carteret County.

We have not been successful in all efforts to protect our local environment, but we know our actions have benefited the community in many cases.

We also try to provide our members and the public with objective, balanced information on environmental issues through our Newsletters and our website. We hold public information meetings on issues from liquid ammonia storage to offshore oil drilling to growth management strategies to the future of our fishing industry. We occasionally issue "Action Alerts" to those of our members willing to contact their legislators about environmental issues. We also testify before regulators at public hearings and correspond with them. We inform our members and the public on issues that will make a difference in their lives and surroundings and communicate environmental concerns to our government officials.