

**Eastern Virginia Damage Prevention Committee  
Area 3 Meeting**

**August 11, 2009**

**Persons in Attendance:**

Bill Clark, NNEC	Ralph Self, NNEC
David Wollard, Town of Warsaw	Keith Herbert, Town of Warsaw
Chris Baber, Verizon	Mark France, Town of Warsaw
Jeff Fitzgerald, Consolidated U.S.	Mike Finerfrock, NNEC
Channing Guvernator, VUPS	James Bennett, SCC
Bettie Cahoon, City of Chesapeake	Pat Cline, City of Newport News

The Area 3 meeting of the Eastern Virginia Damage Prevention Committee was held on August 11, 2009, and was graciously sponsored by Northern Neck Electric Cooperative at their office in Warsaw.

James Bennett with the SCC shared a presentation with the group concerning how to document damages and properly complete a DPA-1 form. He stressed the importance of accurate descriptions and photographs, and how they can clear or cloud a damage issue.

Discussion surrounding what some attendees considered web ticket entry abuse indicated that tickets were being submitted late at night, and in some cases, were duplicate tickets. There is a local cable job where these are suspected. The question becomes which ticket is valid when they overlap? The most recent ticket must complete the marking cycle before it is valid. Update tickets should be called in on the third working day prior to the original ticket expiration.

Question – A storm came through and wiped out 90 power poles. Were they supposed to call in an emergency ticket for each pole? Not covered directly in the law, but it is covered in the rules (20VAC5-309-90.1), and the short answer was yes.

Channing Guvernator with VUPS update the group on the the Staking University classes. Check the Miss Utility web site for details.

The next VUPS membership meeting will be held on September 23 at Smith Mountain Lake.

Phase II of the Pilot Project is looking form more participants.

Advanced mapping classes will be held the morning of the membership meeting and every Thursday at the call center.

The next meeting will be held on September 15, 2009, and will be hosted by Virginia Natural Gas in Newport News.

Respectfully Submitted:

Bettie Cahoon