

TOWN OF ORIENTAL
Diane H. Miller, MPA, Manager
Manager@TownofOriental.com
252-249-0555

**GOLDEN LEAF FOUNDATION
ANNOUNCES AWARD FOR
WHITTAKER POINTE RESTORATION**

August 2, 2018. Golden LEAF awarded a **\$916,406 Disaster Recovery Grant** to the Town of Oriental to support the “Whittaker Pointe Restoration Project.” Golden LEAF funding will support the engineering, design and development of the living shoreline to help maintain Whittaker Pointe, the Town’s natural buffer along the Neuse River.

Golden LEAF Disaster Recovery Grant funds are made possible through an appropriation from the State of North Carolina to make grants to units of local government and 501(c)(3) nonprofit tax-exempt organizations that serve the people of North Carolina working to recover from Hurricane Matthew, the western wildfires, Tropical Storm Julia or Tropical Storm Hermine.

The Town is grateful for the support of the Foundation, as well as all those who worked tirelessly on the effort toward application. This award allows us to move forward immediately toward protecting the Pointe, the Creek, and the residents, businesses and economy of Oriental from violent wind driven wind, water, and repeated storm erosion.

The priority of the project, proposed in phases, is to recover the lost land that is permanently breached first, protect the vulnerable shoreline, establish a new living shoreline, in cooperation with environmental authorities and practices deemed effective for this issue.

The Town would like to especially thank the Golden Leaf site visit team for their guidance, Ms. Lisa Thompson and the Harbor Waterfronts Committee, Mr. James Blackerby and Dr. Lexia Weaver (NCCF) for their insight and technical expertise, and the Whittaker Pointe Marina Owners’ Association for the donation of land to the Town. The grant is conditional on the transference of the land, and the Oriental Mayor and Board are expected to accept the donation at their meeting August 7, 2018.

For additional information, please contact Town Manager Diane Miller at manager@townoforiental.com or 252-249-0555.

#