



Delivering the keynote address at the annual Red Clay Conference, Georgia Environmental Protection Division Director Carol Couch said she sees her department facilitating options not stopping development.

Annual Red Clay Conference Focuses on Growth

The well recognized trend of Americans moving from the city to the country for a better quality of life is alive and well in the state of Georgia. This movement and the increased development of our state's rural areas was the focus of the 16th Annual Red Clay Conference held in April.

Panelists discussed the use of the relatively new transferable development rights ordinances, new laws relating to historic preservation, land conservation issues including Georgia Gov. Sonny Perdue's new advisory committee, the redevelopment of Atlanta's Atlantic Steel site into a mixed-use site and transportation concerns facing the state's capital city.

The newly appointed Georgia Environmental Protection Division Director Carol Couch delivered the keynote address. In her speech, she noted that Atlanta was founded as a "crossroad of transportation" and that it is an anchor for our region of the country. "As such, we need regional solutions," she said.

Furthermore she stated, "Land is abundant, but air and water resources are not." She said that due to recent transportation policies (e.g., telecommuting, carpooling and public transportation), the Atlanta area is starting to see a reduction in the number of miles traveled per person in automobiles. In addition, the water bill recently passed by the state's legislature should enable "wall to wall" planning for one of our state's most precious resources.

"As federal resources decline, the burden falls to the local level," Couch said. "Taxes are not the answer," she continued, "but new fees and assessments are." Furthermore, she indicated that mixed-use planning and transportation alternatives would relieve some of this burden.

Two of her goals for the EPD are to increase the consistency of knowledge of those at the local level through training and certification and to place more effort on enforcement.

Couch is the first scientist to head the division and holds a Ph.D. in ecology from UGA and a master's degree in biology from the University of South Carolina. Prior to joining the EPD, she worked for the U.S. Geological Survey's National Water Quality Assessment Program.

Organized by members of the Environmental Law Association, the Red Clay Conference was established to increase public awareness of environmental issues on regional, national and international levels through a series of educational presentations and open forum discussions.



Discrimination law expert Linda Krieger presents the 2004 Edith House Lecture.

House Lecture Focuses on Employment Discrimination

Around 100 guests gathered at the University Chapel to hear the 22nd annual Edith House Lecture. Guest lecturer Linda Hamilton Krieger, a law professor and former dean at the University of California at Berkeley, presented an explanation on the role subconscious stereotypes play in discrimination in her speech titled "Naturalizing Anti-Discrimination Law."