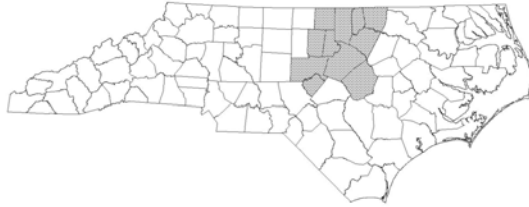


Eastern Piedmont Region



Region J & K: Chatham, Durham, Franklin, Granville, Johnston, Lee, Orange, Person, Vance, Wake, Warren

- Total land area: 5,351 square miles
- Agriculture: 5,975 farms, \$685 million receipts
- Eight rural and three urban counties
- Industry and agriculture-based economy

Projected Population Growth in Eastern Piedmont Counties

2000	2010	2020	2030
1,538,517	1,761,169	2,156,045	2,562,148

Natural Resources: Rivers and streams cross gently rolling plains. Fields and pastureland remain a major part of the landscape outside of urban areas. Oak and hickory dominate the upland forests, and along with moist hardwood forests along bluffs and floodplain forests, comprise the major natural communities. Pine woods have become established in formerly cultivated areas. Outstanding ecological features include the upper Tar River and its tributaries, which have a rich collection of rare mussels.

Specific Growth and Conservation Concerns: While much of this area is experiencing rapid development, working lands are still critical to the economy of this region. Growth in the business sector has been accompanied by poor air quality and flooding problems due to loss of forest and farmland and an increase in impervious surfaces. Continued effort is needed to protect the desired regional green space system. Some counties in this region have not yet participated in conservation planning.

Regional Conservation Planning

The Triangle J Council of Governments worked with a range of public and private organizations and agencies to develop the Triangle GreenPrint Project, a regional vision of a linked network of green space throughout the Triangle. The project is in its tracking and coordination phase. Using a special Web-based data submission system, information is collected on all the land protection and trails projects planned throughout the region over the next five years. This data is compared with the places identified in earlier phases of the GreenPrint to measure the progress the region is making toward protecting a linked network of green space. Using this information, land management organizations can identify new land protection opportunities and pursue greater cross-jurisdictional collaboration on land protection and trails initiatives. <http://www.tjcog.dst.nc.us>