As you work in your yard this spring, look for ways to work with nature, not against it. This will make your yard better for the environment, and easier to care for. The Carolina Yards website is a great place to go for ideas. www.clemson.edu/cyn

Upcoming Events

Richland Backyard Landscaping Series
March 14, 21, 28 & April 4
6:00-7:00 PM
Cooper Branch Library, Forest Acres

RCSC 2nd Quarter Meeting
April 8, 2013
10:00am-12:00pm
Arcadia Lakes Town Hall

River Rocks
April 13, 2013
Noon-8:00 PM
Riverfront Park

Wine for Water GCWA Fundraiser
April 25, 2013

Newsworthy:

Look for RCSC at Spring Festivals

The Richland Countywide Stormwater Consortium will be out and about at many Spring festivals and events. So will our many partners, including the Gills Creek Watershed Association, Rocky Branch Watershed Alliance, Congaree Riverkeeper, Richland County Conservation Department, Richland County Stormwater Division, and others. We will be showcasing the watershed model, Carolina Yards program, volunteer opportunities, and more. Look for us and our partners at:

- Rooftop Rhythms, April 18th at Richland Mall in Forest Acres
- Party for the Planet, April 20th at Riverbanks Zoo
- Big Nosh Festival, April 21st at Tree of Life
- Earth Sunday at Forest Lake Presbyterian Church, April 21st
- Sparkleberry Fair, April 27th at Clemson Sandhill REC
- Black Expo, May 18th at the Colonial Life Arena
- Arcadia Lakes Town Picnic, May 19th at Tree of Life

Right: Kids learn about sources of water pollution (right) at the Gills Creek Watershed Association booth (left) at the 2012 Big Nosh festival in Forest Acres.

Recent Activities:
Water Bug Fun

Ninety-five enthusiastic students at Bridge Creek Elementary got to be scientists for a day as they conducted biological tests for pollution in pond water by sampling for macroinvertebrates. In other words, they got to play with water bugs! The kids learned that certain water species indicate whether water is clean, and what adaptations these species have to help them survive. Hands on experiences build science skills and encourage stewardship of the environment, as well as being lots of fun, of course!

Upcoming Activities:

Richland Countywide Stormwater Consortium Meeting

April 8, 2013
10:00 AM - 12:00 PM
Arcadia Lakes Town Hall

Please join us to plan stormwater education, outreach, and public involvement programs for Richland County. All meetings are open to the public. If water quality is important to you, we welcome your participation and input.

River Rocks

April 13, 2013
Noon – 8:00 PM
Riverfront Park, Columbia

Support the Congaree Riverkeeper at their annual River Rocks Fundraiser! There will be fun for the whole family with five great bands, canoeing, kayaking, and stand up paddleboarding, kids’ activities, a demonstration from Birds of Prey, and more. Tickets are only $12 online. Go to http://www.riverrocksfestival.com for a full schedule and to purchase tickets.

Build Your Own Rain Barrel Workshop

April 16, 2013
4:00 - 7:00 PM
Clemson Sandhill REC

*** We still have space available!!***

Start saving up your rainy days with your very own rain barrel! At the rain barrel workshop on April 16 you can make a barrel to take home. Rain barrels collect water from your roof, which can then be used to water your flower beds, wash your car, and many other outdoor uses. Follow this link for a registration form and additional details.
Wine for Water

April 25, 2013
6:00 – 8:30 PM
Senate’s End, 316 Senate Street

Enjoy wine and hors d’oeuvres as you learn about the vision of the Gills Creek Watershed Association. Wine for Water is the GCWA’s annual wine tasting fundraiser, and a great way to support local streams and lakes. Tickets are $25 for members and $30 for non-members. Go to www.gillscreekwatershed.org/wine_for_water_2013 for more information.

Help to raise awareness to ways each of us can protect our local watersheds and quality of life in our communities by sharing this newsletter with others!

You received this newsletter because you have participated in an RCSC event or expressed interest in our programming. If you would no longer like to receive our newsletter, please email mnevins@clemson.edu and ask to be removed from the mailing list. Thank you!