



WATERSHED MOMENTS

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**Be Wise When
You Fertilize**

Wait, don't fertilize yet! Spring lawns should not be fertilized until the grass turns green, showing that it is growing and ready for fertilizer. Adding fertilizer too early can pollute streams. For more springtime tips, go to www.clemson.edu/cy.

Upcoming Events

Backyard Landscaping Series

Thursdays in March, 2014

6:00 - 7:00 PM

*Richland County Public Library,
Cooper Branch*

Pesticide, Herbicide & Fertilizer Conference

March 11, 2014

8:30 AM - 1:00 PM

Midlands Tech Northeast

Newsorthy:

Carolina Yards Plant Database

Do you wonder what plants will work best for your yard? The Carolina Yards program is pleased to introduce a brand new Plant Database. This searchable database provides a selection of 300 South Carolina approved plants, chosen with the principles of environmental landscape design in mind. The plant list can be sorted by region, plant type, requirements for soil, sun and water, native plants, and other criteria. You can find the database at www.clemson.edu/cy/plants.



Recent Activities:

Stop & Go Green - Green Congregations Drop-In

Congregations are going green throughout the Midlands! At the Green Congregations drop-in event on January 30, representatives from local places of worship learned about resources available to them for everything from recycling to stormwater to energy efficiency. Several congregations with active green teams also set up tables to showcase what they are doing and inspire others to make a difference.

Rain Barrel and Compost Bin Pre-Order Sale

March 22, 2014
9:00 AM-1:00 PM
Gamecock Bi-Lo, Devine St.

River Rocks

April 12, 2014
Riverfront Park
Save the date!

Ongoing Projects

Partners for Healthy Watersheds Business Recognition Program

Find out how your business can participate at

www.clemson.edu/carolinaclear/rcsc.

Carolina Yards and Neighborhoods

Learn how create attractive and healthy lawns by working with South Carolina's environment rather than against it. Go to www.clemson.edu/cyn for more information.

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Like us on Facebook to keep up with events and local stormwater news!

<http://www.facebook.com/midlandsstormwater>



Project Learning Tree Workshop

On February 8th, Benedict College students and Richland County teachers attended a Project Learning Tree workshop to learn fun ways to bring environmental education to their classrooms. PLT is a curriculum for K-8 educators that teaches a wide variety of environmental topics, incorporating science, math, reading, art and other subjects. The participants modeled activities from the curriculum, such as looking for diversity in the schoolyard, acting out the parts of a tree, and traveling through the water cycle. Everyone had a blast and took home a new appreciation for outdoor learning as well as useful curriculum materials for their careers. This workshop was hosted by the Richland Soil and Water Conservation District and Benedict College.



Benedict College students learn to integrate environmental education activities in the classroom.

Upcoming Activities:

Richland Backyard Landscaping series

Thursdays in March, 2014

6:00 - 7:00 PM

Richland County Public Library, Cooper Branch

5317 North Trenholm Road, Columbia, SC 29206

Based on the Carolina Yards program, this FREE annual speaker series is designed to assist homeowners in achieving their desired landscape while saving time and money and protecting South Carolina's natural resources. This year's topics are:

- **March 6: Understanding Soil and Fertilizer** (Jackie Jordan, Horticulture Agent with Clemson Extension, Richland County)
- **March 13: Composting** (Chanda Cooper, Education Program Coordinator with the Richland County Conservation Department)
- **March 20: Landscaping Your Waterfront** (Ben Powell, Forestry & Natural Resource Agent with Clemson Extension, Horry County)
- **March 27: Gardening with Native Plants** (Betsy Kaemmerlen, Senior Landscape Architect with Fuss & O'Neill)

Registration is not required, so grab a friend and learn to work with nature instead of against it for a yard that is green, beautiful, and easy to care for.



The Clemson University Cooperative Extension Service offers its programs to people of all ages regardless of race, color, sex, religion, national origin, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, marital or family status and is an equal opportunity employer. Should you require accommodations due to a disability, please notify our office ten days prior to the event.

Pesticide, Herbicide & Fertilizer Conference

Tuesday March 11, 2014

8:30 AM - 1:00 PM

**Midlands Technical College, Northeast Campus
151 Powell Rd., Columbia, SC 29203**

Lawn care specialists and pesticide applicators can receive training on safely storing, handling and applying pesticides, herbicides and fertilizers at this FREE conference taught by the Clemson Department of Pesticide Regulation and Richland County Stormwater. Participants will receive three Continuing Certification Hours towards their pesticide applicator license. Contact Bree Tribble at 803-576-3599 to register.

Rain Barrel and Compost Bin Pre-Order Sale

Order: Now through March 12th at Midnight

Pick Up: March 22nd, 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM at Gamecock Bi-Lo, Devine St.

Keep the Midlands Beautiful, Richland County, City of Columbia and Carolina Clear are partnering to host a rain barrel and compost bin pre-order sale, going on now! The deadline to place orders has been extended until **March 12th at midnight**. Go to <http://enviroworld.ca/midlands> to order your barrels and bins today. Rain barrels are \$60 and compost bins are \$50. All orders must be picked up between 9:00 AM and 1:00 PM on March 22nd at the Gamecock Bi-Lo on Devine Street. Master Gardeners will be on site to give tips on composting and rain water harvesting. For questions, contact Keep the Midlands Beautiful at (803) 733-1139. Look for us on **WIS TV at 4:00 on Wednesday March 5th** for a sneak preview of these products!



River Rocks

April 12, 2014

Riverfront Park, Columbia

Save the Date! Congaree Riverkeeper presents River Rocks, a music festival and fundraiser to protect the Congaree, Saluda and Broad Rivers. The 2014 lineup will include Keller Williams, The Ben Miller Band, Sirius.B, Stagbriar, and The Post-Timey String Band. This event also includes paddling on the Columbia Canal, environmental education, family friendly activities, food and beverages. Visit <http://www.riverrocksfestival.com/> for details.

Help to raise awareness of 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@clemsun.edu and ask to be removed from the mailing list. Thank you!