

# **Richland Countywide Stormwater Consortium**

## **Meeting Agenda & Minutes**

Wednesday, March 10, 2010  
10 AM – 11:30 AM  
Arcadia Lakes Town Hall  
6911 N. Trenholm Rd., Suite 2

*Type of Meeting:* Continuing Development of Stormwater Education Plan and Decision-Making for the Richland Countywide Stormwater Education Consortium

*Meeting Facilitators:* Mary Nevins, Clemson Carolina Clear and Keith Anthony, Richland County DPW

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10:00-10:10	Welcome & Meeting Purpose Introductions	Mary Nevins
10:10-10:30	Outreach Activity Updates	All present
10:30-11:00	Overview of the Crane Creek Watershed Association: Strategic Plan and Watershed Management Plan	Srinivas Valavala
11:00-11:15	Report from the Water Festival Committee	Mary Nevins & Keith Anthony
11:15-11:20	Educational Materials Round-up	All present
11:20 – 11:30	Next Steps	Mary Nevins

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## ***Notes from the Meeting:***

### Attendance:

Mary Nevins	Carolina Clear
Keith Anthony	Richland County Stormwater
Shaun Greenwood	Forest Acres
Mark Williams	Forest Acres
Pam Greenlaw	Gills Creek Watershed Association
Christine Murphy	Arcadia Lakes
Jennifer Dowden	Richland County Public Information

### Minutes:

The meeting began with a summary of recent education activities. Mary Nevins recently attended the Land Grant/Sea Grant National Water Conference in Hilton Head. There were two ideas from the conference that might be worth implementing in the next years education plan. One was a rain garden certification course for landscaping companies. Pam Greenlaw suggested we offer similar programs for homeowners. The second idea was a volunteer water quality monitoring program. Gills Creek Watershed Association is also thinking about starting such a program, so Mary will work with GCWA to develop this. Both ideas will be discussed further when we develop the education plan for next year.

Next we reviewed upcoming events.

- Rain Barrel Workshop for Green Steps Teachers – State Museum, March 27
- Presentation for 8<sup>th</sup> graders at Dent Middle School (Jessica Artz & Mary Nevins) – March 29
- Construction Conference – March 30
- Presentation for 5<sup>th</sup> graders at Killian Road Elementary (Mary Nevins) – April 1
- Lawnmower Exchange – April 10
- Earth Day Events at the State House (Keith Anthony) – April 22
- Sparkleberry Country Fair (Mary Nevins & Pamela Greenlaw) – April 24
- Nature Fest, Congaree Park (Jessica Artz) – April 24
- Rooftop Rhythms Festival – Forest Acres, April 29
- Richland County Neighborhood Planning Conference – May 1 (tentative date)
- Rain Barrel Workshop – Richland County Public Works, May 15 (tentative date)
- Black Expo (Keith Anthony) – May 22. Gills Creek is also interested in attendance, and Keith will share information about this event with Pam.
- Forest Acres Festivals (Mary Nevins) – May 22
- Pesticides/Herbicides/Fertilizer Conference – May 25 (tentative date)

Mary Nevins gave an overview of the recent Crane Creek Watershed Association meetings.

- A stake holder meeting was held on March 4<sup>th</sup>. Kelly Collins with Center for Watershed Protection and Srinivas Valavala gave summarized the recently completed CCWA strategic plan and Crane Creek watershed management plan. The Center for Watershed Protection developed the management plan, doing the following:
  - Created detailed maps of watershed, divided watershed into smaller subwatersheds.
  - Conducted a survey of the watershed, including neighborhoods, pollution hot spots, sensitive areas for conservation.
  - Developed Goals, Objectives, and Strategies.

- Made recommendations for reducing pollution, which included a strengthening the erosion and sediment control program, setting aside land for conservation, initiating education programs, and installing stormwater management retrofits.
- Developed a budget for implementing these recommendations.
- A public meeting was held on the evening of March 4<sup>th</sup>.
  - Approximately 25 people were in attendance
  - The event was covered by WACH Fox news.
  - Participants expressed concern about the quality of the water.
  - Participants divided into the following committees to begin work on the following areas for the Crane Creek Watershed Association: Management Structure, Volunteer Groups, Outreach and Education, Budget & Fund Raising.
- Jennifer Dowden added that Councilwoman Kennedy, whose district includes Crane Creek, is planning a drop-in session for businesses & Community leaders in her district, although a date has not been set. She is concerned with environmental issues, and this will be a good opportunity to give information to the public on the Watershed Association.

We discussed the latest plans for the summer water festival.

- The meeting focused on developing on a budget. Most needed items and services are already available from either the City of Columbia or Richland County.
- Relatively few expenses remain. These include tent rentals, fist fan/tent rental, bottled water, T-shirts for festival staff (~40), advertising and promotional items, signage, banners, and live entertainment. If anyone has contacts for getting any of these items donated or discounted, they should let Mary or Keith know.
- We were advised by L.C. Goins with Riverfront Park that we should avoid giving away free food, or at least avoid advertising free food. This may draw people who are not interested in the event.
- We began planning the layout for activities at the festival. These are as follows:
  - BMP area, which include rain garden information, vendors invited by Srinivas Valavala, and nursery and landscaping business.
  - Wet Sandals area, which will include macroinvertebrates surveys, fishing clinics and guided walks that teach guests about fall line geology, riparian habitats, native and exotic species, etc.
  - Info area, for booths from non-profits and water quality and environmental organizations.
  - Children's play area, with games and activities. Keep the Midlands Beautiful and Sonoco can do recycling activities here. Mary will come up with other games if volunteers can be found to lead them. Gills Creek would like to be in this area to demonstrate the Enviroscape or some other activity.
  - Families and Adults, tubing and kayak/canoe demos on the Columbia Canal.
- Next Steps:
  - Send invitations to exhibitors and send application forms to vendors.
  - Design logo for the festival- Victoria Kramer will modify one used by city in past
  - Pick a title: *Summer Celebration of Water* has been proposed. The group likes it all right but would prefer something more catchy. Shaun Greenwood suggested *Stream Dream 2010*.
- Next festival committee meeting: March 25, 1:00-2:00 pm at Riverfront Park. We will meet in main parking lot, Laurel Street entrance. We will determine the festival layout. All are welcome to participate.

The last item discussed was a suggestion by Shaun Greenwood that we hold an art contest for schools in which students would decorate rain barrels. Everyone liked the idea, but it was felt that it would be too late to arrange it for this year. We will add it to the education plan for the upcoming year.