

Richland Countywide Stormwater Consortium

Meeting Agenda

Wednesday, April 11, 2012
10AM – 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 Consortium

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

10:00-10:10	Welcome & Meeting Purpose	Mary Nevins
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10:10-10:20	Outreach Activity Updates	Mary Nevins
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10:20-10:30	2012-2013 Education Plan of Work Discussion	All present
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10:30-11:25	3-Year Strategic Plan Discussion	All present
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11:25 – 11:30	Wrap-Up	Mary Nevins
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Attendance:

Mary Caflisch	Carolina Clear
Katie Giacalone	Carolina Clear
Jake Broom	Forest Acres
Christine Murphy	Arcadia Lakes
Chuck Downs	Southeastern Concrete Products
Keith Anthony	Richland County
Srinivas Valavala	Richland County
Tim Nafziger	Carolina Children's Garden
Gregory Sprouse	Central Midlands Council of Governments
Pamela Greenlaw	Gills Creek Watershed Association
Jessica Artz	Gills Creek Watershed Association
O. Alicia de Myhrer	Gills Creek Watershed Association
Bill Stangler	Congaree Riverkeeper

Minutes:

Recent activities.

- Food Truck Rodeo to Benefit Gills Creek Watershed – Jan. 14, Crosshill Market
- GCWA Adopt-a-Highway – Jan. 21, South Beltline Blvd.
- Keep the Midlands Beautiful Meet & Greet – Jan. 26
- Enviroscope presentations for schools
 - Catawba Trail Elementary: Tuesdays Jan. 31 - March 6
 - Bridge Creek Science Day: March 30
- Richland County submitted its annual stormwater report to SCDHEC on March 10, 2012, including the RCSC education report. Overall, the county saw water quality improvement trends, although it will take additional years of monitoring to confirm those as statistically significant. Identified top 5 pollutants for each monitoring site. Mary asked if there have been changes in what the top 5 are. Priorities have changed, Keith will get that information to Mary.
- Gills Creek Watershed Association Urban Paddle & Picnic – March 25
- Carolina Yards & Neighborhoods presentations
 - Shandon Baptist Church, March 15
 - Forest Green Neighborhood, March 26
- Srinivas presented to DHEC on Richland County programs at monthly task force meeting – water quality monitoring updates, water quality improvement updates, 80 staff attended including Bureau Chiefs
 - Applied for permit, waiting on approval
- GCWA just created a guide for homeowner water quality monitoring – what to sample for, why to sample, where to purchase supplies online – purposed for education.
- Statewide Carolina Clear update (Katie Giacalone):
 - Restaurant products finalized – these materials are available to restaurants to train employees on proper grease disposal to prevent sanitary sewer overflows
 - Mass media campaign doubled by grant award from Extension. Will again look to do a one-month campaign with Time Warner Cable, currently in negotiation.

Upcoming Activities

- River Rocks Festival – April 14, Riverfront Park

- Rooftop Rhythms – April 19 and May 1, Richland Mall
- Army National Guard Earth Week – April 20, Fort Jackson (GCWA attending?)
- Lawn Mower Exchange – April 21, State Museum
- Bible Way Community Clean Sweep – April 21, Atlas Road (Bible Way Church)
- Big Nosh Festival – April 22, Tree of Life Synagogue
- Earth Sunday – April 22, Forest Lake Presbyterian Church (GCWA)
- Little Jackson Creek Cleanup – April 22 (USC Net Impact)
- Sparkleberry Fair – April 28, Clemson Sandhills REC (GCWA, County Stormwater)
- Crawfish Festival – May 5, Rosewood (GCWA)
- Bayview Neighborhood Carolina Yards Program - May 8 & 15 (GCWA)
- Blythefest - May 18-19 – DPW and Solid Waste will be there.
- Arcadia Lakes Picnic – May 20 (GCWA)
- Public Works Week – May 20-26 is National Public Works Week, Kids Day at Public Works will be May 22 – 80 kids confirmed. Total will be close to 150, though trying to keep number manageable.
- Mary will be presenting at the NIFA National Water Conference in Portland, OR on Summer Celebration of Water, May 20-24.
- Membership Drive for GCWA from Apr 1 – July 10th – 100 new members in 100 days. Will have membership appreciation party at Lake Carolina. Looking for members to encourage new members – will be tracking and awarding prizes to whoever recruits the most new members.
- Water Words that Work workshop is set for 6/20
- 4-H2O Exploring Lake Murray – June 11-15, SCE&G Recreation Area on Lake Murray
- 4-H2O Exploring the Congaree Watershed – June 25-29, Harbison State Forest
- Summer Celebration of Water – Aug 25th at Riverfront Park

Ongoing Initiatives

- iPhone Ranger program through GCWA
- Business Recognition Program launched – looking to get on County Council calendar
- Educational Materials Survey to Sewer Providers in partnership with COG
- Distributing pet waste brochures to pet supply shops and groomers as well as vet offices.
- Television PSAs to run on local Richland TV station are currently in development. Mary has also produced 5 topic slides for local channel.
- Srini has been involved with Rocky Branch Watershed Alliance, which is a fairly new partnership, headed by Ryan Nevius and Sustainable Midlands.
- Keith mentioned a new program design called Kids Protecting Watersheds – educating kids on how to spot things in their neighborhoods and who to contact regarding illegal stormwater activity (after talking with their parents).

Annual Stormwater Education Report and Plan of Work

- Srini looking to re-align report timelines with DHEC so that clock starts with new permit, which will hopefully match calendar or fiscal year
- Right now though, operate under same schedule until further notice, meaning the reporting year runs from June 11 2011-June 10, 2012.
- Mary needs data from the previous by June 30th plugged into online activity reporting form or sent to her if partners need assistance.

3-Year Plan Discussion

This discussion was based on the results of a survey sent out to the consortium prior to the meeting. 10 responses to the survey were received, and the results were used to create a chart of priorities set to a timeline of action. This timeline was also distributed prior to the meeting. Results of the survey showed a lot of variation in opinion of what should be a priority and in which order tasks should be focused on.

- This 3-year plan, unless further word from DHEC, will start in July 2012
- Partners in room agreed with 5 priorities identified through survey and outlined by Mary.
- 1st priority – educate Council: development roundtable needs more emphasis; presentations to county council needs more emphasis. However, Srini has done many presentations to Council, so the questions are relative to the timeframe in survey.
 - Goal is to educate the council, but not only be able to do this when it becomes politically heightened.
 - Question as to targeted issues to each councilmember based on their region's needs.
 - Srini suggested forming subcommittee towards these ends. We define several methods, passed by Administration, implemented and evaluated.
 - Motioned to conduct research up front by subcommittee, establish relationships with particular council members; groups will continue to educate citizens.
 - Council has a retreat in January, Srini has attended and presented in the past
- 2nd priority – awareness: less emphasis on pet waste, school visits, Festivals; more emphasis on Carolina Yards, cleanups.
- 3rd priority – LID: need more emphasis on rain garden/barrel displays at festivals and workshops for homeowners; needs LOT more emphasis on rain gardens installed at schools and festivals.
 - On LID, roundtable took Green Code to planning commission just last week.
 - LID education for public needs to be stated as a focus in homeowner outreach such as CYN programs
- 4th priority – bacteria: continue pet waste campaign and more emphasis on stormwater reporting hotline.
 - Direct way is the Ombudsman's office 929-6000 will make sure the report is recorded and moved to right person versus an unanswered call on hotline.
- 5th priority – sediment and construction sites:
- Srini wants to ensure that bottom line for each priority is improved water quality through these efforts, especially towards achieving water quality – need to keep this in mind during outreach.
- Goals 1 and 2 switched, Mary moved table around during meeting based on feedback
- The plan needs to be amended to better reflect past and current efforts as separate from new initiatives.
 - Recommended that changes in this table include “continued.”
 - Some items need to be removed from the table because they are already ongoing.
 - Discussion revealed that there is a disconnect between what is already ongoing and what of that is working or could use more focus.

From the discussion, the plan clearly needs a lot of work. Mary will revise it and send a new version to the Consortium.

- Motioned that we meet next month on May 9th at 10 am to review a re-proposed strategic plan.
 - Will review new plan
 - Will review objectives and timing
 - Will wait until fall for subcommittee establishments
 - The dialogue of how this plan will be finalized, delivered, etc. is a separate conversation.