

Richland Countywide Stormwater Consortium

Meeting Agenda

Wednesday, July 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 Caflisch, Clemson Carolina Clear & Keith Anthony, Richland County DPW

10:00-10:10	Welcome & Meeting Purpose	Mary Caflisch
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10:10-10:15	Introduction of new Richland County Stormwater Manager, and program overview	Quinton Epps
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10:15-10:25	Outreach Activity Updates	Mary Caflisch
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10:25-10:40	Explanation of Annual Reporting Process	Mary Caflisch
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10:40-11:25	2012-2013 Education Plan of Work and 3-Year Strategic Plan Discussion	All present
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11:25 – 11:30	Wrap-Up	Mary Caflisch
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Attendance:

Mary Caflisch	Carolina Clear
Katie Giacalone	Carolina Clear
Quinton Epps	Richland County Stormwater
Keith Anthony	Richland County Stormwater
Jake Broom	Forest Acres
Christine Murphy	Arcadia Lakes
Gregory Sprouse	Central Midlands Council of Governments
Hannah Fox	Gills Creek Watershed Association
Bill Stangler	Congaree Riverkeeper
Mel Jenkins	Environmentalists, Inc.

Minutes:

Introductions

Richland County's new Stormwater Manager, Quinton Epps, introduced himself and provided some background on his career. Mr. Epps is a Clemson graduate with a Master's degree from USC. He worked with the Peace Corp in Africa and with the World Wildlife Fund. After that he worked at SCDHEC for 15 years in the navigable waters and wetlands section, dealing with 401 water quality standards. Following his years at DHEC, Mr. Epps worked as a consultant for Mulkey engineers, and was involved with wetlands, mitigation banking, and stream restoration. Most recently he has served as the Flood Coordinator for Richland County. He is still in transition to his new position. RCSC is very glad to have Quinton Epps working with us.

Recent Activities

- River Rocks Festival – April 14, Riverfront Park, 700 participants
- Richland 101 Stormwater Program overview – April 16, Richland County Administration Building
- Rooftop Rhythms – April 19 and May 1, Richland Mall
- 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)
- Rocky Branch Cleanup – April 22, Maxcy Greg Park (Congaree Riverkeeper)
- 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)
- Public Works Week Proclamation – May 15, Richland County Administration Building, including booths displaying the various departments of public works.
- Interviews on Richland Radio program, WGCV AM 620 – Keith Anthony on May 18, and Mary Caflisch on June 22
- Blythefest - May 18-19
- Arcadia Lakes Picnic – May 20 (GCWA)
- National Public Works Week Kids Day – May 22, 150 kids participated. Video clip on Richland County's YouTube channel.
- 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
- Water Words that Work workshop – June 20. WWTW is a marketing company that trains and tests materials on utilizing language and pictures that captivate and include a larger audience in your environmental messaging. The group briefly discussed their test panel feedback and social science questions.

Upcoming Activities

- GCWA Membership Celebration – July 22, Lake House at Lake Carolina
- Richland 101 for Kids – July 26, Dutch Square Mall
- Summer Celebration of Water – Aug 25th at Riverfront Park
 - The advertising package is being negotiated, and we are expecting to spend \$3500 on media buys. Other possibilities for advertising are SC Now and Palmetto People magazine.
 - Justin Martin is filming a commercial for the festival – should be done by Aug. 3
 - Mary is in charge of all exhibitors; booth expected to be educational and fitting for families. New attendee will receive information from Mary on booth space, through an online form.
- Clemson and USC rain barrel competition and auction
 - Joint effort with Lexington County and City of Columbia – Schools will be given pre-assembled rain barrels for 6th-12th grade students to decorate.
 - The barrels will be displayed at malls and schools.
 - The barrels will be auctioned off in an online auction October 22nd thru November 9th, the week of the Carolina-Clemson football game. The proceeds will be given to Adopt-A-Waterway.

Ongoing Projects

- Keith Anthony is developing a youth program titled Kids Protecting Watersheds
- Riverkeeper looking to expand work with FOGs and apartment complexes – they've designed materials in English and Spanish
- Greg Sprouse distributed the sewer survey to Richland County sewer providers. He will be following up, and Mary will speak to the COG Environmental Committee regarding the survey once more results are in. The purpose of this survey is to assess how the consortium can assist sewer providers in educating their customers on reporting and preventing sanitary sewer overflows.
- Richland County will be doing storm drain marking projects with apartment complexes.
- The Midlands Council of Governments is doing watershed planning on a regional level.
- Sediment is filling back into Cary Lake, where it was dredged last year; residents are concerned.

Carolina Clear Statewide Announcements

- Kayak fleet arriving at Sandhills today! 14 boats in all, 10 tandem and 4 leader/single kayaks on customized trailer for use for youth and adult education on the water. These may be used by our partners for cleanups, training, tours etc. Carolina Clear will release guideline on usage, safety, adult to youth ratios, etc.

Annual Report

- Richland County's Annual Stormwater Report is due to SCDHEC on Sept. 10.

- Reporting Year: June 11th-June 10th. The county is using same deadlines and schedule as last year, although when it receives its new MS4 permit from SCDHEC, those dates will change. Trying to discuss getting permit on calendar year.
- July 13th should have been the deadline for putting in information, however Mary did not receive this notification. Mary needs to get on the email list from Bree, who has been sending emails on schedule and report deliverables. URS (formerly BP Barber) is handling final report assembly.
- RCSC is gathering data for the education portion of the report.
- If you have not submitted all your organization's activity data, please do so as soon as possible.
- Data can be submitted by logging on to the activity database from www.clemson.edu/carolinaclear, or it may be emailed directly to Mary.
- Mary and Katie Giacalone described log in process for those not familiar with it.
- Katie Giacalone, Mary Caflisch, Quinton Epps and Keith Anthony need to examine common reporting fields and consolidate/reduce redundancy for external county reporting towards stormwater permit. The partners agreed that it would be beneficial to be able to submit all of their activities one time to a single database.

Strategic Plan Update

- Mary is working on draft and provided outline for review. The final strategic plan document will contain the following sections:
 - Introduction
 - Background
 - NPDES MS4 Permit Explanation
 - Consortium History
 - List of Partners
 - Mission and Goals
 - Process for creating plan
 - Surveys: external and internal
 - Priority pollutants and audiences
 - Existing core programs
 - 3-year strategy
 - Conclusion
- Will look to distribute a complete draft in one month, approximately.
- Keith commented on table that acronyms need a key.
- Bill asked about why just Olympia neighborhood in Rocky Branch support? Olympia neighborhood is in the County, while the rest of the watershed is in City. RCSC will support the alliance overall, but will look for specific outreach to that neighborhood.
- Greg has contacted all Richland County sewer providers personally regarding outreach distribution. Will be meeting with Richland County Utilities and will try to get all to respond so that we can target what utilities can deliver education. Will urge them to complete survey.
- Following this discussion, the group approved the 3-year strategy spreadsheet as presented with the changes mentioned.

Education Plan: Key Initiatives

- General Public: Crane Creek Watershed Initiative: new attendee recommended that stakeholder committee attendees be contacted for next steps because citizens are concerned that they are now being left out after initial involvement. Initially, USC was lead, now this will be taken on by county.

- Greg asked if RC will be putting together a list of all projects that have occurred that affect the residents of 67 square mile watershed. Keith will put together a list of projects, several drainage changes included. The county has also done some monitoring, implementing action strategies laid out in the watershed plan.
- Contractors and Developers: promote examples of LID existing in Midlands; produce and distribute guidance materials on implementing LID practices.
- County Council: presentation on LID; Keith Anthony suggested sitting down with Stephany Snowden to discuss scheduling and topics
- Quinton Epps stated that in the county, there are a lot of issues with easements. Citizens think that the county should come and clean out ditches on private property when county does not have maintenance easements on all ditches. Quinton would like to see public services incorporated in more of our outreach efforts so that residents know who and what to call for. Discussed the need for citizens to better understand what they pay for.
 - Katie recommended a business card, but needs more detail. A poster or brochure of services provided could be developed.
 - There could be a Stormwater class included in the Richland 101 program for community leaders (adults).
 - This information should be incorporated into GCWA's iPhone Ranger training sessions.
 - An easement map could be developed for the county's website, and eventually included as a GIS layer, possibly.
- Mary will add the new items discussed to the education plan and send out the final draft.

The meeting concluded.