



TAKE ACTION E-NEWS

Be part of the solution!

DECEMBER 16, 2013

VOLUME 1, NUMBER 9



When you rake leaves this month, be sure to keep them away from storm drains, which can easily become clogged, leading to flooding. Place leaves in bags or reusable containers, or pile them on the lawn, not in the street.

Upcoming Events

Sumter Stormwater Solutions Meeting

January, 2014

Date TBA

North Hope Center

This meeting is open to the public. – Please join us!

Rain Barrel Art Contest

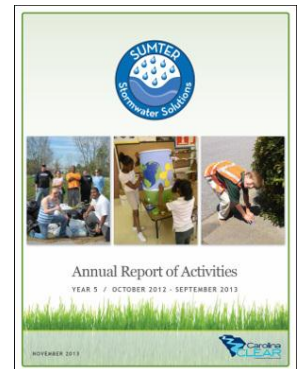
January-April 2014

Sumter schools can call now to request your barrel.

Newsorthy:

Year 5 Annual Activities Report Completed

The Sumter Stormwater Solutions Annual Report of Activities for 2012-2013 is complete and published. Year 5 was a busy and fulfilling year. Highlights include magazine and newspaper columns, pet waste stations installed, and a rain barrel art contest for schools. SSS would like to thank all of its hardworking partners and volunteers for making the programs in this report possible. The report can be viewed at www.clemson.edu/carolinaclear/scsc. Printed copies are available on request.



Recent Activities:

Rain Garden and Shoreline Planting

On December 5th, fifteen volunteers met at Patriot Park to tidy up the rain garden for winter and plant some shrubs along the shoreline of the pond. Three Virginia sweetspire bushes and twelve buttonbushes were planted by the pond and in the rain garden. The roots of these plants will help stabilize the soil and prevent erosion at the water's edge. In addition, three buttonbushes and twelve Virginia sweetspires were planted in the rain garden. These will add color and variety to the garden.



Left: Volunteers from St. Francis Xavier High School and Sumter Master Gardeners plant shrubs by the pond. Right: The red leaves of Virginia sweetspire add fall color to the rain garden.

Ongoing Projects

Carolina Yards and Neighborhoods

Learn how to 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.

Contact Us:

Mary Cafilisch

mnevins@clermson.edu
803-865-1216 ext. 122
Clemson Extension
P.O. Box 102406
Columbia SC 29224

Jolie Brown

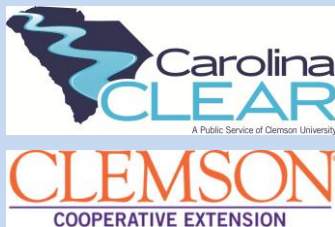
Jolie2@clermson.edu
803-773-5561
115 N. Harvin St., 5th Floor
Sumter, SC 29150

[www.clemson.edu/
carolinaclear/scsc](http://www.clemson.edu/carolinaclear/scsc)



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

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



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.

Upcoming Activities:

Sumter Stormwater Solutions Meeting

January, 2014

Date To Be Announced

Sumter North Hope Center

Do you care about Sumter's rivers and lakes? Do you want to help others learn how to keep our water clean? Then join us for a meeting of Sumter Stormwater Solutions to plan education, outreach and public involvement activities for the upcoming year. October is when we develop the Annual Education Plan of Work. All SSS meetings are open to the public, and we would love to have your input.

2014 Rain Barrel Art Contest

January-April, 2014

Sumter schools can call now to enter the 2nd annual Rain Barrel Art Contest. Participating schools will receive a rain barrel to decorate with an "Earth Day" theme. The decorated barrels will be judged at the Sumter Earth Day Festival on April 12th, 2014. The winning classes will enjoy pizza parties. The contest is open to all public and private elementary, middle, and high schools in Sumter County. After the festival, the rain barrels can be installed on school grounds or at a public location such as a church or library, or donated back to SSS for a silent auction at the festival. If you have any questions or would like to participate, please call Mary Cafilisch at 803-865-1216 or Jolie Brown at 803-773-5561.

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 SSS event or expressed interest in our programming. If you would no longer like to receive our newsletter, please email mnevins@clermson.edu and ask to be removed from the mailing list. Thank you!