



TAKE ACTION E-NEWS

Be part of the solution!

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Summer is the perfect time to enjoy local streams, rivers and lakes. Whether you are kayaking, fishing, swimming, partying on the pontoon boat, or just relaxing by the water, tell us how you are enjoying the water this summer on our Facebook page: <http://www.facebook.com/midlandsstormwater>

Upcoming Events

Rain Barrel Workshop

*August 15, 2013
4:00-7:00 PM*

Sumter County Public Works Training Center

Sumter Stormwater Solutions Meeting

*July, 2013
Date TBA*

North Hope Center

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

Newsworthy:

New Rain Garden Sign at Patriot Park

Next time you visit Patriot Park, stop by the rain garden to see the new educational sign, installed on May 23. The sign gives information on rain gardens, including plants that grow well in them. More signage is planned for the future to inform visitors about the other innovative stormwater features at Patriot Park, including the floating island and constructed wetland. All three features help filter pollution from parking lot runoff before the water makes its way to nearby streams.



Representatives from Sumter County Public Works, Sumter City-County Planning, and Sumter Master Gardeners gathered at Patriot Park to dedicate the new rain garden sign.

Recent Activities:

Carolina Yards Challenge

Visitors to the Gateway to Gardening exhibit at the Sumter Iris Festival on

Ongoing Projects

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>



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.

Saturday May 25th had a chance to find out how environmentally friendly their yards were. The Carolina Yards Challenge consisted of a questionnaire featuring actions from the Carolina Yardstick Workbook. This book details steps that homeowners can take to make their yards better for the environment and easier to care for at the same time. Of the 38 people who took the challenge, 33 found out that their yard “measured up” or had enough points to qualify as a Carolina Yard already. To learn more about the Carolina Yards program or to certify your yard, go to www.clemson.edu/cyn.



Carolina Yards Challenge participants scored their yards and learned easy yard care practices that benefit the environment.

Cleanup with Kayaks at Shot Pouch Creek

Sumter Stormwater Solutions had a record turnout for the June 8th cleanup at Shot Pouch Creeks. Maybe the kayaks had something to do with it... 38 volunteers picked up trash along the banks and collected hard to reach debris from the stream channel using kayaks. Many of the volunteers came from Shaw Air Force Base. We are so thankful for people like these volunteers who care about the environment and their community! Our next cleanup will be International Beach Sweep / River Sweep day in September, so stay tuned for details.



Two young volunteers collect trash and practice their kayak skills at Shot Pouch Creek.

Upcoming Activities:

Rain Barrel Workshop

August 15, 2013

4:00 - 7:00 PM

Sumter County Public Works Training Center

Sumter Stormwater Solutions will be partnering with the City of Sumter and Sumter County to host a rain barrel workshop, August 15th. There have been several requests and a lot of interest in having another workshop before the fall. Please join us at the Sumter County Public Works on 1289 N. Main Street to learn about the stormwater issues in Sumter, and to make your own rain barrel. This is a fun, hands on workshop! SSS will provide a rain barrel and the materials needed to make your own to take home after the workshop. We will give you all of the instructions and materials you need to then install the rain barrel. Please help us spread the word about this workshop. We are requiring a minimum of 10 participants. The deadline to register is August 8th. You can download the registration form at www.clemson.edu/carolinaclear/scsc. Please send the registration form and a check made out to Clemson University to the Sumter County Clemson Extension office.

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@clemson.edu and ask to be removed from the mailing list. Thank you!