



Sumter Stormwater Solutions

Meeting Agenda

Tuesday, July 23, 2013
 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM
 North Hope Center
 904 North Main St.
 Sumter, SC 29150

Purpose of Meeting: Continuing Development of Stormwater Education Plan and Decision-Making for Sumter Stormwater Solutions

Meeting Facilitators: Mary Caflisch & Jolie Brown, Clemson Carolina Clear

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| 10:00-10:05 | Welcome & Meeting Purpose | Mary Caflisch & Jolie Brown |
| 10:05-10:20 | Outreach Activity Updates | Mary Caflisch & Jolie Brown |
| 10:20-10:30 | Shoreline Management Workshop Update | Mary Caflisch |
| 10:30-10:50 | Stormwater Utility Credit Workshop Discussion | All Present |
| 10:50-11:10 | River Sweep Cleanup Discussion | All present |
| 11:10-11:25 | Litter Prevention Campaign | Deputy Horton |
| 11:25-11:55 | School Involvement Projects | Jolie Brown |
| 11:55- 12:00 | Wrap-Up | Mary Caflisch & Jolie Brown |



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Attendance:

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| Mary Caflisch | Carolina Clear |
| Jolie Brown | Carolina Clear |
| Rachel Schilling | Carolina Clear |
| Teige Elliot | City of Sumter |
| Alfred Conyers | Sumter County |
| John Merkel | Sumter County |
| Dan Geddings | Sumter County |
| Claudia Rainey | Sumter City-County Planning |
| Deputy J. L. Horton | Sumter County Sheriff Department |
| Geoff Smith | URS |

Minutes:

The meeting began with a review of recent and upcoming activities, as well as ongoing projects.

Recent Activities

- Career Fair at Crestwood High- April 17
- Sumter Earth Day Celebration- April 20, Swan Lake
- Earth Day at Cherryvale Elementary- April 22
- Earth Day at Oakland Elementary- April 22 (Conservation District)
- Jolie in the “Making It Grow” Chat Room- April 30 and July 9
- Two Articles written for *Lakeside Magazine*
- Carolina Yards Presentation for Master Gardeners- May 6, Extension Office
- Rain Garden Maintenance Day- May 7, Patriot Park
- Storm Drain Marking by Francis Xavier High School- May 15, Idlewild neighborhood
- Clean-Up at Manchester State Forest- May 18
- Rain Garden Dedication Day- May 23
- Iris Festival- May 25, Swan Lake
- Shot Pouch Creek Clean-Up- June 8
- Pizza Parties for Rain Barrel Art Contest Winners:
 - Lakewood Highschool- May 8
 - Francis Xavier High School- May 9
 - Kingsbury Elementary- May 28

Trainings Attended

- Horry County Bioretention Workshop- June 3-4 (attended by Jolie Brown)
- Rain Gardening Day- July 18, Darla More Farms (attended by Jolie Brown)

Upcoming Activities

- Rain Barrel Workshop- August 15, Sumter County Public Works
- River Sweep Clean-Up- September 21
- Shore-scaping Demonstration
- Stormwater Utility Credit Workshop

Activity Updates

Jolie Brown brought up the subject of the excellent training opportunities at More Farms in Horry County. The farm is very progressive and innovative in its integration of water management and organic farming. The trainings are monthly and cover a variety of subjects. Each program costs in the \$15-\$20 range and includes an extensive tour of the grounds afterwards. Call Rebecca at More Farms to sign up for a program.

Four new educational signs have been developed by Carolina Clear on the following topics: stormwater ponds, rain gardens, youth version rain gardens, and ditches. Jolie Brown brought examples of each sign in poster form for the group to approve. Jolie informed the consortium that she had gotten a sign quote from a local vendor and was having cleanup and information signs made. The group gave input and opinions to revise the cleanup signs to be easier to read for the general public. Deputy Horton also added that the post clean-up signs should include the litter hotline number, 911, and his personal number for people to call if they see litter being deposited. The group with the aid of deputy Horton also decided to change the color of the post clean up signs from yellow to white with blue font to avoid confusion with official city and county notice signs.

Deputy Horton discussed his efforts in litter prevention, stating that the only way to stop the deliberate dumping happening was to fine people for the crime. He said that if the make, model, and license plate number of the offending vehicle is supplied to 911 he will track the owner down and penalize the driver with a fine starting at \$470 which can only be lessened if the person appears at the required court date.

Shoreline Management Workshop

The shorescaping project for Patriot Park is still in the planning stages. Alfred Conyers discussed the calculated numbers his team ran for the site. The site is located on the larger pond just past the rain garden along the walking trail. The eroded section varies from 12 feet to 20 feet wide. The total length is 340 feet, but if we only do the section up to the bridge, that would be 300 feet in length. The 6800 square foot area originally planned by the group would cost around \$1500 for top soil and fertilizer alone. He brought up the point that the soil is too hard for volunteers to work by hand and will need to be tilled with professional equipment, possibly increasing the cost significantly. Mary and Jolie discussed getting the Soil and Water Conservation District involved to help out with the tilling. John Merkel also brought up the possibility of shortening the amount of shoreline to be managed because the terrain is much more conducive to alterations before the first ditch. This would still be about 2/3 of the originally planned area and cost but much easier to prep. Geoff Smith also brought up the possibility of getting a nursery or garden store to donate plants in exchange for signage at the site declaring the store's sponsorship. A date for the shorescaping was not established as Jolie wished to go to the next district meeting to ask for tilling and other aid.

Stormwater Utility Credit Workshop

Geoff Smith began the discussion by talking about the need to keep LID and the MS4 permits tied to the utility credit in order to maintain interest and relevance with the participants. Teige informed the group that a rate study had been performed and would be adopted in the fall, possibly in September. For this reason, Mary suggested they begin planning for the workshop to take place in September.

River Sweep Clean-up

Saturday September 21 is the South Carolina Beach Sweep River Sweep cleanup date, organized by SCDNR and Sea Grant. The group agreed that September 21st would be a good date for the Sumter river sweep. The group also discussed and concluded that the ditch along Berry Street between Flemming and Wilke streets would be a good location. The ditch contains a large amount of litter and is in a residential neighborhood with parking close by at a church. Jolie said she would go to the upcoming HOA VIP meetings to ascertain any support or information about the neighborhood surrounding the clean-up location. Jolie will also work on gathering information about starting a local adopt-a-waterway or adopt-a-stream program with sponsorship and present at the next meeting.

School Involvement Projects

Jolie began the discussion by bringing up the success of previous rain barrel projects and stating that getting to schools early in the semester was the key to keeping the schools involved. She added September 1st as the latest they should be informing the schools of the program. She also brought up the desire to create more incentives for the schools to be involved besides the pizza party for 1st place in the rain barrel art contest. She suggested adding installation help, an ongoing educational program, and a rain chain in case the school does not allow the gutters to be altered. Jolie also wanted to initiate a Water Quality Teacher of the Year award to give to the various teachers that prove to be so excited and helpful about water quality programs at their respective schools. The award would have a budget of \$50 per teacher and consist of a plaque, educational materials, and some other gift. Geoff Smith suggested doing an elementary, middle and high school award. Jolie will continue brainstorming to get the other details planned.

Turkey Creek

Geoff Smith presented his plans and data for Turkey Creek. He expressed his major concern for the creek at the moment as flooding with the water quality of the creek was not as big a problem as previously thought. His plan is to improve the upper land of the watershed to prevent the flooding occurring farther downstream in Turkey Creek proper and to avoid the problem of uncooperative railroad representatives. He also presented his plans for long range managing of the creek and welcomed any suggestion of monitoring equipment that the consortium may want to have installed at the site. The fecal coliform that was previously thought to be a problem is really only a problem at certain times (peak flush of a storm). Geoff Smith recommended that the consortium assist with education about the project, including signage and other programs to keep the public involved and informed.

With no further business, the meeting concluded at 12:00 pm.