



Sumter Stormwater Solutions

Meeting Agenda

Tuesday July 24, 2012
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 Facilitator: Mary Caflisch, Clemson Carolina Clear

10:00 – 10:10	Welcome & Meeting Purpose	Mary Caflisch
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10:10 – 10:15	Outreach Activity Updates	Mary Caflisch
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10:15 – 10:45	Public Involvement Activities Discussion: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• New Position: Public Involvement Coordinator• Beach Sweep / River Sweep Cleanup Planning	All present
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10:45 – 11:15	Sumter County Fair Activities and Outreach <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Grease Disposal• Water Pollution Exhibits	All present
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11:15 – 12:45	Public Survey Discussion	All present
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11:45 – 12:00	Wrap-up	Mary Nevins
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On Facebook? We are! www.facebook.com/midlandsstorwater

Meeting Minutes

Attendance:

Teige Elliot	City of Sumter
Dan Geddings	Sumter County
Josh Castleberry	Central Carolina Tech
Geoff Smith	URS
Mary Caflisch	Carolina Clear

Notes from the Meeting

Outreach Activity Updates

The meeting began with a review of recent activities:

- Stormwater Pond Maintenance workshop – May 3 Recreation & Parks Department Cultural Center. Hosted by Sumter County
- Envirothon – May 4, Columbia: Solutions members involved in development of questions and judging
- Storm Drain Marking – May 12, Broad St. and Wesmark area, with Crestwood High School students
- Sumter Iris Festival – May 26 & 27, Swan Lake
- Car Wash presentation for Girl Scouts – May 29

Upcoming activities are as follows:

- Rain barrel workshop – Sept. 4, Sumter County Training Center
- River Sweep Cleanup – Sept. 15
- Sumter County Fair - September 25-30
 - Grease disposal education to food vendors
 - Storm drain marking before fair, if possible
 - The Master Gardeners will include Carolina Yards & Neighborhoods information at their display, and we will have a separate stormwater display in the agriculture building.
- Presentation for Automotive classes at Central Carolina Tech. – dates to be determined
- Stormwater education for the Sumter Appeals Board – date to be determined
- Rain Garden maintenance days - Sumter County Public Works & Patriot Park
 - Will invite Master Gardeners and Backyard Landscaping participants

Ongoing projects:

- Developing materials for businesses
- Cheryl Johnson (Sumter County) creating a Rain Garden Design booklet
- Sumter County Stormwater Utility Credit Program

Announcements:

Carolina Clear has recently purchased a set of kayaks. While these are primarily for the 4-H2O summer day camp programs, they are also available for consortium activities throughout the year. The set includes ten tandem kayaks, four single kayaks (guide boats), paddles, lifejackets, and a trailer for transporting everything. These boats can be used for on-the-water cleanups, tours, youth programs, etc.

Carolina Clear is hiring a new part time position for the Sumter area, to serve as a public involvement coordinator. This individual will coordinate the storm drain marking and cleanup

programs, including networking with volunteer groups, maintaining lists of streets marked and streams cleaned, assisting groups on marking/cleanup days, and other duties as required. He or she will be housed in the Sumter County Extension Office. Clemson is currently accepting applications for the position.

Geoff Smith announced that Sumter County is applying for a 319 grant for Turkey Creek, to develop a watershed plan. This will also include creating mailers to residents about problems they have noticed. The county is primary applicant, but this will be a joint effort with the City of Sumter.

The Annual Education Report is due Nov. 24th/26th, corresponding with the due date for the stormwater report to SCDHEC. Mary will have the final draft completed before Thanksgiving Week. A draft will be submitted by Nov. 1st for review. The time period for reporting is Sept. 25th 2011-Sept. 24th 2012. All partners should have their stormwater education and public involvement program information submitted to Mary by the beginning of October. Data can be submitted online at http://www.clemson.edu/public/carolinaclear/consortiums/intro_activitydb.html, or emailed to Mary directly. Information needed includes:

- Name and brief description of the activity
- Date, location, and number participating
- Any specific pollutants targeted (i.e. bacteria, nutrients, etc.)
- Photos of the activity, if possible.

Annual River Sweep Cleanup

The 2012 Statewide Beach Sweep / River Sweep Day will be Saturday Sept. 15. The group discussed possible locations for the cleanup. Since the spring cleanup was held in the county, the fall cleanup should be held in the city. The group concluded that Shot Pouch Creek, between Guiniard and Broad needed attention again. This was the site of our River Sweep Cleanup in 2010, and is an accessible, visible location, as it runs along a popular walking trail behind the YMCA. We decided that the event will be from 9:00-12:00. Mary will contact NAPA Auto Parts to arrange for parking. To advertise the cleanup, Mary will post flyers at community center and run a press release. She will also see if Sumter living magazine would be willing to run an article, and price ads in that publication. The City of Sumter can put up banners on Broad Street announcing events. We would just need to have the banner made; there would be no charge from the city to hang the banner. Mary will contact Goliath Brunson about getting that done, and to get the dimensions for the banner.

Josh Castleberry will have his Limnology class at Central Carolina Tech conduct a service learning cleanup on the same day. He will borrow the Carolina Clear kayaks. The students will also do a trash analysis as part of this project.

Public Surveys

At our last meeting we discussed the possibility of conducting a public survey, possibly at Walmart or some other high-traffic location. The upcoming Sumter Fair would be a good opportunity for us to reach a large number of people with our survey. Mary brought the question list from the previous Carolina Clear telephone survey for the group to review and brainstorm questions for the Sumter survey.

We determined that our most important goal with this survey is to answer the question: "Are we changing people's behavior?" The survey needs to be short, kept to about 10 questions, and a single sided page or less. Possible questions might be:

- Has your perception of stormwater changed, and why? (i.e. saw it on TV)
- Does what you do make a difference?
- What have you done to protect water? (Ask people to list)

If we can make the survey graphical or use a computer, that would be more appealing. We could create a Survey Monkey survey, and have it on a computer at the fair. Mary was concerned about taking her computer to the fair because of the risk of damage or theft, but there may be another solution. In addition to the paper survey at the fair, we could put a link on our stormwater websites to a survey people could take at home. As an incentive at the fair, we might offer a free ride or beverage ticket for completing the survey. We can also use the Enviroscape to draw people's attention to our booth.

We discussed the best time and date for conducting the survey at the fair. On weekdays school groups come through, but not necessarily with their parents. Evenings and weekend days might be better for talking to adults. Mary will talk to the fair coordinator about what days would be best.

With no other business, the meeting concluded. The next Sumter Stormwater Solutions meeting will be in October.