



Sumter Stormwater Solutions

Meeting Agenda

Monday August 23, 2010
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 Nevins, Clemson Carolina Clear

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| 10:00-10:10 | Welcome & Meeting Purpose Introductions | Mary Nevins, Carolina Clear |
| 10:10-10:20 | Outreach Activity Updates | All present |
| 10:20-10:45 | Volunteer Storm Drain Marking Program Update | Mary Nevins |
| 10:45-11:15 | Rain Garden and Rain Barrel Workshops | Mary Nevins |
| 11:15-11:45 | World Water Monitoring Day (Sept. 18) Project Ideas | All Present |
| 11:45 – 12:00 | Next Steps | Mary Nevins |

Visit us on the web at www.clemson.edu/carolinaclear/sumter

Meeting Minutes

Attendance:

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|--------------|----------------|------------------|-----------------------|
| Teige Elliot | City of Sumter | Charles Holmes | City/County Planning |
| Peter Wilson | Sumter County | Pearce Atkinson | Conservation District |
| Eddie Newman | Sumter County | Josh Castleberry | Central Carolina Tech |
| Karen Hyatt | Sumter County | Amanda McNulty | Clemson Extension |
| Randy Wright | Sumter County | Mary Nevins | Carolina Clear |

Notes from the Meeting

The meeting began with a review of recent activities:

- Sumter City/County Planning held its second Water Quality Public Forum: Part 2 – Best Management Strategies on August 9 at 6pm. The forum was poorly attended so a repeat of the program was scheduled for September 9 at 2:00 to draw more of the professional audience.
- Carolina Clear coordinator Katie Giacalone gave an interview on “Making it Grow” about water quality in Sumter.
- Amanda McNulty published two water quality-related newspaper articles, one in the *Sumter Item*, and one in *The State*. Amanda suggested Carolina Clear hire a clipping service to collect and keep track of water quality articles.

Upcoming activities are as follows:

- *Sept. 18 is World Water Monitoring Day!*
- Sept. 16 – Cleanup at Sumter High School
- Sept. 16 – Lakewood High FFA Team training for Environmental Competition
- Sept. 18 – Community Cleanup at the area for the Greenway along Shot Pouch Creek, Broad to Guinard.
 - The group agreed that Shot Pouch Creek was a good location, safe, visible, and central.
 - We also talked about the possible of future cleanups of Turkey Creek using kayaks, although we are not sure if it is traversable. There is a group that does kayak cleanups of Sparkleberry swamp, Ronnie Renz is the contact person.
 - The group requested Glad “flex” bags.
- Sept. 28-Oct. 3 – Sumter County Fair.
 - We’ll try to have some promotional items ready for the fair. Pencils or frisbees, perhaps. Frisbees could have the logo on the top and stormwater do’s and don’ts on the underside.
 - Hill Printing and the Sumter Copy Shop are local printing options, also possibly Zebra Design.

Several items were proposed for the upcoming months:

The County requested help with education for illicit discharges.

- They will start enforcement of the illicit discharge ordinance soon, and need the public to be aware of what constitutes an illicit discharge. This is important because the ordinance does not allow for warnings, only fines for violations.
- Activities that are illicit discharges include anything put down a storm drain, pool discharges, yard waste in the drains, or any unpermitted connection.
- Both private citizens and businesses should be targeted.

- Mary will draft a brochure to hand out with inspections.
- Additional flyers will be distributed at the business licensing bureau
- Direct mailers will be sent to specific businesses, such as oil change shops.
- Car washing is a serious concern, but the group is not certain how to effectively target it.
 - Commercial car washes are for the most part not in violation.
 - The issue lies with charity car washes (churches, schools, etc.), which do not have to be scheduled with the city or county, so there is no way to give them information before an event occurs, other than direct mailers to all churches and schools. Even direct mailers would probably not reach the correct people, the group felt.
 - Lexington County is beginning an aggressive campaign targeting charity car washes. Mary will find out what they are doing and report to the group.

Josh Castleberry proposed creating a video series on stormwater.

- Josh has the necessary equipment and knowledge for producing and editing an online video.
- The video would be shared on youtube.com and gogreentube.com.
- The purpose of the video would be to introduce the concept of stormwater, explain storm sewer systems, pollutants, and management practices.
- The primary audience would be schools. We can work through ETV and DHEC's Champions of the Environment as well as individual schools to make the video available for students. Currently we have good connections with Cherryvale Elementary, Sumter High, Lakewood High, and Crestwood High.
- We want to be sure to include both public and private schools.
- A related project would be to challenge schools with an Environmental video contest. Some sort of educational field trip was suggested as a cool prize for the winning team.

Next we discussed the storm drain marking program.

- The drain markers are finished and ready to go.
- Sumter County Public Works has already marked the drains at their facility, and in a few neighborhoods where they have been working.
- Mary is currently working on an accompanying door hanger
 - The door hanger needs to include messages about motor oil and antifreeze. All county recycle sites take oil, a couple take antifreeze.
 - Due to private property considerations, we may want to hang these on mailboxes rather than doors.
- Central Carolina Tech's Natural Resource Management Club has committed to marking the drains around CCT campus.
- An environmentally friendly development is going in across from Robinwood on Patriot Parkway. We might contact them to get drain markings placed there.

This was followed by discussion of a rain garden installation.

- Patriot Park was chosen as the location. There is an area where water flowing from the parking lot is forming a channel.
- Because of all the washing that is happening, we need to incorporate rocks in the design.
- We may also include a constructed wetland that the water flows through first to help handle volume, and showcase this BMP. Wetland plants should include pitcher plants and Atlantic white cedar.

- Clemson biosystems engineering professor Dr. Anand Jayakaran evaluated the site in the spring of 2009. His recommendations will be sent with the meeting minutes.
- Mary still needs to get an educational sign printed for the rain garden at public works.
- Late October or early November will be the best time for a rain garden installation workshop. We'll try for a Friday to encourage engineers and landscapers to attend.
- We will start with an educational overview of stormwater and rain gardens in the morning at Swan Lake, after which we will carpool to Patriot Park for the installation demonstration. Patriot Park does not have an indoor facility suitable for a classroom presentation.
- We will target engineers and landscapers for this workshop as well as homeowners, so we should include some technical information. There are resources for this available from North Carolina's extension program.
- A bank stabilization project is also planned for Dillon Park. When more details for this are determined we will discuss how to take advantage of the work as an educational opportunity for professional audiences.