



Sumter Stormwater Solutions

Meeting Agenda

Thursday October 21, 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

10:00-10:10	Welcome & Meeting Purpose Introductions	Mary Nevins, Carolina Clear
10:10-10:30	Outreach Activity Updates	All present
10:30-10:45	Patriot Park Rain Garden Project Update	Mary Nevins
10:45-11:00	Stormwater Video Series Project Update	Mary Nevins
11:00-11:45	Year 3 (2010-2011) Education Plan Development	All Present
11:45 – 12:00	Next Steps	Mary Nevins

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

Meeting Minutes

Attendance:

Teige Elliot	City of Sumter	Amanda McNulty	Clemson Extension
Peter Wilson	Sumter County	Katie Giacalone	Carolina Clear
Pearce Atkinson	Conservation District	Mary Nevins	Carolina Clear

Notes from the Meeting

The meeting began with a review of recent activities:

- Sept. 16 – Cleanup at Sumter High School
- Sept. 16 – Lakewood High FFA Team water quality training for Environmental Competition
- Sept. 18 – Community Cleanup at the area for the Greenway along Shot Pouch Creek, Broad to Guinard. 16 in attendance. Teige Elliot commented that the City now has a crew going down Shot Pouch Creek clearing brush.
- Sept. 18 – Storm drain marking at Central Carolina Tech, with CCTC Natural Resources Management Club
- Sept. 28-Oct. 3 – Sumter County Fair
- Oct. 8 – Turkey Creek work session with FEMA, Army Corps of Engineers, NRCS, SCDOT and local representatives: The purpose of this workshop was for everyone involved in projects on Turkey Creek to communicate with each other on what had been done, what reporting and data was needed to correct know inconsistencies with existing hydrological maps of the creek, and what needed to happen for future projects to move forward.

We briefly discussed the upcoming education report, and set a deadline of November 12 for the official education reporting form for SCDHEC, and a draft of the full report. Everyone was reminded to submit their program data if they had not already done so. Amanda McNulty mentioned the cleanup at Manchester Forest needed to be included. It had good participation from Shaw AFB. Amanda or Karen Hyatt should be able to supply attendance numbers and details.

Pet waste brochures were distributed to local veterinarian offices. Looking for additional ways to distribute these, it was suggested seeing if the SPCA could include them in adoption bags. Also, animal control may have letters for pet registrations or similar that they could be mailed with. We should also give them to the traveling “pet mobiles.” Neighborhoods and apartments may be another important target for pet waste messages.

We discussed Lexington’s charity car wash initiatives. Charity car wash events can contribute phosphates, heavy metals, and other pollutants to waterways. Lexington is encouraging schools, churches, and other groups to sell coupons for discounted car washes instead. They are partnering with local commercial car washes to get them to donate coupons. Catch basin inserts are also a possibility. These could be incorporated into a kit groups could check out, which would prevent soaps from going down storm drains. A possible cost for a catch basin insert might be \$100, but more research must be done to determine the effectiveness and cost/benefit of inserts. It was also noted that schools should be a major target for advertising this program.

Rain Garden Installation and Workshop and related discussion.:

The rain garden project at Patriot’s Park is the biggest upcoming event. A recent meeting

resulted in a rough idea of for the design. It will include lining the eroded channel with rock, interspersed with grasses, possibly incorporating live stakes to stabilize the soil. Below that a rain/wetland garden will help water infiltrate into the soil. The rain garden will take in water both from the parking lot and from the nearby soccer field. Examination of the soils confirmed that the soil is primarily clay wetland soil and does not infiltrate well. The county was okay with having some standing water in the garden, as there is a pond nearby and water stands in the spot already. We must make an effort to design the garden with as little maintenance required as possible. Another concern is that if we slow down the water in the channel, will any back up and stand in the parking lot?

Peter Wilson expressed concern that the original SWPP for Patriot's Park had not been followed correctly during construction. The majority of the water from the parking lot should have drained to the other side into the constructed wetland. The parking lot was sloped incorrectly, causing water to flow off the wrong side and resulting in the erosion issue we are attempting to correct with the rain garden. He stated that Public Works needs to submit an amendment to the SWPP for Patriot's Park before the rain garden is completed. The engineer who designed the park should be involved in the rain garden project if possible.

Related to this, a new judicial center is being constructed which is currently designed with traditional stormwater infrastructure, but Solutions members would like to see LID practices implemented. Someone from Central Carolina Tech might be able to assist with the design. Council does not mandate that LID be used for county projects. Schools also are built with traditional and often poor design for stormwater management. Currently, the county plans to offer rebates from the stormwater utility fee for projects using LID, but the council is looking at exempting county facilities from these fees. If this happens there may be little incentive for county facilities to implement LID or improve their stormwater management designs.

The latest County Comprehensive Plan was completed in 2009, so it won't be redone for several years. In the meantime, it is important to continue to educate county council about LID. We may want to consider a technical workshop for engineers on how to designing bioretention. We need encourage forward thinking and overcome the ignorance factor. The Planning Department may be able to assist. Speakers could be Frank Haynes or Claudia Rainey.

The county just began monitoring. Jobs will be advertised starting the week of Oct. 21. We know from soil tests that Sumter soils tend to have high phosphorous. It would be beneficial to know what type of alluvial system we have in Sumter, and gain a better understanding of sediment loads, slopes, etc.

IDDE is another issue that needs to be addressed in education efforts, as discussed at the last meeting. The strategy will be to create a website with general information on a number of pollutants and behaviors related to IDDE, including car washing, auto repair, etc., as well as the ordinance language and resources for safe disposal of materials. Mary will contact the County Clerk about having better links on the county's website to the county's stormwater ordinance and IDDE rules. The problem is that the county must soon begin enforcement, and the ordinance does not have provisions for warnings, just tickets. We will also develop direct mail-outs to high-risk businesses, including auto repair, painters, and landscapers. For landscapers, a handout will be designed that public works can give out when they see a violation, such as leaves being blown into the street. Public works will have trucks going out to pump out storm drains. We could

create signs to set up for while they are pumping in neighborhoods to inform the public about what they are doing, why storm drains get clogged, and what the public can do to reduce clogging. We might get a student involved to do an awareness study with homeowners.

Serious work on the education plan was put on hold until a later meeting when more Solutions members would be available to participate. The meeting was concluded.