

## Kingston Lake Environment Awareness Network (KLEAN) - Update for April 2008

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**Greetings** from the Kingston Lake Environment Awareness Network (**KLEAN**)! Spring is in full swing and the trees are leafing out!

About once a month, you will receive an e-update with the latest information about Kingston Lake, Crabtree Swamp, and the Waccamaw River. Let's see what's happening this month.

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### Events and Announcements

A public review session of the proposed revisions to the Horry County Stormwater Ordinance will be held on **Wednesday, April 16<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 PM** in Multi-purpose Room B of the Horry County Government and Justice Center on 2nd Avenue in Conway. For more information, contact Horry County Stormwater at 915-5160.

The next meeting of the Conway Water Quality and Drainage Commission will be held on **Wednesday, April 16<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 PM**. Commission meetings are held in Conway City Hall on 3rd Avenue and Main Street in the conference room on the first floor. A public input period is always scheduled.

Another Waccamaw River clean-up, this time sponsored by Charles and Kaye King, will be held in Pireway, N.C. on **Saturday, April 19<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 AM to Noon**. Meet at the Hwy 904 landing, bring gloves and nets and dress appropriately for the weather. Boats are welcome, but not required. Food and drinks will be provided. For more information, contact the Kings at 910-653-5161.

IMAX® 3D Theatre at Broadway at the Beach will host a benefit for the Winyah Rivers Foundation on **Saturday, April 19 from 9:00 – 11:00 AM**. IMAX® will donate all proceeds to the Waccamaw RIVERKEEPER® Program. The event will include a continental breakfast at 9am, an educational presentation and a screening of the new IMAX 3D® film Grand Canyon Adventure 3D, which focuses on water conservation. Minimum donation required is \$15 for all ages and includes an opportunity to win prizes, such as a fiberglass canoe. Speakers include Christine Ellis, Waccamaw Riverkeeper, and Ben Burroughs, a Research Specialist at Coastal Carolina University. Ellis will address the importance of efficient water use, while Burroughs will offer a historical perspective of the region. For more information, contact Christine Ellis at 349-4007 or [wrk@coastal.edu](mailto:wrk@coastal.edu).

The Horry County Stormwater Advisory Board will hold its next regular meeting on **Tuesday, April 29<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 PM** in the Horry County Government and Justice Center on 2nd Avenue in Conway. A public input period is always scheduled. For more information, visit <http://www.horrycounty.org/stormwater/index.asp?page=9>.

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### This Month's Feature – Low Impact Development – Costs and Benefits

We've all heard about "going green." But what does that mean? Well, in a nutshell, it's living our lives in a more ecologically friendly manner. For construction and development, one of the ways to "go green" is to employ low impact development, or LID. The LID approach aims to integrate site design with the natural systems and functions of a site. Instead of using large practices like ponds to control stormwater, LID focuses on small-scale features that take advantage of natural infiltration, evaporation, and transpiration. By designing to minimize impervious surfaces and using vegetated swales and bioretention areas, LID methods interrupt the direct flow of water from roofs and parking lots to detention devices, while allowing stormwater to percolate into the ground. This typically reduces the need for large stormwater control devices that are costly to construct and take up space on site.

LID techniques have been tried across the country and results show that these designs preserve more open space, have less impact on important natural resources, and also save on construction costs. It's a

win-win! Studies and publications from sources like the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the National Association of Home Builders, and Builder Magazine indicate typical construction cost savings of 20-30% when using LID techniques over conventional designs. This is mostly due to more compact layouts that minimize the amount of land clearing and grading needed, as well as the amount of infrastructure such as roads, sidewalks, curbs, and gutters. LID techniques also often increase lot and community marketability because of the open space and natural area amenities. Many localities are looking to find ways to make it easier to develop using LID techniques, which help developers by keeping down construction costs and impacts to the environment.

For more information about LID and construction costs, see the following:

<http://www.epa.gov/owow/nps/lid/costs07/documents/reducingstormwatercosts.pdf>

[http://www.toolbase.org/PDF/DesignGuides/Builder\\_LID.pdf](http://www.toolbase.org/PDF/DesignGuides/Builder_LID.pdf)

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### **Learn More**

If you are looking for a speaker for your group's next meeting, why not book a presentation about water quality or wetlands? David Fuss and Dr. Susan Libes of Coastal Carolina University are available for presentations geared for citizen groups. For more information, contact David Fuss at 843-349-4023 or [dfuss@coastal.edu](mailto:dfuss@coastal.edu).

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