

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

Greetings from the Kingston Lake Environment Awareness Network (**KLEAN**)!

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.

Events and Announcements

The Horry County Stormwater Advisory Board will hold its next regular meeting on **Monday, August 26th at 3:00 PM** at 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>.

The next meeting of the Conway Water Quality and Drainage Commission will be held on **Wednesday, August 20th 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.

The Certified Erosion Prevention and Sediment Control Inspector Program is coming to Conway on **Wednesday, August 20th**. The full-day workshop will be held at the Horry County Government & Justice Building, Room B, on Second Avenue in Conway. To learn more or register, visit <http://www.clemson.edu/t3s/cepsci/workshops/workshops.html>.

The Summer 2008 issue of Estuaries Illustrated, the newsletter of the North Inlet-Winyah Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve, is hot off the press. It is available at the NI-WB NERR website: <http://www.northinlet.sc.edu>.

This Month's Feature – Harvesting the Rain

At a time when the State Climatology Office indicates that Horry County remains in Incipient Drought and much of the state is in Extreme and Severe Drought(http://www.dnr.sc.gov/climate/sco/Drought/drought_current_info.php), the idea of harvesting rainwater for landscaping needs begins to sound pretty valuable. Droughts can affect us by increasing the cost of water, goods and services brought on by diminishing water supplies. How can you save money and conserve our water supplies at the same time?

One simple way is to re-direct roof downspouts to landscaping or lawns. Instead of roof runoff spilling across driveways and walkways where it bypasses your thirsty plants, use downspout extensions to water your yard for free. This also cuts down on runoff pollutants like oils, greases, and sediment. Another method of harvesting rainwater is to use a rain barrel. Rain barrels, like cisterns, collect rainwater from your roof and store it for later use - handy during a drought!. Rain barrels are commercially available, inexpensive, simple to use, and can lower your water bill. They are also designed to exclude breeding mosquitoes. For information on manufactured rain barrels, visit these or other related sites:

http://www.gardeners.com/Rain-Barrels/Watering_RainBarrels,default,sc.html?SC=XNET8019

<http://www.rainbarrelsource.com/>

<http://www.eco-gardening.com/rainwater/rain-barrels.php>

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.

To sign up for monthly updates from KLEAN, send an email to KLEAN@sccoast.net or call 248-1730.

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