

## Kingston Lake Environment Awareness Network (KLEAN) - Update for August 2009

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**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.

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### Events and Announcements

Conway City Council is accepting applications for vacancies on its Water Quality and Drainage Commission. If you are interested in serving on this committee, please call 248-1760 and request an application. You may download an application at <http://www.cityofconway.com> or pick one up at City Hall.

The next meeting of the Conway Water Quality and Drainage Commission will be held on **Wednesday, August 19<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. For more information, contact Susan Hucks at 248-1730.

The Conway Bike, Hike and Paddle Committee will hold its next regular meeting on **Thursday, August 20<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 PM**. Committee meetings are held in Conway City Hall on 3rd Avenue and Main Street in the conference room on the first floor. For more information, contact Steve Tanner at 488-9888.

The Horry County Parks and Open Space Board will hold its next regular meeting on **Monday, August 24<sup>th</sup> at 1:00PM** in Multipurpose Room D at the Horry County Government and Justice Building at 1301 2nd Avenue in Conway. For more information, contact Christopher Klement at [klementc@horrycounty.org](mailto:klementc@horrycounty.org).

The Horry County Stormwater Advisory Board will hold its next regular meeting on **Tuesday, August 25<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 PM** in Multipurpose Room D at the Horry County Government and Justice Building at 1301 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 Winyah Master Naturalist Course will be held on **Mondays, August 31<sup>st</sup> to November 23<sup>rd</sup> from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM**. The course is designed to develop a corps of volunteers working within their communities to provide education, outreach and service dedicated to the beneficial management of natural resources and natural areas. Topics to be covered include identification skills, basic ecological concepts, natural history, and human impacts on the environment. Field trips are included. For more information please, visit the [Winyah Naturalist](#) website.

Registration is now open for a training workshop entitled *Fostering Sustainable Behavior through Community-based Social Marketing* to be held **October 7-8 in Savannah, Georgia**. The workshop is designed for those who work in outreach, education, training, and advocacy who strive to promote all aspects of sustainable behavior. General 1-day or advanced 2-day training options are available. To learn more and to register, visit <http://www.northinlet.sc.edu/training/events.html>.

The Community Open Land Trust hosts the 2009 Conservation Conference entitled *Greenways – Connecting Business, Health, and the Outdoors* on **October 22<sup>nd</sup> in Lexington**. This one-day workshop will: inform and demonstrate how greenway corridors and trails encourage healthier lifestyles; provide alternative transportation options; increase community economic viability; and offer opportunities for environmental conservation and education. Key findings from case studies supporting the positive health, economic and environmental impact derived from greenway systems will be presented. For more information and to register, visit <http://www.communityopenlandtrust.org/conference.html>.

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### **This Month's Feature – Can Higher-Density Development Better Protect Our Water Resources?**

Growth and development in our communities is important to their long-term viability. Local governments face the challenge of directing new development so that it both complements existing neighborhoods and protects natural resources. According to a 2006 U.S. EPA report, *Protecting Water Resources with Higher-Density Development*, "Where and how communities accommodate growth has a profound impact on the quality of their streams, rivers, lakes, and beaches. Development that uses land efficiently and protects undisturbed natural lands allows a community to grow and still protect its water resources."

Paradoxically, this report concludes that higher-density development with significant open space protections can better protect water quality than lower-density development. This is due to the fact that an equivalent number of building units at higher density consumes less land and produces less impervious surface than at lower density. Since an increase in impervious surface promotes nonpoint source pollution and is a proven threat to water quality, lower-density development that consumes more land can actually lead to increased water quality degradation. According to the report, "EPA believes that increasing development densities is one strategy communities can use to minimize regional water quality impacts. To fully protect water resources, communities need to employ a wide range of land use strategies, based on local factors, including building a range of development densities, incorporating adequate open space, preserving critical ecological and buffer areas, and minimizing land disturbance."

To learn more about these concepts, please download a copy of the report by visiting [http://www.epa.gov/livability/pdf/protect\\_water\\_higher\\_density.pdf](http://www.epa.gov/livability/pdf/protect_water_higher_density.pdf).

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### **Archived E-updates**

All of the KLEAN e-updates are archived and available for download. Check them out at [http://www.coastal.edu/www/klean/archived\\_eupdates.html](http://www.coastal.edu/www/klean/archived_eupdates.html).

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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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