

Kingston Lake Environment Awareness Network (KLEAN) - Update for December 2007

HAPPY HOLIDAYS 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 been happening lately and what's coming up.

Events and Announcements

Mark your calendars for a seminar on **January 17th** entitled "*Getting to Know Wetlands and the Rules that Govern Them: A Primer for Local Governments and Professionals.*" Targeting city and county officials and staff, developers, planners, realtors, and consultants, this seminar experience will help you understand why wetlands issues are important, understand the laws and rules governing them, and understand how well-informed decision making can yield more efficient results that adequately protect our coastal resources and meet land use and development needs. This event is free of charge and is sponsored by the North Inlet-Winyah Bay Coastal Training Program, Coastal Carolina University's Center for Marine and Wetland Studies, and the ACE Basin National Estuarine Research Reserve. Seats are limited so advance registration is required. To register online and learn more about the event, visit www.northinlet.sc.edu/training/training_events.htm or contact Nicole Saladin at <mailto:nicole@belle.baruch.sc.edu> or 843-546-6219 ext 241.

The next meeting of the Conway Water Quality and Drainage Commission will be held on **January 16th at 6 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.

This Month's Feature

Pursuant to Section 303(d) of the Federal Clean Water Act, the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (SCDHEC) develops a listing of waterbodies that do not meet state water quality standards after application of required controls for point and nonpoint source pollutants. This list is commonly known as the "dirty water list" and is determined based on water quality monitoring performed by SCDHEC. The severity of pollution and the classified uses of waterbodies (e.g. aquatic life use, recreational use, and fish and shellfish consumption) are considered when developing the list. The list is used to target waterbodies for further investigation, additional monitoring, and water quality improvement measures.

In the Conway area, the Waccamaw River is listed as impaired for fish consumption due to mercury contamination in fish tissue from Hwy 9 downstream to Hagley Landing in Georgetown County. In Conway, Kingston Lake and Crabtree Swamp up to US 501 are listed as impaired for recreational contact due to fecal coliform bacteria contamination. Kingston Lake and Crabtree Swamp are priority waterbodies. SCDHEC plans additional monitoring of these waterbodies and intends to develop a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) in 2008. A TMDL report specifies how much pollutant levels must be reduced to safely allow the uses designated for each waterbody, in this case recreational contact.

For more information about TMDLs and the 303(d) list including maps of impaired waterbodies, visit <http://www.scdhec.net/environment/water/tmdl/index.htm> and look for the Pee Dee Basin information.

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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