

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

A U.S. EPA Watershed Academy webcast entitled "Using Rain Gardens to Reduce Runoff -- Slow it down, spread it out, soak it in!" was held on **December 3rd from 1-3 PM**. The webcast addressed the benefits of rain gardens, how to build them, and how to develop and implement a successful rain garden program. To view the slide show from this webcast, please visit <http://www.epa.gov/watershedwebcasts/>. There, you can also access archived versions of past webcasts. The archived version of the webcast on rain gardens should be available for viewing in January.

The Horry County Stormwater Advisory Board will hold its next regular meeting on **Monday, December 15th at 3:00 PM** in Multi-purpose Room B of 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 next meeting of the Conway Water Quality and Drainage Commission will be held on **Wednesday, December 17th 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.

This Month's Feature – New Rain Garden Installed at Conway High School

Conway High School is the proud owner of a new rain garden that both enhances the school's appearance and helps to naturally treat stormwater runoff from the faculty parking area visible from Highway 501. Rain gardens treat stormwater runoff from roofs, roads, and parking areas by using soils and native plants to hold stormwater, filter pollutants and recharge groundwater supplies. The Conway High rain garden will help to protect nearby Crabtree Swamp from polluted runoff.

Local Wal-Mart stores provided \$8,600 for the project through their Sustainability Program. Technical help and equipment were provided by Horry County Stormwater, the Coastal Waccamaw Stormwater Education Consortium, and Clemson University's Carolina Clear Program. These partners, as well as Greenwall Construction, Horry County Solid Waste Authority, Skinner Nurseries, and Mulch n' More, helped Conway High students and teachers to install the rain garden. Rain gardens have also been installed at Socastee High School, Burgess Elementary School, and Georgetown High School with funding from local Wal-Mart stores. Some of the funding is used to purchase educational resources, such as weather stations and water quality monitoring equipment, so that rain gardens can be incorporated into the schools' educational curriculum.

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. Your email is kept confidential and is not shared for any other purposes. If you have received this message in error or you no longer wish to receive these e-updates, please send a message to KLEAN@sccoast.net.