

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

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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**

The Horry County Stormwater Advisory Board will hold its next regular meeting on **Tuesday, September 23rd 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, October 15th 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.

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### **This Month's Feature – Crabtree Swamp Restoration**

Crabtree Swamp was channelized in the mid-1960s to enhance agricultural drainage. A watershed conservation district was set up to oversee the canal's maintenance. The watershed drains 60% of the City of Conway and portions of Horry County. Over the years, growth and urbanization have reduced agricultural lands, while stormwater flows have increased. Flooding is again a concern, channel maintenance is increasingly costly, many locations have unstable banks, erosion is a serious problem, and water quality impairments require attention.

The Crabtree Swamp Restoration Initiative held a groundbreaking ceremony on September 22<sup>nd</sup> to kick off a demonstration project designed to restore the swamp to a more natural condition. A unique collaboration of stakeholders, including landowners, local governments, conservation districts, state and federal agencies, universities, and nonprofits have been working since April 2007 to devise restoration strategies. The demonstration project will feature terraced banks along 2,400 feet of the channel.

Equipment and personnel from the City of Conway and Horry County will reshape the banks to accommodate more flood storage. Native vegetation, funded by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, will be planted to help filter pollutants, improve water quality, and provide native wildlife habitat. Technical assistance is supplied by S.C. Dept. of Natural Resources, Coastal Carolina University, Clemson University, and S.C. Dept. of Health and Environmental Control. It is hoped that the demonstration project can be replicated along more of Crabtree Swamp to have even more effect on water conditions.

For more information, contact David Fuss, Restoration Initiative coordinator, at 843-349-4023 or [dfuss@coastal.edu](mailto:dfuss@coastal.edu).

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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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