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URBAN WATERSHEDS



AT A GLANCE

Seasonal Loose Leaf Collection

Curbside pickup - Nov - Jan
For more information call
919-996-6446

Stormwater High School PSA Competition 2016 Raleigh Environmental Awards

Registration opened Nov. 15, 2015
Videos due by Feb. 12, 2016

Cooking Oil & Grease Collection

Curbside pickup:
Nov. - Jan. 15, 2016
For more information call
919-996-6890

Seasonal Loose Leaf Collection Runs November 2015 through January 2016



Keep grass clippings and leaves off our streets and out of our streams. Left in the street, grass clippings and leaves not only are an eyesore and a hazard to cyclists and motorists, they damage our creeks and lakes, clog storm drains, cause flooding, and increase maintenance costs. They also can lead to citations and fines.

The City's Transportation Field Services Division runs the City's leaf collection program for approximately 12 weeks. The City will make two six-week passes through Raleigh.

For more information on the Seasonal Loose Leaf program, up-to-date route schedules and guidelines, please visit www.raleighnc.gov, search for: Seasonal Loose Leaf Collection. You can also call 919-996-3720.

2016 Raleigh Environmental Awards – Stormwater PSA Competition

Local high school students are invited to showcase their creativity, talent, and environmental awareness by producing a video up to 60-seconds, suitable for the City's use as a public service announcement. Students may submit entries as individuals or as teams. All students must either reside at a location, or attend a high school, that is within the City limits, the Raleigh extraterritorial jurisdiction, or the utility service area.

The theme for video entries should be consistent with this statement:

"What we do on the land, and how we do it, affects our lakes and streams," or "Why treat the runoff when you can eliminate the runoff?"

2016 Raleigh Environmental Awards (contd.)

The City will select up to three entries to receive a cash prize up to \$500. Winners will be recognized at an awards ceremony in April 2016. Videos selected will become property of the City of Raleigh, may be used as part of the City's stormwater outreach and education program, and may be shown on local TV stations, and on the internet.

Applications submittal opened November 15, 2015 and videos must be received by the City no later than February 12, 2016. For more information about the Stormwater PSA Competition and the 2016 Raleigh Environmental Awards, go to www.raleighnc.gov, and search for "Environmental Awards".

Senior Project Engineer Scott Bryant Named Stormwater Professional of the Year

Scott Bryant, PE Senior Project Engineer with the City's Stormwater Management Division, received the inaugural Stormwater Professional of the Year award from the American Public Works Association North Carolina Chapter (APWA-NC). Blair Hinkle, Raleigh's Stormwater Program Manager, presented the award to Scott at the APWA-NC Annual Stormwater Conference in Wilmington on September 15.



Scott recently assumed responsibility for the Stormwater Division's strategic planning. In this role, he facilitates programmatic changes for strengthening our stormwater program in the areas of infrastructure management, projects prioritization, transparency of processes, communication of information, and long-range planning.

Scott holds bachelor's and master's degrees in civil engineering from North Carolina State University and an Master's in Business Administration degree from the Babcock Graduate School of Management at Wake Forest University. Scott joined the City's stormwater team in 2009 and is responsible for overseeing stormwater capital improvement projects. Previously, Scott served as stormwater manager for the City of Greensboro and project manager for Jewell Engineering. Founder and Principal Doug Jewell said of Scott, "He effectively pursues the role of a servant leader. By serving the needs of his fellow workers and stormwater professionals, he has emerged as a leader in the profession."

Stormwater Management Division Staff innovate and educate

The City of Raleigh's Stormwater Management Division strive to innovate and bring current and best practices to managing stormwater, maintaining our stormwater infrastructure, and protecting the health of our streams and lakes. One way the department accomplishes this is by exchanging information and experiences with peers in municipal and state government and in private practice. Recently, Kevin Boyer, Veronica High, and Ben Brown, all senior engineers in the Stormwater Division, presented at state-wide conferences.



At the APWA-NC Stormwater Conference in Wilmington in September 2015, Kevin co-presented with Jonathan Smith, PE, of the consulting firm Tetra Tech on "Implementing Green Infrastructure into Municipal Programs - The Raleigh Experience". Their talk described the City's ongoing advancements in managing stormwater runoff close to its source - where the rain hits the ground, buildings, and pavements. Implemented broadly, these methods can reduce both runoff volumes and water pollutants that can impair the health of streams and lakes. A broad spectrum of stakeholders, including citizens, engineers, developers, city staffs, and elected officials, are interested in the green infrastructure can provide.

At the same APWA-NC Stormwater Conference, Veronica co-presented with Ken Trefzger, PE, with HDR Engineering of the Carolinas, on a case study of the recently completed Northshore Lake and Dam Rehabilitation Project. Their presentation described lessons learned during the project's design and construction and what made this dam and lake rehabilitation project a success for the City and the Northshore neighborhood.. This project brought the lake's dam and spillway into compliance with North Carolina Dam Safety regulations, installed features for improving the lake's water quality, removed a structure that repeatedly had been damaged by flooding, and eliminated a long-standing neighborhood traffic hazard.



At the North Carolina Flood Plain Managers Fall Conference in Cherokee in October 2015, Ben presented the case study of the City's purchase, demolition, and reclamation of the former Milner Inn on Capital Boulevard. Over the past 40 years, this 3.3-acre property experienced recurring flood damage and financial loss resulting from flooding of Pigeon House Branch, a tributary of Crabtree Creek. The flooding led to numerous claims against its owner's flood insurance policy held through FEMA. The City was able to

qualify the property for a Hazard Mitigation Grant from FEMA to remove the structure and return the property to a natural state. Ben's presentation addressed challenges of obtaining the grant, taking ownership of the property, demolishing the structure and removing pavements, and planting trees, shrubs, and grasses to stabilize the ground surface, reduce stormwater runoff, and promote infiltration of rainwater. This project took about seven years from project concept to completion. Ultimately, this property will become part of a linear park described in the City's Capital Boulevard Corridor Plan, a major part of the overall beautification of this area. _____

Reflections of An Unlikely SMAC Member

by *Vanessa Fleischman*

Three years ago, unbeknownst to me, Mayor Nancy McFarlane and then-City Councilor Randy Stagner nominated me to serve on Raleigh's Stormwater Management Advisory Commission (SMAC), the City's official citizen advisory board to City Council on stormwater policies



"Why me?," I asked them both. I have no background in this area, rather a BA in Romance Languages and a career in advertising. Turns out I was tapped because of my activism in my neighborhood's encounter with a proposed development that we felt might negatively impact the stream and lakes abutting our properties.

I obliged their nomination and was appointed to SMAC. I must confess I was apprehensive, having no technical training or experience in this field, and most of SMAC members are in water-related professions. I played it safe for the first couple of monthly meetings by mostly observing and listening. I didn't know the lingo, but quickly picked it up, and everyone patiently and eagerly answered my questions without making me feel like an outsider. I relaxed and realized I was nominated exactly because I am not an engineer. My role is to bring an objective layperson's approach to making informed and practical decisions. My place on the Commission gives voice and representation that is empathetic to citizens who bring petitions, variances, and other concerns for the City to consider.

One of SMAC's most important duties is to evaluate citizens' requests (petitions) for the City to co-fund solutions for erosion and flooding problems that pose a threat to safety and property, which is carefully considered by a prescript of prioritizing criteria. SMAC's meetings are open to the public and petitioners are permitted to present their issues and field questions from SMAC members. Numerous petitions are considered and evaluated using criteria set forth in formal City policy, and proposed funding recommendations are made and presented to the City Council for approval. Since total funding requests frequently exceed the amount of funding available, not every request can be approved and funded. It is the job of SMAC members to assess and prioritize each petition, one by one, with help from Stormwater staff, petitioners, and petitioners' engineers who aptly describe the problems and their causes, proposed solutions, and estimates of the solutions' costs. It is extremely challenging to fairly decide which petitions projects should be selected for priority funding.

This summer I had the opportunity to serve on an ad-hoc committee with two other SMAC members to provide feedback to Stormwater staff on a new rubric recently designed for prioritizing the many dozens of planned Stormwater Capital Improvement Program (CIP) projects. This impressive new tool was enthusiastically endorsed by SMAC, so far proving to be effective and efficient, and is streamlining how projects advance through the Stormwater Division's CIP process. Staff and SMAC recognize that this tool will need to evolve, and that stagnation of ideas is as unhealthy as stagnation of water. SMAC is pleased to be going with the flow, opening channels of informed communication and sustainable resolutions for a healthy Raleigh community.

I am excited about my participation on SMAC and proud to serve my community at-large improving our quality of life. Through this experience I have been educated on how the Stormwater Division works to inform Raleigh citizens and improve our environment, and I have come to enjoy and respect the many people who are passionate about this profession and the greater community good. I am proud and honored to extend my community service efforts through SMAC. _____

Stormwater Volunteer Round Up

Fall is a busy time for our Stormwater Volunteer Programs. Despite rainy weather, our stream monitoring workshop on Saturday, September 24 at the Walnut Creek Wetland Center was a full house. Attendees were enthusiastic and eager to learn techniques to use City-provided water-monitoring kits and tools to check on water quality and stream health in their neighborhoods. Attendees were engaged and asked many excellent questions during the classroom portion. They

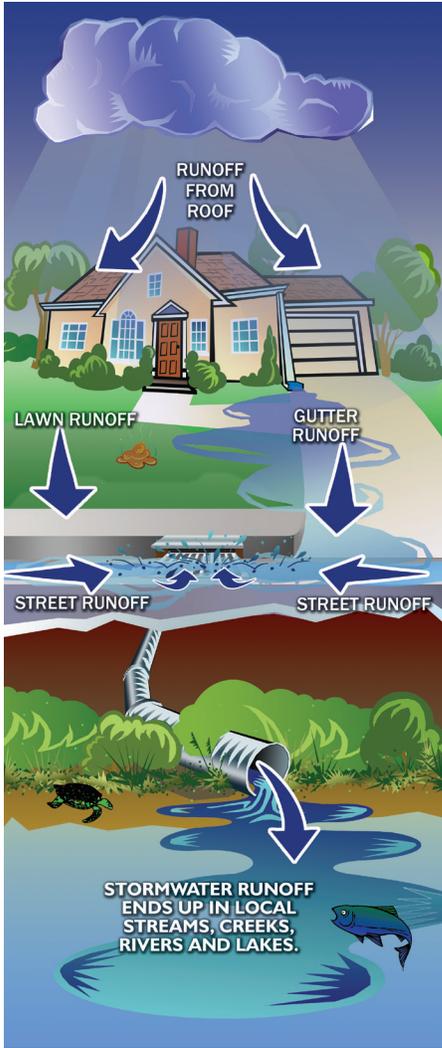
even ventured to Little Rock Creek in the rain to learn how to use kick nets, pan sieves, and long-handle catch nets for identifying benthic macroinvertebrates (bottom-dwelling "bugs") that live in streams, given suitable habitat and depending on type and amount of pollution in the water.

Fall is the last opportunity until the spring to mark storm drains in Raleigh. Temperatures need to be on the moderate side and it needs to be dry so that the adhesive sticks for the "No Dumping" disks. On a recent Saturday morning, students from a local college marked 41 storm drains in a residential neighborhood near Ridgewood Shopping Center!

Stormwater Volunteer Round Up (contd.)

Also this fall, numerous volunteer groups did their fall Adopt-A-Stream cleanups. Some even did double duty by joining Stormwater staff for the Division-sponsored Foster-A-Stream clean up on October 25. This event pulled in a record number (82) of trash bags. That doesn't even include the long list of miscellaneous items collected, such as tires, bicycles, and shopping carts.

A huge thank you to all our volunteers. Your good work helps keep our water clean and stream healthy. It really makes a difference!



Stormwater Division Staff Contacts

Stormwater Staff & Fee Inquiries

Volunteer Coordinator
Illicit Discharge Response
Sedimentation and Erosion Control
Floodplain Inquiries
Drainage Complaints on Private Property
Drainage Complaints in the Street

919-996-3940

RaleighStormwater@raleighnc.gov

Kevin Boyer

Pete Duffy

Lauren Witherspoon

Ben Brown

Chris Stanley

919-996-6446

RALEIGH'S STORMWATER WEBSITE RESOURCES

City of Raleigh
Stormwater Management Division
Adopt-A-Stream Volunteer Program
Storm Drain Marking Volunteer Program
Stream Monitoring Volunteer Program
Water Pollution
Flood Information

www.raleighnc.gov

keyword search "stormwater division"

keyword search "adopt a stream"

keyword search "drain marking"

keyword search "volunteer stream monitoring"

keyword search "water pollution helpline"

keyword search "flooding"

ADDITIONAL EDUCATIONAL & VOLUNTEER RESOURCES

Clean Water Education Partnership
North Carolina Stormwater and
Runoff Pollution
Neuse Riverkeeper Foundation
River Guardian Foundation

www.nccleanwater.org

www.ncstormwater.org

www.neuseriver.org

www.riverguardfdn.org

THE STORMWATER MANAGEMENT MISSION

The Stormwater Management Division's focus is to partner with the citizens of Raleigh to effectively manage flood control and environmental protection in our water bodies, ultimately the Neuse River by using proactive management techniques to plan, identify, maintain, monitor, design, inspect and construct drainage systems to alleviate structural flooding and preserve water quality. Protecting our waterways provides for the future well-being of our environment.

ISSUE 16
WINTER 2015

A STORMWATER MANAGEMENT
DIVISION PUBLICATION

MORE INFO

raleighnc.gov

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