

Charleston County News Release

Release Number: 2816
Release Date: August 6, 2007



Charleston County Hosts Free Stormwater Management Programs in August

Interested in water quality? Find out what you can do to help keep your swimming and fishing holes clean!

Charleston County's Public Works Department invites the public to attend one of six short Stormwater Management Program sessions being held this month on improving water quality.

The purpose of the free sessions is for the public to learn and ask questions about the efforts the County is making to improve water quality through the removal of illegal discharges, implementing new engineering design standards and construction methods, and many other processes.

Charleston County's Stormwater Management Program is specifically for citizens who live in unincorporated areas of the county. However, Charleston County Government has intergovernmental agreements to implement a Stormwater Management Program for the town of Folly Beach, the city of Isle of Palms, the town of Sullivan's Island, and the town of Lincolville.

The public sessions will be held at six locations across the County to accommodate citizens living in various areas:

- Aug. 15 – for residents living on Folly Beach
- Aug. 16 – for residents living on Johns Island and Wadamalaw Island
- Aug. 20 – for residents living on the Isle of Palms and Sullivan's Island
- Aug. 21 – for residents living East of the Cooper River (not for residents living in the jurisdiction of the town of Mt. Pleasant or the town of McClellanville, which have their own stormwater management programs).
- Aug. 23 – for residents living in any unincorporated areas of Charleston County

There will also be a presentation on Aug. 28 specifically for engineers and developers.

Each session is free, open to the public, and will include a formal presentation.

"Although we will have a formal presentation for the public, the real purpose of this meeting is for people to understand the purpose and background of the program, and to learn some things they can do at home to help improve water quality," said Chuck Jarman, Director of Charleston County's Stormwater Management Program.

The presentation will include the following, and more:

- Explanation of all new Charleston County Stormwater Management Program components
- Roles and responsibilities for engineers, contractors and developers
- How citizens can help improve water quality and what are the laws
- Who to call for stormwater related issues

Details on the program locations and times are as follows:

Folly Beach

Date: Wednesday, Aug. 15

Time: 6 p.m.

Location: Folly Beach City Hall

Address: 21 Center Street, Folly Beach, SC 29439

Johns Island and Wadamalaw Island

Date: Thursday, Aug. 16
Time: 6 p.m.
Location: Berkeley Electric Cooperative
Address: 3351 Maybank Highway, Johns Island, SC 29455

Isle of Palms and Sullivan's Island

Date: Monday, Aug. 20
Time: 6 p.m.
Location: Council Chambers in City Hall
Address: 1207 Palm Boulevard, Isle of Palms, SC 29451

East of the Cooper River (not for residents living in the jurisdiction of the town of Mt. Pleasant or the town of McClellanville, which have their own stormwater management programs)

Date: Tuesday, Aug. 21
Time: 6 p.m.
Location: Lincoln High School
Address: 714 Lincoln Road, McClellanville, SC 29458

North Charleston / residents of all other unincorporated areas of Charleston County

Date: Thursday, Aug. 23
Time: 6 p.m.
Location: Lonnie Hamilton, III Public Services Building, EOC Room B339
Address: 4045 Bridge View Drive, North Charleston, SC 29405

There will also be a presentation on Aug. 28 specifically for engineers and developers.

Date: Tuesday, Aug. 28
Time: 6 p.m.
Location: Lonnie Hamilton, III Public Services Building, Council Chambers, 2nd Floor
Address: 4045 Bridge View Drive, North Charleston, SC 29405

In November of 2006, residents in unincorporated Charleston County were mailed their first \$36 bill for an annual Charleston County stormwater fee. Under new federal regulations, unincorporated county areas and municipalities must provide stormwater management to regulate runoff from all properties and activities that have the potential to pollute local water systems.

"The County is doing what it is federally mandated to do, otherwise there are stiff fines for the taxpayers. We know that no one likes to receive additional fees, but we all must contribute to the effort of keeping our swimming and fishing areas clean and free of pollution," Jarman said.

Visit the Charleston County Web site at www.charlestoncounty.org for news, services and up-to-date information relating to Charleston County government.