



*Keeping you informed about stormwater issues and Lexington Countywide Stormwater Consortium activities*

## IT'S RAINING—HARVEST THAT FREE WATER!



**Making Rain Barrels in Irmo**



Members of the Lexington Countywide Stormwater Consortium conducted a rain barrel workshop at the Town of Irmo on March 15. After an informational session on water systems, pollution, and harvesting, held at the Municipal Building, attendees moved to the Irmo Public Works garage and made rain barrels. By noon, 23 rain barrels were completed and on their way home by a group of happy residents. These barrels will provide them with a source of water to use for multipurposes.



On April 1, Lexington County Stormwater Manager Sheri Armstrong gave a presentation on environmental stewardship to a group of 30 women at Celebration Church in Batesburg. References in the Bible to rain and preservation of our earthly home were interspersed in the presentation, followed by a demonstration on how to make a rain barrel. One lucky lady was able to take home the rain barrel as a give away.

### Do you want to make a rain barrel?

Sign ups are now taking place for a **“Build Your Own Rain Barrel” workshop** on Friday, May 24, 2019 from 8:45 a.m.–12:00 p.m. at Lexington County Public Works beginning with a class at the EMS Training building. For more information or to register, call Brittany Sandifer, with the Lexington Soil & Water Conservation District (803) 358-8679 or by email at [bsandifer-swcd@gmail.com](mailto:bsandifer-swcd@gmail.com). For a flyer click on the link below.

<http://www.lcswc.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/Flyer-for-5-24-19.pdf>

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### IMPORTANT DATES

*Rain Barrel Workshop, May 24, 2019 in Lexington County*

*Peach Tree Rock 50th Anniversary 4/27/2019*

*Next LCSC Quarterly Meeting 5/26/2019*

# LEXINGTON COUNTY - BEST IN SC IN RECYCLING

“On March 27, 2019, DHEC released their *SC Solid Waste Management Annual Report* for Fiscal Year 2018 in which they announced that Lexington County was the only county in the state to meet both their recycling goal of 40% and their waste reduction goal of 3.25 pounds per person per day. Lexington County residents and businesses were also recognized for having the highest recycling rate in the state for fiscal year 2018 with a reported rate of 43.75%.”....Traude Sander, Lexington County Recycling Coordinator



“Lexington County has developed one of the best recycling programs in the state—it is no surprise the county was able to surpass the state’s recycling and waste reductions goals in fiscal year 2018. By providing 11 collection and recycling centers, holding collection events for electronics and household hazardous material, promoting organics recovery as well as offering education and outreach programs to residents, schools and businesses, Lexington has set an example for others to follow.”....Henry Porter, DHEC’s Bureau of Land and Waste Management Chief.

## RIVERBANKS ZOO & GARDENS HOSTS RECYCLING EVENT



On February 23rd, a Recycling Drop-Off-Event was held at Riverbanks Zoo and Garden for residents in Lexington County, City of Columbia and Richland County. a total of 523 vehicles came and dropped off 13.4 tons of electronics, 1.55 tons of scrap metal , 3.54 tons of paper and 0.13 tons of cooking oil for recycling. 0.90 tons of donations for Goodwill were also accepted. **54%** of the recyclers were from Lexington County.



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## RECYCLING DROP-OFF EVENT AT BATESBURG-LEESVILLE HIGH SCHOOL



HHW STAGING AREA

Batesburg-Leesville High School was the site of a Lexington County Drop-Off Recycling event that included collection of household hazardous waste( HHW). Safe disposal of hazardous substances requires a certified HHW company to properly handle, contain, transport and safely reuse or dispose of HHW. The Lexington County-wide Stormwater Consortium joins with Lexington



HAZARDOUS WASTE TRUCK

County Solid Waste Management to fund these HHW collections. At this 4-hour event on March 23rd, 416 vehicles dropped off 14.83 tons of electronics, 3.48 tons of paper, 6.95 tons of tires for recycling and 5.56 tons of HHW! **Once again, Lexington County leads the way!**

## MALLORY COFFEY—PALMETTO PRIDE JOINS THE LCSC

The Lexington Countywide Stormwater Consortium welcomes Mallory B. Coffey, *Keep South Carolina Beautiful Director and Community Outreach Program Manager*, as

its newest Educational Partner.



Mallory Coffey serves as the Keep South Carolina Beautiful Director for PalmettoPride. She also serves the role of Community Outreach Program Manager at the organization. With the Carolina Recycling Association, Mallory serves as a board member. She has been part of the Keep America Beautiful family for more than 5 years and looks forward to her continued career of doing beautiful things across the state of South Carolina.

She looks forward to working with the Lexington Countywide Stormwater Consortium on future cleanup projects and other special projects to assist with keeping our waterways litter free.

**WELCOME, MALLORY!**

## STORMWATER DISPLAY AT HERB FESTIVAL

The 8th Annual Herb Festival was held on April 6th at the Lexington County Museum. This event, sponsored by *The Herb Bunch* provided an opportunity for the Lexington Countywide Stormwater Consortium (LCSC) to promote its upcoming “*Build Your Own Rain Barrel Workshop*” and chat with festival goers. During the 6 hour festival, ~100 people participated in the display, signed up to



LCSC Display with Visitors

receive the *Water Watch* newsletter and got prizes related to rain and clean water by spinning a prize wheel. Environmental Coordinator, Gary Price and Stormwater Outreach Assistant, Mary Hite, provided tips to the public on best management practices for reducing stormwater runoff pollutants in and around their homes.



Herbs Galore

m.

## WORTH 1,000 WORDS



Hands-on learning often leaves a mental picture that sticks! On March 21st, Gary Price, Lexington County Environmental Coordinator, conducted a presentation entitled Water Quality and Pollutants for middle school students at a *Home School Thursday* program at the South Carolina State Museum.

Students were amazed to learn that South Carolina waterways are **not** pristine, mainly due to urbanization and lack of knowledge and interest by the populous on how to reduce it's negative impact on water bodies. Through use of an Enviroscope (a 3D watershed model.) Mr. Price demonstrated how rainfall (illustrated by a squirt bottle) transports pollutants (food coloring) generated by industry, farming practices and people over the land, rooftops and roadways through the stormwater system and out to water bodies.



**Enviroscope**



**Mr. Price with Students**

A popular feature of this presentation included hands-on experience teaching students how to identify common pollutants in water through examination of bacteria (E.coli) on Petri film and testing water samples for pH and chlorine. Knowledge about how the problem of water pollution



happened in South Carolina can hopefully

fully lead to solutions for the future and interest in careers in stormwater management, engineering and environmental science so that our waterways remain fishable, swimmable and drinkable. To schedule a stormwater outreach presentation for your group in Lexington County, contact Gary Price, Environmental Coordinator at [gprice@lex-co.com](mailto:gprice@lex-co.com) or call (803) 785-8634.

## 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF PEACH TREE ROCK NATURE PRESERVE



Peach Tree Rock Heritage Preserve at comprises 460 acres in Lexington County and is co-managed by the S.C. Chapter of the Nature Conservancy (TNC). The Preserve is a native long leaf pine forest that includes a 2.4 mile loop trail and features a waterfall. The trail is primarily used for hiking, walking, nature trips, bird watching and is accessible year-round.

On Saturday, April 27th, a 50th anniversary celebration of the Nature Preserve will be held from 10:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m. This family friendly event features guided hikes, activities for children and displays by local Conservation groups. The **Lexington Countywide Stormwater Consortium** will have a display with SWAG (stuff we all get) for those who visit and learn about water quality and a drawing for a rain barrel and a Doggie Dooley pet septic system. For more information and directions visit the Nature Conservancy website:

<https://www.nature.org/en-us/get-involved/how-to-help/volunteer-and-attend-events/find-local-events-and-opportunities/preserve-day-peachtree-rock-heritage-preserve/>

## STORM DRAIN TAGGING AT B.C. HIGH SCHOOL



Using caulk guns filled with adhesive to affix drain tags to concrete.

On February 6, 2019 a group of 45 BC High School students in safety vests carrying adhesive guns & decals led by Environmental Science Teacher, James Brown and Monique Ocean from City of Cayce Planning and Development, tagged storm drains in and around the campus. This project introduced students to water quality problems associated with pollutants entering storm drains and with Ms. Ocean whose career includes environmental science.

Marking storm drains with a decal that reads; “No Dumping, Drains to Waterways” alerts residents that storm drains are the visible part of a labyrinth of pipes and connector boxes that carry rain water to local streams. It is important that only rain water enter the stormwater system. When anything other than rain enters a storm drain, either through pollutants on the ground carried by storms into storm drains or people dumping unwanted and often harmful substances into these drains, the pollution in our waterways increases and the health and safety of our waterways decreases. The storm drain tagging program of the **Lexington Countywide Stormwater Consortium** is an environmental action program designed for volunteers. To participate, contact the Lexington County Environmental Coordinator, Gary Price at [gprice@lex-co.com](mailto:gprice@lex-co.com) or call (803) 785-8634.



### Contact Information

Lexington County Public Works  
Attn: Environmental Coordinator  
440 Ballpark Road  
Lexington, SC 29072-2240  
Phone: 803-785-8634

The next meeting of the Lexington Countywide Stormwater Consortium will be held at the on May 16, 2019. An Outlook invitation will be sent to participants prior to the meeting.

*The Lexington Countywide Stormwater Consortium (LCSC) is comprised of the communities of Cayce, South Congaree, Springdale, West Columbia, Irmo, Pine Ridge, Lexington, and Lexington County. We seek to protect Lexington County's waterways and natural resources for the benefit and enjoyment of our citizens.*

We're on the web [LCSWC.com](http://LCSWC.com)