

WATER WATCH

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

Dog Days of Summer is Not Over!

The Lexington Countywide Stormwater Consortium has partnered up with Richland County and City of Columbia at the Columbia Fireflies baseball games. They host a ‘Trash the Poop’ booth with trivia, games, and prizes for all ages during every Dog Days of Summer Wednesday game! The booth is located right next to the pet waiver booth so it is hard to miss. There has been three games so far and there are still two more: July 26th and August 30th. Come bring your furry friend and stop by to pick up a free dog bag dispenser!



Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination

If you see any illicit discharge, make sure to report it to the County’s IDDE form:

<https://www.cognitofrms.com/LexingtonCounty1/IllicitDischargeReportingForm>

The link is on the Lexington County Community Development website, LCSC website, and the County Facebook as well.

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IMPORTANT DATES

- Dog Days of Summer Fireflies Game– July 26th @ 7 pm*
- Household Hazardous Waste Drop Off @ Ecoflo– July 14th & 15th @ 9 am–3 pm*
- Dog Days of Summer Fireflies Game– August 30th @ 7 pm*
- Household Hazardous Waste Drop Off @ Ecoflo– August 11th & 12th @ 9 am–3 pm*

What's in the River?

Summer is here and everyone is headed to the water! Whether that is a lake, river, or ocean it may not be as clean as you think. Impaired waterways can look clear but are places where the water is contaminated by pollutants. These pollutants can be chemical, litter, nutrients, and so much more. Here in Lexington County, our biggest pollutant is fecal coliform- AKA animal and human waste! This is caused by septic failures, natural wildlife, and dog waste left on the ground. When the bacteria levels get very high, DHEC declares the river to be a TMDL site. TMDL means Total Daily Maximum Load, therefore when a site is declared a TMDL, it has consistently surpassed the maximum amount of bacteria allowed in the water. This means the TMDL sites in Lexington exceed the maximum amount for fecal coliform- gross! Luckily the County and LCSC regularly tests the waters and is working to prevent any new TMDL sites. Once a waterway is declared a TMDL site, it can never be taken off the list- but this does not mean we shouldn't try to make the water quality good again.

TMDL sites are located on the DHEC website. Come to LCSC events to learn even more and how you can help keep our waterways safe to enjoy!



How to Get Involved in Trash the Poop

The LCSC has many programs to help prevent more bacteria from entering our waterways. Trash the Poop is our biggest campaign educating the public on the harms of leaving pet waste on the ground. The LCSC attends the Dog Days for baseball games promoting this campaign as well as offering free pet waste stations to neighborhoods! If you'd like to request a pet waste station for your neighborhood/business, fill out this form:

<https://forms.gle/LXuK2xXWXY7Lbm9v8>

Limit of 3 stations per neighborhood



LSWCD and LCSC Now Partnering with the Lexington Blowfish!

The LCSC has been partnering 'across the river' with the Dog Days of Summer Columbia Fireflies Games, but are now bringing it to Lexington as well! The LCSC will be partnering with the Lexington County Soil and Water Conservation District at the Lexington Blowfish baseball games. The first Dog Day Tuesday game that this partnership will be at is July 25th as well as July 18th for the All-Star Show. Just like the Fireflies games, there will be trivia, games, and prizes for all ages, dogs included. Come by to learn about our Trash the Poop program and show the Lexington Blowfish some love!



How to Wash Your Car the Eco-Friendly Way

Despite what many believe, it is actually worse to wash your car on pavement versus on grass. Since the storm drains in Lexington County lead straight to the closest waterway, any water and soap would enter



straight into the drains. Pavement is an impermeable surface where water will flow right off into the storm drains. Grass acts like a sponge and absorbs the soapy water before it can reach the street. The LCSC encourages everyone to live by the slogan: “Only rain down the drain” mean-

ing even water from a hose or bucket shouldn't enter the storm drains. Ideally the most eco-friendly way to wash your car is to bring it to a local car wash, where the water gets treated; but if you are wanting to do it yourself, choose to do so on your yard. Using the natural cleaning supplies will also help to keep the drains as clean as your car!

If you own or manage a car wash in Lexington (or even Richland!) and would like to partner with the LCSC for fundraisers, please email the Stormwater Outreach Coordinator jwarren@lex-co.com for more details.





Contact Information

Lexington County Land Development
Attn: Environmental Coordinator
212 South Lake Drive, Suite 400
Lexington, SC 29072
Phone: 803-785-8634

The next quarterly meeting of the *Lexington Countywide Stormwater Consortium* is Wednesday, August 16, 2023 in the Town of Springdale

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