

WATER WATCH

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

Candy Wrappers: Spookiest Part of Halloween

The days after Halloween are the spookiest for



stormwater... all of the candy wrappers left in the streets come flowing down to the storm drains. Candy wrappers, bags, and costume pieces all end up

at the drains and into the nearest body of water every Halloween. Not only is this bad for our waterways, but a sore to look at as well. If you are interested in participating in a litter cleanup, contact Litter Champions at Lexington County Solid Waste Management.

So just a reminder: **Keep Halloween spooky, but don't haunt our storm drains.**



Picture Credits: City of Springfield, Oregon

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IMPORTANT DATES

*Household Hazardous Waste Collection—
Nov 17th and 18th
9am—3pm @ Ecoflo*

*Backyard Benefits workshop—December
9th 9am-12pm @
Springdale Town Hall*

*Household Hazardous Waste Collection—
Dec 1st and 12nd
9am—3pm @ Ecoflo*

When Boo Turns to Goo

Now that Halloween is over and Thanksgiving is almost here, do you have leftover pumpkins that you are planning to throw away? Don't! Pumpkins are a great addition to a backyard com-



post. The pumpkin is high in nitrogen and the leaves are high in carbon, which are the ideal conditions for a rich compost. If you do not have a compost but live on/near a farm; pumpkins are great for animals to eat. There are numerous animals who will eat the pumpkins: birds, deer, horses,

rabbits, and so many more.

This is a win-win for everyone as you are helping to curb food waste one pumpkin at a time.



1.3 billion pounds of pumpkins get thrown away every year. Be a part of the solution and let your “boo turn into goo.”

Calling All Educators!

Are you an educator at any of the Lexington County schools? Are you looking for a way to incorporate a hands on science lesson? If so, email jwarren@lex-co.com to schedule a water quality presentation or rain barrel workshop with the LCSC. One requirement of the MS4 permit is Public Participation & Involvement and who better to participate than the next generation of leaders? If an in-class activity isn't feasible, the LCSC can provide binders stuffed with handouts and activities for all ages as well!



South Carolina Arbor Day

Did you know... South Carolina Arbor Day is in December? It is celebrated on the first Friday of December (12/1 this year) In honor of arbor day and our upcoming Backyard Benefits theme, here are some facts about South Carolina's state tree: Cabbage Palmetto

- ⇒ Scientific Name: *Sabal palmetto*
- ⇒ Average height: 40 to 50 feet tall
- ⇒ High drought tolerance and “hurricane proof” makes it the ideal tree to be both SC and Florida's state tree.
- ⇒ Ganoderma butt rot is the most serious disease of Cabbage Palms.
- ⇒ Have been seen reaching 90 feet or more in the woods.
- ⇒ Thrives in full sun or partial shade environments.



Final Backyard Benefits of the Year!

It's nearing the end of the year and that means our final Backyard Benefits workshop of 2023 has been announced! The workshop will take place on December 9th from 9am-12pm at the Springdale Town Hall. The special theme of this workshop is Tree Stewardship in observance of South Carolina Arbor Day. As always, come join us build a rain barrel and learn about stormwater, composting, and general environmental information. Composting bins will be available for purchase when registering. Please keep in mind that they will not be available to purchase at the workshop. If you want to learn how to properly plant a tree, how to compost, or build a rain barrel; it is not too late to sign up!

A promotional graphic for the Lexington County December Backyard Benefits Workshop. The top half features a photograph of a person wearing green gloves planting a tree sapling in a hole. Overlaid on the photo is the text 'LEXINGTON COUNTY DECEMBER BACKYARD BENEFITS WORKSHOP'. To the right of the photo is a black rain barrel and a black compost bin. Below the photo, the date and time are listed: 'Saturday, December 9th, 2023 9:00am-12:00pm'. To the right of this is the text 'Get Your Tickets Here.' in a red, cursive font. At the bottom, there is a dark banner with the address 'SPRINGDALE TOWN HALL 2915 Platt Springs Rd. Springdale, SC 29170' on the left. In the center is a QR code. On the right are three logos: the Lexington County logo, the Lexington Countywide Stormwater Consortium logo, and the Lexington County Recycle logo.

You can get your tickets at <https://bit.ly/Dec2023BB> or on the Lexington County Solid Waste Management Facebook page



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, November 15, 2023 in the Town of Pine Ridge

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