

&gt;&gt;&gt; LCSC PRESENTS &lt;&lt;&lt;

# WATER WATCH

*Keeping you informed about local stormwater issues and LCSC activities*



The Lexington Countywide Stormwater Consortium (LCSC) is comprised of the following communities: Lexington County, Cities of Cayce and West Columbia, and the Towns of South Congaree, Springdale, Irmo, Pine Ridge, and Lexington.

We seek to protect the natural resources in Lexington County from pollution caused by residential and business activities. We accomplish this by the following:

- (1) Creating a model collaborative water quality education program,
- (2) Fostering citizen involvement and encouraging behavioral change, and
- (3) Enforcing state and local stormwater regulations.

Through these accomplishments, we strive to achieve clean and healthy streams, rivers, lakes, and groundwater.

## INCLUDED IN THIS ISSUE

### THE NATURAL SHEEN IN YOUR STREAM



### READ MORE ON PG. 1

A quick guide on iron bacteria.

### READ MORE ON PG. 2

Match the stormwater pollutants!



### RUNOFF CHALLENGE

### UPCOMING EVENTS, INFO, & FYIS



### READ MORE ON PG. 3 & 4

You won't want to miss this!

# THE NATURAL SHEEN IN YOUR STREAM

1

## >>> What is Iron Bacteria?



If you've ever seen an iridescent sheen on the water, you may have been quick to assume that an illicit discharge, such as oil or grease, is causing the problem. However, the truth is that you might actually be witnessing the result of a naturally occurring species of bacteria!

Microorganisms, known as iron bacteria, or "iron-eating bacteria," are commonly found in soil, surface water and shallow groundwater. While most bacteria get their energy from decomposing organic matter, iron bacteria obtain their energy from "eating" dissolved iron.



Iron has two forms in the environment: ferrous iron, which occurs in oxygen-free (anaerobic) environments, and ferric iron, which is formed when ferrous iron is exposed to oxygen. This reaction creates solid, rust-colored particles.

Another indicator of the presence of iron bacteria is a swampy odor and a thin oily film on the water's surface.

So, how can you tell the difference between oil and iron bacteria? It's actually simpler than you might think! Gently poke the surface film with a stick or your finger. If it's oil or grease, the film will break apart and quickly return together. If it's iron bacteria, the film will fracture and remain separated.

**Iron bacteria is not a cause for concern.**

The next time you're out enjoying your local waterways, use these tips to help identify iron bacteria before reporting what may appear to be pollution!

**NEED TO REPORT AN OIL SPILL OR OTHER ILLICIT DISCHARGE?**

Visit [lcswc.com](http://lcswc.com) to complete the Illicit Discharge Reporting Form.





# RUNOFF CHALLENGE

2

➤➤➤ Match the stormwater pollutants to the picture!

Oil

Septic Leak

Litter

Construction Debris

Sediment

Pet Waste

Herbicides

Road Salts

Yard Waste

Soaps



# UPCOMING EVENTS, INFO, & FYIS

3

## >>> SAVE THE DATE: LAKE SWEEP RIVER SWEEP!

Join Keep the Midlands Beautiful for their Annual Lake Sweep River Sweep on **September 19<sup>th</sup>, 2026**.

Link to register: <https://keepthemidlandsbeautiful.org/lake-sweep-river-sweep/>  
Registration ends on September 5<sup>th</sup>, 2026!



# UPCOMING EVENTS, INFO, & FYIS CONT'D 4

## >>> HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE DROP OFF

**For Lexington County Residents Only.** Head on over to the Republic Services Collection Center (1741 Calks Ferry Road) to responsibly dispose of your hazardous waste items! See the list of accepted materials below. The drop off dates are **Friday, July 17<sup>th</sup> 9AM-3PM** and **Saturday, July 18<sup>th</sup> 9AM-3PM**.

 FLAMMABLE

**Accepted Materials Include:**

 FLAMMABLE

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Acids</li><li>• Brake fluid</li><li>• Bug spray</li><li>• Car Wax</li><li>• Carburetor cleaner</li><li>• Degreasers</li><li>• E-Cigarettes</li><li>• Fertilizer w/ weed killer</li><li>• Fire extinguishers</li><li>• Furniture stripper</li><li>• Glue with solvents</li><li>• Insect killer</li><li>• Lighter fluid</li><li>• Lithium Ion Batteries</li><li>• Mercury including thermometers, thermostats and debris</li><li>• Mothballs</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Nail Polish Remover</li><li>• Paint, liquid (limit 8 gal)</li><li>• Paint related materials (ex. thinner)</li><li>• Perfume (Body Sprays)</li><li>• Pesticides, insecticides, fungicides, herbicides</li><li>• Polish with solvents</li><li>• Pool chemicals</li><li>• Roach and ant poison</li><li>• Rodent bait</li><li>• Spot remover</li><li>• Spray paint</li><li>• Stain, varnish and lacquer</li><li>• Turpentine</li><li>• Weed killer</li><li>• Wood preservatives</li></ul> |
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## >>> SAVE THE DATE: PAPER SHRED EVENT

Join Keep the Midlands Beautiful on **August 1<sup>st</sup>** for their Paper Shred Event! As a Lexington County Resident, take advantage of this safe and secure way to dispose of your personal documents. The event will take place at **Moore Park** (7507 East View Dr, Irmo, SC 29063) from **9AM-12PM**.



## LET'S CONNECT

Learn more at [lcswc.com](http://lcswc.com)

 County of Lexington, SC



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