

## Franklin County Planning and Inspections Department Initiates Two Major Water Quality Improvement Projects

The Franklin County Planning and Inspections Department has just initiated two remarkable water quality improvement projects. The first is a Watershed Plan for the Cypress Creek in the southeastern portion of Franklin County. This project is funded by a \$45,000 Clean Water Management Trust Fund (CWMTF) grant. The Watershed Plan will identify a set of recommend Best Management Practices (BMPs) for future CWMTF projects as well as serve as a pilot project to model other future watershed plans throughout the County.

The second project is a Water Quality Administrative Work Plan in coordination with Franklin Soil and Water Conservation District to jointly develop a five-year work plan to better address regulations and enforcement of stormwater, sediment, and erosion issues throughout the County. Franklin County is working with North Carolina State University's Watershed Education for Communities and Organizations (WECO) on this worthwhile project. WECO has extensive experience in fostering collaborative solutions in water quality issues with multiple stakeholders.

Both projects will be in progress during most of 2008 but are scheduled to be completed by the end of the year. For more information please contact Max Rogers, Comprehensive Planning Supervisor at [mrogers@franklincountync.us](mailto:mrogers@franklincountync.us) or (919) 496-2909.

## New Center for Watershed Protection Manual Available for Download

From the Center of Watershed Protection; Ellicott City, MD, February 2008:

"In an effort to ensure that every community is equipped with the guidance needed to repair streams as part of larger watershed restoration efforts, the Center for Watershed Protection is now making Manual 4: Urban Stream Repair Practices of the Urban Subwatershed Restoration Manual Series available permanently for free download.

This manual focuses on practices used to enhance the appearance, stability, structure, or function of urban streams. It includes guidance on how to set appropriate restoration goals for your stream, and how to choose the best combination of stream repair practices to meet them".

This Manual, released in 2004, now joins Manuals 1 (An Integrated Framework to Restore Small Urban Watersheds), 2 (Methods to Develop Restoration Plans for Small Urban Watersheds), and 3 (Urban Stormwater Retrofit Practices) in the Manual Series that are now available for free download at <http://www.cwp.org/PublicationStore/USRM.htm>

## Durham Stormwater Services Earns Laboratory Certification

The Durham Stormwater Services Water Quality Section's Aquatic Organism Identification Laboratory, or Bug Lab, has been certified by the NC DENR Division of Water Quality to conduct macroinvertebrate sampling and monitoring in NC. Durham passed a series of rigorous tests in order to become one of only four labs certified to do this work in NC.

The City of Durham is tasked to restore and protect water quality, as well as to develop a water quality monitoring and assessment program, and sampling the diversity and abundance of macroinvertebrates is widely accepted as a cost-effective way to assess aquatic habitat and water quality in surface waters. This certification demonstrates a level of achievement and credibility in these areas. This certification will enable the City to better guide future restoration efforts; help determine causes to aquatic life impairment in urban streams; and contribute to the establishment of aquatic life criteria that is appropriate for our region.

This accomplishment can be attributed to years of training and hard-earned experience on the part of Durham Stormwater Services lead biologists, Bobby Louque and Chris Outlaw, along with the support and commitment of senior management. Congratulations to Durham's Water Quality Section on this notable achievement.

## Falls Lake Nutrient Management Strategy

DWQ estimates that the Falls Lake Nutrient Management Strategy Stakeholder Process will begin in August 2008. If you wish to be kept apprised, please contact Sydney Miller at [smiller@tcog.org](mailto:smiller@tcog.org) or (919) 558-9392. We will continue to include regular updates in this newsletter.

**Upper Neuse River Basin Association**

PO Box 12276  
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[www.unrba.org](http://www.unrba.org)



**Upcoming Meetings**

UNRBA Board of Directors:  
May 21, 2008

Pergamon Restaurant in Butner, 11:30 am

**Upcoming Events**

**April 28-29 or May 5-6: Bioretention Design Workshops (Raleigh or Winston Salem)** A workshop designed for those considering, designing, and/or reviewing bioretention area designs in the Piedmont. A sample design model will be used to evaluate a bioretention design case study and will also include a tour of local bioretention facilities. Offers 20 professional development hours.

<http://www.bae.ncsu.edu/stormwater/training/bioretention.html>  
\$195-250

**On-going (May through November): NC Soils and On-Site Wastewater Training Academy (Multiple Locations)** A series of wastewater training workshops designed for environmental health specialists, subsurface operators, installers, inspectors, soil scientists, and engineers.

<http://www.soil.ncsu.edu/swetc/soilsacademy/2008/acadmain.htm>  
\$145-475

**Who Is the UNRBA?**

The Upper Neuse River Basin Association (UNRBA) formed in 1996 to provide an ongoing forum for voluntary regional cooperation on water quality protection and water resource planning and management within the 770-square-mile Upper Neuse Basin (Falls Lake watershed). We are a coalition of public entities in the watershed, including municipalities, counties, Soil & Water Conservation Districts, and South Granville Water and Sewer Authority. (See UNRBA Participants, below.)

**What Is the UNRBA's Mission?**

Our mission is to preserve the water quality of the Upper Neuse River Basin through innovative and cost-effective pollution reduction strategies and to constitute a forum to cooperate on water supply issues within the Upper Neuse River Basin.

**May 14-15: NCforWater 2008 Forum on Water Quality Monitoring (Charlotte)** NCDWQ and the Environmental Assistance Office at UNC Charlotte invite you to presentations and discussions related to all aspects of water quality and ecological monitoring such as restoration monitoring, long-term monitoring, state and federal programs and emerging monitoring needs. Offers 12 professional development hours.

<http://www.eao.uncc.edu/ncforwater/>; \$95

**June 23-24: Low Impact Development Summit (Asheville)** The Summit will address the planning, policy, and financing aspects of incorporating LID principles in municipalities and will provide engineers, architects, and design professionals with tools for designing, installing, and maintaining LID features.

[http://www.bae.ncsu.edu/workshops/lid\\_summit/](http://www.bae.ncsu.edu/workshops/lid_summit/); \$250/\$375

**Upper Neuse River Basin Association Participants**

Jurisdiction	UNRBA Board of Directors Contact (Policy and Process Issues)		UNRBA Technical Advisory Committee Contact (Technical Issues)	
Butner	Thomas Marrow	tmarrow@butnernc.org	Thomas Marrow	tmarrow@butnernc.org
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**Upper Neuse River Basin Association Staff**

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