

Upper Neuse News



UPPER NEUSE RIVER BASIN ASSOCIATION

OCTOBER 2008

website: www.unrba.org

NC Landowners to Receive Postcard on Maintaining Stream Buffers

Stream buffers (vegetation on stream banks) play a critical role in protecting water quality. To alert citizens to the importance and proper care of these natural areas, the NC Clean Water Education Partnership (CWEP) and UNRBA are mailing 110,000 postcards to owners of lands with streams in CWEP Partner and Upper Neuse jurisdictions.

The postcard will explain what a stream buffer is and why it is critical to water quality. The postcard also says that cutting down trees and plants, and applying pesticides and fertilizers, within 100 feet of a stream may be regulated and to check with the resident's local government beforehand.

The postcard also features instructions on how to plant a tree with suggested species for buffer plantings. The recipient is directed to the CWEP website, www.ncCleanWater.org, for additional information. The buffer postcard will be made available on the CWEP website under Outreach (click on "Print") as a flier for anyone to use.

The UNRBA is covering the cost of mailing postcards to owners of parcels in the Upper Neuse who would not otherwise receive them. The City of Raleigh is donating 2,500 postcards toward the 4,500 needed for owners of Upper Neuse parcels not in CWEP jurisdictions, and UNRBA is paying for the rest.

The postcard will be mailed in November; local governments may receive some questions about stream buffers from recipients. One helpful resource is the Division of Forest Resources' Guide to Riparian & Wetland Tree Planting Pocket Guide, which can be requested by emailing forestry.npsunit@ncmail.net with your mailing address and how many copies you would like to receive.

Falls Lake Nutrient Management Strategy Stakeholder Process Update

The Falls Lake NMS Stakeholder group will not meet in November or December. The next meetings will be January 15, 2009: 1) A supplemental meeting to discuss the basics of water quality modeling will be held from 10 am to 12 pm, and 2) the regular stakeholder meeting will begin at 1 pm. Please see the project website, www.fallslakestakeholder.org, for more details.

Lake Rogers Dredging Project Gets Underway

The City of Creedmoor began a project dredging Lake Rogers in October. Lake Rogers is the City of Creedmoor's sole water supply reservoir and was built in 1939 by damming Ledge Creek immediately upstream of NC-56, in Granville County. Ledge Creek is direct a tributary to Falls Lake. To view photos and maps of the project, please visit the City of Creedmoor's website at www.cityofcreedmoor.org.

The original volume of Lake Rogers in 1939 was approximately 979 acre-feet, but had decreased to 661 acre-feet by 1998 due to sediment deposition. This severe sedimentation represents one-third of the lake's original volume, and average depth has decreased by approximately two feet. The high erodability of Triassic Basin soils coupled with inadequate erosion control practices on farmland and construction sites during much of the lake's history has likely contributed to this high sediment input. Along with sediment, high nutrient loading to Lake Rogers is contributing to recurring problems with eutrophication, nuisance algae blooms, wide fluctuations in dissolved oxygen, and excessive manganese and organic carbon.

The City will skim approximately 55,000 cubic yards (equivalent to 5,500 truck loads) of surficial sediment from 74 acres of the lake bed using a hydraulic dredge mounted on a barge. Sediment testing and research from lake dredging projects elsewhere indicates that removal of these shallow sediments will have the greatest benefit in reducing organic carbon and internal nutrient cycling for the least cost. The sediment will be pumped from the barge through a temporary flexible pipeline laid in the lake to a City-owned disposal site located immediately northwest of the lake.

The disposal site will be cleared and graded to create one diked cell with berms and sediment traps, allowing dewatered sediment to remain in the cells while the relatively clear supernatant drains back to the lake. Extensive marsh and scrub wetlands maintained by beavers at the head of the lake may also help remove suspended sediment and nutrients. Following completion of dredging and dewatering activities, the disposal sites will be re-graded, seeded, and planted with pine seedlings. Funds to cover the costs of the project have come from various sources, including a Water Resources Project Grant (\$1,000,000), an EPA SRAG Grant (\$385,700), and local funds (\$500,000). The dredging project is expected to be complete February, 2009.

Looking for Past Issues of the UNRBA Newsletter?

Past issues of the UNRBA newsletter are available on the UNRBA website at <http://www.unrba.org/downloads.htm>. In addition, you can find descriptions of UNRBA projects with supporting documents, technical reports, annual reports, maps and images, and meeting materials. Visit the website to see how we're working with you to protect your local watersheds!

Upper Neuse River Basin Association

PO Box 12276
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www.unrba.org



Upcoming Meetings

UNRBA Board of Directors:
November 19, 2008
11:30 am in Hillsborough

Upcoming Events

Nov 3-6: 2008 Stream Restoration Conference (Asheville)

Topics include stream restoration planning, design, construction, financing, and monitoring in the Southeast. Research presentations, restoration case studies, industry exhibits, and tours of local stream restoration projects. Share knowledge and experiences and become involved in shaping the future of stream restoration!

<http://www.bae.ncsu.edu/programs/extension/wqg/srp/2008conference/index.html>; Prices vary from \$150-\$500

Nov 5-6: Erosion and Sedimentation Control Planning and Design Workshop (New Bern) A workshop to educate and familiarize design professionals on the NC Sedimentation Pollution Control Act, the rules implementing the Act, and design standards for erosion and sedimentation control Best Management Practices.

http://www.ncsu.edu/wrri/events/esc_workshops/fall08/registration_fall08.pdf; \$175; Professional Development Hours available.

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.

Nov 7: 2008 Dan Okun Memorial Symposium (Chapel Hill)

Symposium to be held at UNC honoring the professional achievements of Dr. Daniel A. Okun, who passed away last December. Topics include institutional approaches to water supply and technologies in developing countries, watershed protection, water reuse, dual water distribution systems, and privatization.

http://www.sph.unc.edu/envr/dan_okun_memorial_symposium_8607_9172.html; \$Free

Dec 3-4: Stormwater BMP Inspection & Maintenance Certification (Raleigh) Undertand stormwater and how it affects drinking water quality, stormwater management devices used in NC and how they function, maintenance requirements for each stormwater practice, and receive NCSU certification.

<http://www.bae.ncsu.edu/stormwater/training/bmpworkshop.html>; \$180 (no PDH)/\$225 (PDH)

Upper Neuse River Basin Association Participants

Jurisdiction	UNRBA Board of Directors Contact (Policy and Process Issues)		UNRBA Technical Advisory Committee Contact (Technical Issues)	
	Name	Contact	Name	Contact
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