

Fall 2023

NEWS DRAIN

Stormwater News You Can Use

River Sweep Sign Ups Open!



THE CATAWBA RIVERSWEEP

**SATURDAY
OCTOBER 7, 2023
9:00AM - 12:00PM**

*Registration ends September 29.

MAKE AN IMPACT! Help keep our waters clean at Catawba Riverkeeper's largest annual cleanup! Join over a thousand volunteers for a day of hard work, fun, fellowship, and action!

REGISTRATION OPEN NOW!
Volunteer as a group or individual!

LAKE JAMES	MOUNTAIN ISLAND LAKE	CATAWBA RIVER
LAKE RHODHISS	SOUTH FORK	FISHING CREEK
LAKE HICKORY	CHARLOTTE CREEKS	GREAT FALLS
LAKE NORMAN	LAKE WYLIE	LAKE WATEREE

catawbariversweep.org

CATAWBA RIVERKEEPER

CATAWBA WATEREE
WATER MANAGEMENT GROUP

SCAN TO REGISTER!

We are excited to partner again with the Catawba Riverkeeper on their annual Riversweep event.

On Saturday October 7th from 9am to 12pm, you can join the Fort Mill Stormwater Department and York County Stormwater for a clean up of Sugar Creek! We will be meeting in Regent Park at The River Place to access Sugar Creek and remove as many tires and other trash as we can! This is a great volunteer opportunity for middle schoolers to adults.



https://catawbariverkeeper.org/vistech.com/acts/console.php?console_type=event_list&event_id=76&console_id=0010&ht=1

Scan the QR code or click the link to learn more and sign up! Sign up by September 17th to get your River Sweep t-shirt!

Second Saturday Service Returns!



Mark your calendars for our Second Saturday Service events for the rest of 2023!

The Town of Fort Mill and the Anne Springs Close Greenway are once again partnering on our Second Saturday Service events! After taking a break during the heat of the summer, Second Saturday returns on Saturday, September 9th. In October, we will combine it with the River Sweep event, but never fear, if you don't want to get your feet wet in Sugar Creek with the Stormwater Department, the Greenway will be leading roadway clean ups! The last Second Saturday Service event for 2023 will be November 11th. It will start back up in January for our 2024 series!



[For Second Saturday Service click this link or scan the QR code](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040A48A8A62BA5FA7-second#/)

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040A48A8A62BA5FA7-second#/>

[For the Greenway's River Sweep site:](https://catawbariverkeeper.cervistech.com/acts/console.php?console_type=event_list&event_id=77&console_id=0010&ht=1)
https://catawbariverkeeper.cervistech.com/acts/console.php?console_type=event_list&event_id=77&console_id=0010&ht=1



2023 (so far) by the Numbers

314

**ATTENDED STORIES & SHAVED
ICE EVENTS THIS SUMMER**

5,314

**POUNDS OF TRASH
COLLECTED SO FAR IN 2023!**

116

**STORM DRAINS MARKED
BY VOLUNTEERS**

Volunteer Spotlight: Sia & Noah



I am really excited to announce we had two high school students join us this summer as Stormwater Interns! This is a new volunteer opportunity that we were able to provide. Sia, a rising Nation Ford High senior and Noah, a rising junior at Northwestern High, joined the Stormwater Department to learn about all aspects of not only our department, but water and sewer as well.



We visited Rock Hill's stormwater and water filtration departments, toured sites of stream restoration, learned where our drinking water comes from and where things go when the toilet flushes. A big thank you to Scott Bailey and the crew at the Town's Waste Water department for the tour! We were able to tag along with the water department as they read meters (thank you Johnny & Bradley) and RJ and the sewer crew showed us how they camera pipes.

Sia and Noah were also able to interview town staff about their education, background and career paths. They also helped out at our last Stories & Shaved Ice event .

The Stormwater Department is happy to host our high school students for job shadowing and internships! Reach out if you have any questions or want more details on how to get a student involved.



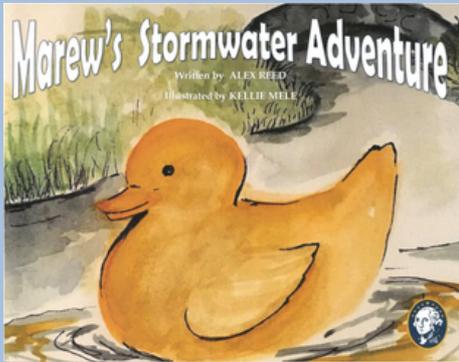
Staff Spotlight: Charles Saunders

The Stormwater Department is excited to have Charles in charge of our stormwater crew as our new Crew Leader! Charles was born in Johannesburg South Africa and moved to Fort Mill about 15 years ago with his wife, Amy. LeeAnn Clark, Stormwater Manager said "Charles comes to us with a wealth of experience and knowledge in the Utilities field and we are thrilled to have him as a part of the Stormwater team!" Welcome Charles, we are glad to have you!

Summer Fun Wrap Up



Celebrating the completion of our mural project with a ribbon cutting event in June



Hosted three Story Walk events with Stories & Shaved Ice at area parks



Had multiple group clean ups of area creeks with Daimler (above) at Dye Branch Creek and Divots Golf Club (below) at Steele Creek



Upcoming Events this Fall

We are hosting two FREE Adopt-a-Stream workshops for volunteers! Saturday September 16 Freshwater testing and Sunday October 8 Macroinvertebrates.

Sign up on our website:

<https://fortmillsc.gov/387/Testing-Our-Local-Waterways>



Our Stormwater Art Contest returns this fall! Open to all students in grades K - 12. Check the website for more details!

<https://fortmillsc.gov/565/Stormwater-Art-Contest>

The Stormwater Mural is complete and you can now play our "Seek & Find" game! Check the website for more details:

<https://fortmillsc.gov/526/Stormwater-Mural-Project>



Look for us at the Town's Fall Festival October 21st as part of the Touch-a-Truck area and make sure you vote for our scarecrow this year in the Scarecrow Crawl!

Stormwater Week will be celebrated September 24th - 30th with interactive opportunities for the public. Keep an eye out for more details soon!

Spring Sneak Peek



The Fort Mill Stormwater Department will be bringing South Carolina artist Kirkland Smith to Fort Mill in Spring of 2024 for a collaborative community art project!

Kirkland Smith, who is based in Columbia, works with discarded plastics (single use items, broken children's toys, bottle caps and more) to create stunning collage works that she calls Assemblage. We will be working with the Anne Springs Close Greenway to host Kirkland at the Greenway Gateway facility where the public can come watch and help her create a one-of-a-kind piece of artwork for the Town of Fort Mill.

The public will be invited to bring their own plastic items to work into the piece and the Stormwater Department will be working with local schools and organizations to collect items for the workshop.

Check out Kirkland's body of work on her website:

<https://www.kirklandsmith.com/>



Since you read all the way to the end...send me your guess for how many tires we will pull out of Sugar Creek at our River Sweep Clean Up! The closest guess to the actual number will win a prize! Winner will be contacted week of October 9th.