



## Environmental Art & Education

The Fort Mill Stormwater Department is pleased to announce that PalmettoPride, South Carolina’s anti-litter organization, donated an environmental sculpture to the Town. The sculpture was installed during an exciting educational event on August 6 featuring several family-friendly activities. Over 70 people braved the drizzly morning to come out and participate.

The sculpture, a river otter, is hollow and able to be filled with collected trash, helping to make the connection that what we leave in the environment impacts our local wildlife and waterways.

The sculpture was installed in Harris Street Park in conjunction with a family-friendly educational event, as well as a public trash cleanup. A story walk was set up along the sidewalk in the park, and there were several interactive educational stations for the community. These included York County Soil & Water Conservation District providing EnviroScape demonstrations and also the Anne Springs Close Greenway, who brought along a box turtle and corn snake! The Columbia Marionette Theatre presented a production of ‘Litter Trashes Everyone,’ which was a highlight of the event!

A big thank you to PalmettoPride for not only donating the sculpture but also sponsoring the marionette show!



Artist Jim Swaim helps local children fill the sculpture

## Upcoming Dates

Second Saturday  
Service Returns!

SEPT 14  
NOV 9

SAVE THE DATE!  
RIVER SWEEP

OCT 5  
MORE DETAILS PAGE 3



*Pictured from left to right: Andy, Allegra, Rachael, Mina (staff), Sara and Mary Fields*

## Stormwater Internship Program

This summer we've had the chance to work with five incredible young people from the Fort Mill School District. Three of our interns are incoming college freshman, heading off in a few weeks to Clemson and Wofford to all study Environmental Science. Two of our interns are current high school seniors. All five of these students have worked hard, showed up (mostly) on time and done some really outstanding work! Stormwater Management Coordinator, Mina McLean MacDonald, worked with the Fort Mill School District to create an internship program for these local high school students. From field trips, to interviews and leading public programs, the students have certainly had a full summer. We can't wait to see where they all end up! Check out more photos from their summer below!





# Catawba Riverkeeper & Sugar Creek Cleanups

FORT MILL STORMWATER PARTNERS WITH THE RIVERKEEPER

Staff from the Stormwater Department and from York County Stormwater were invited to a kayak cleanup of Sugar Creek in early August. With just 14 volunteers, our group managed to clean up 3,000 pounds of trash, which included 50 tires. Check out the story from [WFAE on this clean up effort here!](#)

Sugar Creek is a waterway that is severely impacted by pollution, including sediment, trash, chemicals and of course, tires!

We can all make a difference in this waterway by ensuring we limit use of lawn chemicals, pick up after our pets and dispose of all trash properly.

Want to get your hands dirty--literally? Join us for the Catawba Riverkeeper's River Sweep event on Saturday, October 5! We will be a host site, partnering again with The River Place in the Regent Park community. Volunteers will be in the creek and on land, helping to haul trash and tires out of Sugar Creek.

Last year's event pulled 108 tires and over 500 pounds of trash out of the creek, and we can't wait to do it again!

Look for the link to register later this month & check out some pictures from last year's event below!



*Mina MacDonald, pictured with her weird trash finds!*



# Interested in Volunteering?

It is easy to get started!



Sign up as a Stormwater Volunteer on our website: <https://fortmillsc.gov/516/Volunteer-Opportunities>



Have a short phone call with the Stormwater Management Coordinator about your interests.



Start signing up for programs and activities!

# SC Adopt-a-Stream Program

FALL WORKSHOPS BEING SCHEDULED NOW!

Interested in joining the volunteers who do water quality testing? Sign up for the waitlist for our fall workshops!

<https://scdhec.gov/environment/your-water-coast/adopt-stream>



## We Otter Say Thank You!

A big Stormwater thank you to the crews from Public Works (pictured), Parks & Recreation and our own Stormwater department who helped make our Environmental Sculpture installation event a success!

Even with the rain showers that morning, these awesome Town of Fort Mill staff members made it happen! Thank you all; you otter be proud of the work you do, day in and day out!

