



NEW HANOVER COUNTY



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SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

January 2023

MONTHLY E-NEWSLETTER

Stay informed of you local district happenings!

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North Carolina Division of Soil & Water Annual Meeting

***Staff and Board Members attend State Soil & Water Annual Meeting
in Cherokee, North Carolina January 8th-11th.***

New Hanover County Soil and Water Conservation District staff and board members, Hayes and Mearns, attended the North Carolina Division of Soil & Water Annual Meeting in Cherokee, North Carolina earlier this month. Staff and board members attended various trainings, committee meetings, Conservation Luncheon, Education Dinner, and networked with people from across the state.

Held annually, the meeting is an important training opportunity for board members. At the meeting, board members receive training credit for attending classes and seminars on topics that range from natural resource management to Streamflow Rehabilitation Assistant Programs (StRAP). Staff attend these sessions as well, ensuring that they stay up to date on changes to cost share programs, funding, and education contest. " We had very interesting speakers, including a welcome to the meeting by Chief Richard Sneed, Principal Chief of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians (EBIC). We also heard from Representative Jeff McNeely, District 84 NC House of Representatives, and Steve Troxler, NC Commissioner of Agriculture." reports Board Chair Hayes. Staff and board members will be using the trainings from the conference to strengthen their services to the citizens of New Hanover County!



Storm Drain Marking

Only rain in the drain!



New Hanover County Soil & Water Conservation District is seeking volunteer groups to mark storm drains around the city of Wilmington. Volunteer groups will be given training on how to mark storm drains, work with a New Hanover County Soil & Water Conservation District staff on marking 14 storm drains, and provide a valuable service to the City of Wilmington.

Storm drain marking involves labeling storm drain inlets with plaques warning citizens not to dump pollutants into the drain. The messages are generally a simple phrase and a graphic to remind those passing by that the storm drains connect to local waterbodies and that dumping will pollute those waters. These signs can raise awareness about the connection between storm drains and receiving waters to help deter littering, excess fertilizer, dumping, and other practices that contribute to storm water pollution.

Tracking pollutants found at each storm drain is an important task. Volunteers track data at each marked storm drain. Data tracking ensures that continual dumping is reported and prevented, allows for pollutants to be recorded, and storm water services can be alerted of storm drains in need of repair. Citizens are empowered to protect their waterways by participating in storm drain marking.



If you have a group of volunteers interested in storm drain marking, please contact the New Hanover County Soil & Water Conservation District for more information! **Email:** soilwater@nhcgov.com **Phone:** 910-798-7130

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Upcoming Events

Wednesday, February 1st 8:00am NHCSWCD Board Meeting, NHC Government Center Room 500

Thursday, February 9th 9:00am Rain Barrel Sale, NHC Arboretum

Saturday, February 18th 8:00am Rain Barrel Sale, Wilmington Farmer's Market

Tuesday, February 28th 12:00pm Rain Barrel Sale, NHC Arboretum

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