

January/February 2004

Environmental Update

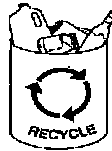


NCCE – Onslow County Center
Onslow County Multipurpose Complex
4024 Richlands Hwy.
Jacksonville, NC 28540
(910) 455-5873
Fax (910) 455-0977
<http://www.ces.ncsu.edu/onslow>



It's resolution time!

Along with your list of things that you plan to either start or stop doing in 2004, did you include anything related to the environment? If not, how about:



I will use the local curbside recycling program.

I will recycle my used motor oil.

I will turn lights off that I don't need to have on.

I will change my leaky faucet washers.



I will get a low-flow shower head.

I will take a soil sample, so I know how much fertilizer (or lime) my yard actually needs.

I will treat my septic system properly, which includes NOT parking on the drainfield.

I will landscape with plants, shrubs, and trees that are appropriate for this area.

I will check my drainage ditches for blockages, sedimentation, and erosion.... AND WILL CORRECT AS NEEDED!

Reminder: Homebuyer's Course

The next Jacksonville Community Development Division's "Homebuyer's Education Course" will be **Saturday, January 10, 2004** from 9 am – 5 pm. If you are interested in the class, contact Patricia Hatch (910-938-5256) to register.

Muddy Water Essay Contest:

The Muddy Water Essay Contest focuses on erosion and sedimentation control issues in North Carolina. Participants must be enrolled in a charter, public, or private high school, or equivalent program in North Carolina. The top

three essays (500-1200 words) from each school must be submitted to the Land Quality Regional Office by **February 16, 2004**. Each regional winning student, teacher, and school will be awarded prizes: \$80, \$100, and \$120.00 respectively. Regional winners will present their essay during state judging. Students, teachers, and schools can win from \$200 to \$1,200 at the state level.

The purpose of this contest is to enhance the thinking skills of NC high school students on the processes of soil erosion and sedimentation, the biological and economic impacts of these processes, how erosion and sedimentation affect communities, and how to both prevent erosion and control sedimentation. Read the **Muddy Water Essay Contest** brochure at <http://www.dlr.enr.state.nc.us/eroschol.html> or contact:

Janet Paith
Sedimentation Education Specialist
Division of Land Resources
919-733-4574

Winter Tree Identification Workshop:

Lake Crabtree County Park (located in Morrisville, Raleigh/Durham area) is offering a Winter Tree Identification workshop for teachers and environmental educators.

Friday, February 20th, 9 am until 2:30 pm
OR

Saturday, February 21st, 9 am until 2:30 pm

This workshop is being offered twice. Choose a day to come out and learn about leaf scars, bud scales and other characteristics used to identify trees without leaves! This 5 hour workshop can be used towards Component II of the EE

Certification program. For more information, contact:

Deborah Robertson, Assistant Park Manager
Lake Crabtree County Park
1400 Aviation Parkway
Morrisville, NC 27560
(919) 460-2723

Available internships:

Cape Fear River Watch is seeking to fill 3-5 internship positions, for Spring 2004, in the following areas:

Outdoor Education and Recreation Internship
Outreach Program Internship
Creekkeeper Internship

These internships are a great opportunity to gain experience and network. Through a partnership with the City of Wilmington, a stipend for the Outreach Program Internship is being offered.

For position descriptions and application information, please email (cfrw@ecoisp.com) or contact:

Jennifer O'Keefe, Program Coordinator
Cape Fear River Watch, Inc.
617 Surry Street
Wilmington, NC 28401
910 762 5606

More Nemonic Devices!

Here are a couple more "memory helpers":

How to remember the great lakes: "homes"

Huron, **O**ntario, **M**ichigan, **E**rie, and **S**uperior

North Carolina Cooperative Extension Service
North Carolina State University
Onslow County Center
4024 Richlands Hwy.
Jacksonville, NC 28540

Trig functions:

Some Old Horse (sin = opposite/hypotenuse)
Caught Another Horse (cos = adj/hypotenuse)
Taking Oats Away (tan = opposite/adjacent)

What is the GBBC?

Do you like birdwatching? If yes, consider participating in the Great Backyard Bird Count this February 13-16, 2004. The GBBC website contains information on bird identification, a tally sheet with the typical species observed in NC already listed, and information on how to submit your count (<http://www.birdsource.org/gbbc/>)

Here's what you do:

- **Count the birds in your backyard**, local park, or other natural area on one or all four count days. Keep a separate checklist for each area.
- **Watch the birds** for at least 15 minutes on each day that you participate. It is recommended that you watch for a half-hour or more, so that you have a good sense of what birds are in your area.
- **Be careful not to count the same bird** over and over! If you record only the highest number of individual birds that you see in view at one time, you're sure to never count the same bird more than once!

Sincerely,

Diana M.C. Rashash

Diana M.C. Rashash, PhD
Extension Area Specialized Agent
Natural Resources-Environmental Education