

May/June 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>



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## Upcoming Events

This is definitely the season for all types of outdoor activities and related workshops. The following list presents several of the upcoming events that are currently available.

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### Habitat Gardening and Landscaping with Native Plants

Date/Time: Wednesday, May 5th, 10 am - noon  
Rain date is May 12th, 10 am - noon  
Location: Storm Water Demonstration Site in Anne McCrary Park, Wilmington (off Randall Parkway).

This workshop will cover landscaping with native plants and how to build and maintain a successful habitat garden. Call **Cape Fear River Watch** to register, 762-5606. This workshop can count towards NC Environmental Educator Certification in Criteria II or III. The workshop is FREE and open to the public.

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### Citizen's Oyster Gardening Project

Dates and Locations:  
May 6, Thursday: Emerald Isle (Town Hall)  
May 11, Tuesday: Oriental (Women's Club)  
May 13, Thursday: Swan Quarter (SWQ Vol. Fire Dept.)

Times: 12:30 - 5:30,  
registration: 12:00 - 12:30

These workshops are intended to introduce the concept of ON-bottom oyster gardening and will describe the APNEP (Albemarle-Pamlico National Estuary Program) oyster gardening program. Workshop sessions will introduce participants to the fundamentals of water quality in estuaries and will cover the basic biology and

ecology of our native oysters. Participants will learn about oyster culture and how to start an ON-bottom oyster garden. Workshops include lecture and hands-on learning activities. Participants will be encouraged to network with others in their area to better coordinate oyster gardening activities and future distributions of seed oysters for the project.

Please pre-register by sending an email with your name and address. Indicate in the subject line which workshop you would like to attend.

Send email to Skip Kemp, Carteret Community College, at: [kemps@carteret.edu](mailto:kemps@carteret.edu)

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### Green Roof Symposium

Date: May 11, 2004  
Location: J.C. Raulston Arboretum  
North Carolina State University  
Raleigh, NC

The purpose of the symposium is to expose the green building community to the many facets of green roofs: their history and current usage, using regulations to promote their use, the media, the vegetation, research on their effectiveness and provide case studies. There will be a tour visiting three green roofs in Raleigh, NC.

Vendors are welcome to display their products and services at the Green Roof Symposium. Companies interested in exhibiting should contact: Joni Tanner, NCSU, at 919-513-1678. Or by email at: [joni\\_tanner@ncsu.edu](mailto:joni_tanner@ncsu.edu)

Fees: Participant : \$60  
Exhibitor: \$150

To register or see complete conference details:  
[www.soil.ncsu.edu/swetc/greenroofs/main.htm](http://www.soil.ncsu.edu/swetc/greenroofs/main.htm)

For additional information, call: 919-515-7154  
Email: Kathryn\_Murray@ncsu.edu

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**Southeast Regional Aquatic Conference**

Date/Time: May 12<sup>th</sup>, 9 am –4:30 pm

Location: Brunswick Community College,  
Leland Campus, Leland NC

Do you have problems with unwanted aquatic vegetation? Can you identify your aquatic plants? Are your fish healthy? For answers to these and others questions, plan to attend this conference. Classroom lectures, hands-on identification and outdoor application techniques will be a part of the program. Bring along any aquatic plant samples you may have for positive identification and control suggestions.

REGISTRATION IS LIMITED TO FIRST 100 APPLICATIONS RECEIVED. FEE: \$10.00

Contact Wayne Batten (910) 259-1235 for further information and to receive an application.

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**Cape Fear River Basinwide  
Water Quality Planning Workshops**

Date/Time: May 11, 9:00 am – noon

Location: Fayetteville Pub. Works Commission,  
955 Old Wilmington Rd. (910) 223-4702

Date/Time: May 11, 6 – 9 pm

Location: Sampson County Ag Expo Center,  
414 Warsaw Rd. (910) 592-7161

Date/Time: May 20, 9:00 am - noon

Location: New Hanover County Extension  
Center, 6206 Oleander Drive, Wilmington, (910)  
452-6393

If you live, work or are interested in water quality issues in the Cap Fear River Basin, please plan on participating in one of these May workshops. You will have opportunities to ask questions of and provide guidance to the Division of Water Quality in the development of the next Cape Fear River Basinwide Water Quality Plan.

Basin meetings are also being offered in other locations within the Cape Fear Basin. Contact Cam McNutt [(919) 733-5083 ext 575] for further information.

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**Wildlife Resources Commission Classes**

The NC Wildlife Resources Commission’s Outer Banks Center for Wildlife Education will offer the following classes in the Coastal region. All of these classes will satisfy either Component I or II of the NC Office of Environmental Education certification.

**Migratory Songbirds**

May 4: 9:00-4:00

Hammock’s Beach State Park, Swansboro

May 5: 9:00-4:00

Wilmington Parks and Recreation, Carolina Beach

May 8: 9:00-4:00

NC Aquarium at Ft. Fisher

May 18: 9:00-4:00

Cool Springs EE Center, New Bern

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**Reptiles and Amphibians**

June 17-18: 9:00-4:00 and 9:00-1:00

Cool Springs EE Center, New Bern

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**Aquatic Project WILD**

June15: 9:00-4:00

Hammock’s Beach State Park, Swansboro

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**CATCH**

May 28: 9:00-4:00

Lake Rim Fishing Center, Fayetteville

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For further information, contact:

Mike Campbell (mike.campbell@ncwildlife.org)

Outreach Education Specialist

NC Wildlife Resources Commission

PO Box 14170

New Bern, NC 28561

(252) 514-6663

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**Plants for Wet Places**

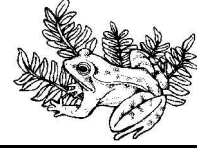
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Do you have a wet or damp area in your yard where you have problems getting plants to grow well? This is not uncommon for southeastern NC. Charlotte Glen, the Cooperative Extension Urban Horticulture Agent in New Hanover County, has compiled a list of plants that “thrive in wet to average soils, are commonly available, grow well in southeastern NC, and are attractive landscape plants”. For further information about these plants, contact your local Extension office.

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# Plants for Wet Places

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If you have ever planted azaleas in a wet site, you probably quickly realized that not all plants are adapted to handle extra moisture. Sites can be wet for different reasons, such as low-lying topography, high groundwater tables, or poor internal drainage due to high clay or silt content. Whatever the reason, the outcome is still the same – many of our common landscape plants fail to thrive in these wet sites.

In wet soils, air spaces are filled with water for part or most of the growing season. Plant roots require oxygen to live, but in wet soils there is little or no oxygen available. The result is death due to suffocation or infection by root rot diseases that thrive in wet soils. Depending on the plant species, death may be rapid or prolonged. Some plants though, are adapted to not only grow but also thrive in wet soils. Following is a list of plants which thrive in wet to average soils, are commonly available, grow well in southeastern NC, and are attractive landscape plants.

## Trees

River Birch<sup>^</sup>  
*Betula nigra*

Bald Cypress<sup>^</sup>  
*Taxodium ascendens*

Red Maple<sup>^</sup>  
*Acer rubrum*

Sweet Bay Magnolia<sup>\*^</sup>  
*Magnolia virginiana*

Southern Magnolia<sup>\*^</sup>  
*Magnolia grandiflora*

Weeping Willow  
*Salix babylonica*

Willow Oak<sup>^</sup>  
*Quercus phellos*

Laurel Oak<sup>\*^</sup>  
*Quercus laurifolia*

Fringe Tree<sup>^</sup>  
*Chionanthus virginicus*

Atlantic White Cedar<sup>\*^</sup>  
*Chamaecyparis thyoides*

## Shrubs

Inkberry Holly<sup>\*^</sup>  
*Ilex glabra*

Wax Myrtle<sup>\*^</sup>  
*Myrica cerifera*

Anise Shrub<sup>\*^</sup>  
*Illicium parviflorum*

Yaupon Holly<sup>\*^</sup>  
*Ilex vomitoria*

Dahoon Holly<sup>\*^</sup>  
*Ilex cassine*

Sweet Shrub<sup>^</sup>  
*Calycanthus floridus*

Summersweet<sup>^</sup>  
*Clethra alnifolia*

Sweetspire<sup>^</sup>  
*Itea virginica*

Dwarf Fothergilla<sup>^</sup>  
*Fothergilla gardenii*

Winterberry<sup>^</sup>  
*Ilex verticillata*

## Perennials

Hardy Hibiscus<sup>^</sup>  
*Hibiscus moscheutos*

Texas Star<sup>^</sup>  
*Hibiscus coccineus*

Cardinal Flower<sup>^</sup>  
*Lobelia cardinalis*

Blue Star<sup>^</sup>  
*Amsonia tabernaemontana*

Black Eyed Susan<sup>^</sup>  
*Rudbeckia fulgida*

Swamp Milkweed<sup>^</sup>  
*Asclepias incarnata*

Joe Pye Weed<sup>^</sup>  
*Eupatorium dubium*

Hardy Ginger Lily  
*Hedychium coronarium*

Siberian Iris  
*Iris sibirica*

Yellow Flag Iris  
*Iris pseudocorus*

\* = evergreen

<sup>^</sup> = native to SE USA

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Prepared by  
Charlotte Glen, Urban Horticulture Agent,  
North Carolina Cooperative Extension - New Hanover County Center

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### Heritage Farm Animal Symposium

Dates: July 6-9

Visit Heritage Farm Animals on Triangle area farms during a summer workshop for elementary school teachers. Learn how the science and social history of rare breeds of farm animals can help bring home the concepts you cover with your K-5 students. Visit a different farm each morning and study the issues each afternoon.

Travel, lodging, teacher stipends, CEUs and curriculum materials are all included in this unique professional development symposium.

If interested, contact:  
Screech Owl Farm School  
farm@screechowl.com  
(919) 542-0333

Spaces are limited!

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Attention Teachers & Environmental Educators

### Air Quality Workshop

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards

Date/Time: July 15, 8:30 am - 4:00 pm  
Location: US EPA Campus  
Research Triangle Park, NC

To register, email: Donna Rogers at rogers.donna@epa.gov with name, home address, telephone, and grade level(s) you teach.

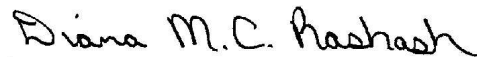
- EPA subject matter experts will address current key air-program issues.
- Receive air quality curricula, videos, and up-to-date resources
- Learn the Agency's role in air quality management
- Experience interactive hands-on learning activities designed for classroom use
- Free - NO COST

A pre-workshop assignment will be required by each attendee in order to receive 1 CEU and Criteria I Credit for the NC Environmental Education Certificate. The assignment will help you better understand the color codes in the Air Quality Index and the health message associated with air quality forecasting.

Space is Limited! Register Early!

Donna Rogers  
US EPA  
Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards  
(E143-01)  
RTP, NC 27711  
Telephone: (919) 541-5478  
Fax: (919) 541-5678  
E-mail: rogers.donna@epa.gov

Sincerely,



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

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