

Town of Oak Ridge 2011-2012 highlights



FAIRS AND FESTIVALS

Stormwater SMART attended the nearby Founder's Day Festival attended by approximately 5,000 people including Oak Ridge residents. We provided outreach and direct education through distributing educational materials, conducting surveys, conversing with residents about local water quality issues and giving away reusable grocery bags and our popular dog treats tagged with information on the importance of managing pet waste. Staff also attended Ridge Fest in Oak Ridge but had minimal citizen participation.

PRESENTATIONS

June 25th, eight people attended a public meeting Stormwater SMART conducted addressing the Jordan Lake Rules in Summerfield and Oak Ridge. This presentation outlines how traditional gardening techniques can degrade water quality, how people can improve water quality using rain gardens, buffer networks, and other best management practices, and how native plants can benefit wildlife, water quality, and neighborhoods and green spaces.



SCOUTS

Stormwater SMART attended the Girl Scouts 100 year anniversary event held in High Point and engaged 200+ scouts and leaders from the Piedmont Triad. We also taught Soil and Water Conservation Badge requirements at the Akela District Merit Badge College and reached over 100 scouts and several chaperones from the City of High Point, Oak Ridge, Thomasville and Archdale. Stormwater SMART presented a program to the Cub Scouts during the Cub Scout Day Camp and reached over 100 participants in nearby High Point.

STREAMWATCH TRAINING

Stormwater SMART held a Stream Watch Training held at Camp Guilrock on the Haw River in partnership with the Haw River Assembly – a third of the participants were from Oak Ridge.



BUFFER IN A BOOKMARK

Because there is no eligible libraries in or around the Town of Oak Ridge, Stormwater SMART provided bookmarks made of paper seeded with native wildflowers and information about the important role plants play in protecting water quality through community organized events and at the Founder's Day Festival.

MATERIALS

Stormwater SMART worked with the Town of Oak Ridge to distribute brochures, new homeowner information guides, flyers, the Stormwater Steward and other information educating citizens about the actions they can take to improve water quality. Topics include: general stormwater, pet waste, low impact development, riparian buffers, vehicle washing and maintenance, landscaping for water quality, septic system maintenance, rain garden design and function, hazardous waste disposal, and proper fertilizer use. All materials are available on our website, www.stormwatersmart.org.

