

Spartanburg Soil & Water Conservation District

April & May 2014

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Earth Day Celebration

Conservation groups from the upstate gathered at the Headquarters Library in Spartanburg to celebrate and raise awareness on Earth Day.



Composting, recycling, and pollination are just a few of the broad topics discussed with passers-by.



Spartanburg Soil & Water Conservation District

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Envirothon!

The Envirothon is an outdoor environmental competition held for high school students each year. This year 20 teams from schools across South Carolina came together to participate in the SC Envirothon held at the Sandhills Research and Education Center near Columbia, SC.

Numerous volunteers and partnership agency staff came together to provide an enriching environment for the teams and funding for award scholarships.



Teams competed in various areas and covered topics in forestry, aquatics, soils, and wildlife. Oral presentations on current environmental topics were also a very important part of the competition.



Spartanburg High School, Spartanburg Day School, and Dorman High School participants showed off their knowledge and excelled in each category.

CONGRATULATIONS TO EACH TEAM!

1ST PLACE: SPARTANBURG DAY SCHOOL TEAM A

2ND PLACE: SPARTANBURG HIGH SCHOOL TEAM A

3RD PLACE: DORMAN HIGH SCHOOL TEAM A

Gardens & Grants

Discover Your Watershed!

Spartanburg's Soil and Water Conservation District gathered with various conservation groups on April 26th, 2014 to celebrate and educate families on water quality.

Groups set up booths by Lake Cooley and provided various activities such as face painting, canoeing, and paddle boarding.



Children had the opportunity to win various prizes and meet volunteers, staff, and even a few reptiles!

Groups discussed an array of topics with families, all focusing on protecting our watersheds. Environmental camps, stormwater runoff, septic tanks, wildlife, and conservation in general are just a few of the topics that were discussed with attendees.

Judging by the interest and smiling faces, Discover Your Watershed 2014 was a success!



Above: Island on Main Street in Woodruff, SC before the Water Wise Garden Project

Below: Woodruff High School's Science Club working to complete the Water Wise Garden Project



The Soil & Water Conservation District and the Woodruff Roebuck Water District sponsored the raingarden project located on Main Street in Woodruff, SC. This included water-wise gardening methods and a permanent sign displaying a map of surrounding businesses, events, and information about the garden.

Spartanburg's Soil and Water Conservation District is accepting applications for mini grants to fund school gardens!

Please contact Stacey Mason at SpartanburgSWCD@yahoo.com or (864)814-2471 ext. 101 to obtain an application and for details.

Pleased to meet you!

Hi,

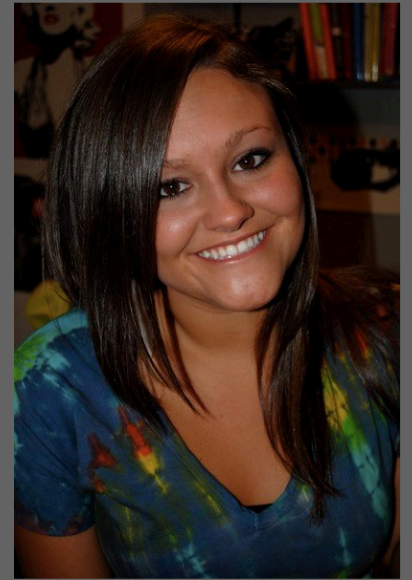
My name's Stacey and I am so excited to be working with you all. If I haven't met you yet, I am looking forward to it! I was hired in April and am the new district coordinator for Spartanburg County's Soil & Water Conservation District. Thus far, I am loving it!

I am from Piedmont, SC and attended Wren High School. My passion for animals led me to the University of South Carolina where I completed a B.S. in Biological Sciences. My primary focus was animal and marine related science, and I am a former veterinary assistant.

I really enjoyed my time working in veterinary hospitals, but am even more excited about the opportunities here in Spartanburg. I spend my spare time volunteering with students and leading small groups with my home church in Anderson, SC. That being said, I am super excited to find my way into classrooms to work with Spartanburg's students and help them understand why I love conservation so much.

Looking forward to tomorrow,

Stacey Mason



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