

WATERways

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Proper Grease Disposal for Cleaner Creeks

Fats, oils, and grease washed down your sink can clog up pipes in the City's sewer system. That can lead to a big mess in your kitchen or bathroom. It can also spill raw sewage into local streams.

Join Durham residents who follow these simple tips for proper grease disposal.

DO

- ◆ Collect cooking oil and grease in containers and dispose of it in the trash. For large amounts of used residential cooking oil, take it to the City's Waste Disposal and Recycling Center at no cost.
- ◆ Remove oil and grease from kitchen utensils, equipment, and food preparation areas with a scraper or paper towel.
- ◆ Keep grease out of wash water.
- ◆ Place food scraps in the trash.



DON'T

- ◆ Pour oil or grease down the drain.
- ◆ Wash pots, pans, and plates with water until oil and grease are removed.
- ◆ Use hot water to rinse grease off surfaces.
- ◆ Use the drain as a means to dispose of food scraps.
- ◆ Pour grease or oil into an outside storm drain. It can clog storm drain pipes too.



Visit and "like" our page at www.Facebook.com/DurhamNCStormwater to see project updates, event and meeting reminders, photos, videos, and clean water tips.

Use your smart phone's QR code app to access the page:



Want 5 free fat trapper bags?

Send your name and address to StormwaterEducation@durhamnc.gov or call 919-560-4326, ext. 30235.

South Ellerbe Wetland (Duke Diet & Fitness Center)

The City has studied building a constructed wetland at the site of the former Duke Diet and Fitness Center on West Trinity Avenue. Stormwater control measures like this proposed wetland filter polluted runoff before it enters creeks and lakes.

This location is unique in its ability to treat a large amount of runoff. Two drainage areas, Trinity Park and downtown, converge at the site. Finding places downtown to treat water pollution is a challenge. Building one large wetland could save the City money in the long run.

The City will hold 2 public meetings on the proposal:

1. July 12, 2012, Durham City Hall, Committee Room, 2nd Floor, 101 City Hall Plaza, Durham, NC at 6:30 p.m.
2. August 7, 2012, North Regional Library Meeting Room, 221 Milton Road at 7 p.m.

Right: A kid-constructed graphic at one public meeting showed how fish would return to the stream if it was "restored" by removing trash and other pollution.

Watershed Planning Updates Public input helps shape restoration ideas

The City is working on watershed improvement plans for Northeast Creek, Crooked Creek, and Third Fork Creek. Improvement projects for the completed Ellerbe Creek plan are underway.

These watershed plans report the best water quality improvement projects that can be identified in each watershed. Implementing the best projects and other recommendations will help meet federal and state water quality rules. Priority projects are chosen based on cost effectiveness and how well the projects will improve the health of our local streams and drinking water supply lakes.

This Spring, The city held sessions to update residents on progress and ongoing activities. The public meetings gave people a chance to discuss their concerns about the health of the watershed. Input from public meetings, along with field work and modeling, will inform the final reports.

The City will present the Third Fork Creek and Northeast and Crooked Creek final plans in late 2012. Residents are invited to learn more and get involved in these efforts.

Visit our webpage for updates:
www.DurhamNC.gov/stormwater.

