

The Resource

A Publication of the City of North Augusta
Stormwater Management Department

Treating Stormwater - Underground

Residents may have noticed construction across from Lions Memorial Field on West Buena Vista Avenue. The project is called "Oak Leaf Condominiums." Due to the small area of the project, a unique system was installed to temporarily store and treat stormwater underground. The device is called a "storm tech chamber."

As shown here, several underground chambers are constructed in rows and then covered with rock and earth to provide filtration and to keep the chambers safe from heavy traffic above. Sediment and other debris carried in with stormwater is then filtered out of the system and isolated in the center row, called an "isolator" row. This row can be monitored and cleaned through special ports

that will be accessible to maintenance crews. Cleaner stormwater is then allowed to pass through the system and into storm drains that empty into the river.

The city's Stormwater Management Department (SWMD) requires developers to provide water quality improvement techniques or best management practices (BMPs) in their stormwater system designs. This is one of many types of systems that the city has approved. To learn more about this type of device, visit www.stormtech.com.



Workers covering the storm tech system

Recycle Used Oil!

Waste oil does not have to be waste, it can be re-used. Did you know that every gallon of waste oil contains 140,000 (+) BTU's of energy? The North Augusta Material Recovery Facility (MRF) accepts waste oil for recycling. The MRF recycles used oil in two ways. During the winter months, the oil is used to heat the facility by burning it in

a specialized waste oil burner heating system. Using the oil to heat the facility reduces cost and waste. Collected waste oil is also recycled by energy companies for use in specialized energy production facilities. In 2005, the MRF facility recycled 568 gallons of used oil.

Every gallon of used oil that is recycled as a fuel is about one less gallon of

fresh petroleum which must be pumped out of the ground and processed. Recycling used motor oil will keep it from entering a landfill and can reduce pollution from improper disposal. If you have containers of used oil that need to be disposed of, please bring them to the Household Hazardous Waste Collection event in January. We can re-use it!

Household Hazardous Waste Collection Event

January 20, 2007
10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

The SWMD will hold a Household Hazardous Waste Collection Event on Saturday, January 20, 2007 from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Crossroads Market (Kroger) Shopping Center. Grant funds to hold this additional collection event were awarded to North Augusta by Clemson Extension's Aiken office and the Edisto Savannah Resource Conservation & Development office.

For further information,
contact the SWMD at 803-441-4246 or stormwater@northaugusta.net.

Don't miss this opportunity to properly dispose of unwanted chemicals!

Species Profile

Columnar Stinkhorn

If you find yourself within 50 feet of this winter fungus, you will smell its vile odor long before you see it. The putrid odor of the columnar stinkhorn (*Clathrus columnatus* or *Linderia columnata*), can even trick turkey buzzards who fly in to see if a meal is near. A member of the fungi family *Phallaceae*, the striking pumpkin-orange colored stinkhorn mushroom is a decomposer commonly found in decaying leaves and mulch. Stinkhorns come in a variety of shapes, colors and sizes. They grow on damp forested ground or stumps and also can surprise you by popping up in decomposing mulch in your landscaped flower beds.

Most of the time the stinkhorn is unseen, producing fine strands within the soil and dead organic material. During cool wet conditions, it matures into a

partially submerged "egg" attached to the ground with long cords. The white egg can be seen poking out of the soil. A pale orange slime is excreted before it bursts open to start reproduction by developing smelly fruiting bodies of two to five hollow "arms" that reach upwards, out of the

egg, and join at the top. Spores are produced on the fruiting structure within a slimy, brown stinking substance. Certain insects, especially flies, are attracted and



Columnar stinkhorn growing near the Riverview Park Activities Center

then spread the spores to other areas. So if you see (or worse, smell) this fungus in your landscape this winter, it is not an alien invasion, it is just a stinkhorn!

Visit the Updated North Augusta SWMD Website!

The city's SWMD website has been improved to include more information for residents about local streams and our watershed. The purpose of the website is to provide residents, businesses, developers, and contractors with the information needed to meet city ordinances and to provide information on how we each can help protect water quality in North Augusta. In addition to forms, ordinances and guidance documents, we added:

- A **Natural Resources** page that provides specific information about watersheds, streams, rivers and ponds, including specific details about North Augusta's watershed.
- A **Learn about Stormwater** page that provides information about the types of pollutants found in stormwater.
- A **Just for Kids** page that provides links to games, puzzles, and activities geared to help kids learn about stormwater and the environment.

If you're interested in learning more about the Stormwater Management Program, conducting business with the city



SWMD, or are interested in a stream that runs through your neighborhood, please visit www.northaugusta.net and click on the SWMD fish logo. The logo will always bring you back to the stormwater homepage. If you have comments or additional information you would like to see on the website, email us at stormwater@northaugusta.net.



For additional information contact:

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