



## **Stormwater Steward Award Nominations Due by Friday, March 23**

We are currently accepting applications for the 2018 Stormwater Steward Awards through Friday, March 23<sup>rd</sup>. If you know of a person, business, or organization that completed an innovative project last year relating to stormwater management, fill out an [application](https://www.athensclarkecounty.com/FormCenter/Stormwater-Management-24/2018-Stormwater-Steward-Award-Applicatio-458) [<https://www.athensclarkecounty.com/FormCenter/Stormwater-Management-24/2018-Stormwater-Steward-Award-Applicatio-458>] on our website and let us know. Help us shine a light on some of the good work that has happened in Athens! A description of past year's winners can be found on our website [here](https://www.athensclarkecounty.com/5312/Stormwater-Steward-Award) [<https://www.athensclarkecounty.com/5312/Stormwater-Steward-Award>], along with an electronic application form.

The Stormwater Steward Award winners will be recognized at the 2018 GreenFest Environmental Awards Ceremony on Thursday, April 19<sup>th</sup> at Flinchum's Phoenix event venue in the Whitehall Forest. A variety of environmental awards are given out, and the ceremony is free and open to the public. Athens GreenFest [<https://www.athensclarkecounty.com/6543/GreenFest>] is a community-wide celebration providing citizens with an opportunity to increase awareness of and interest in improving the environment. Events are held March through May by different organizations to encourage learning and to provide tools necessary for creating an environmentally friendly community. Keep an eye out for an event calendar that will come out in late March.

## **ACC Finishing Up Watershed Management Plans**

As part of watershed management and planning efforts in the county, ACC Stormwater has been working on developing Watershed Management Plans for the 18 different watersheds within Athens. The primary purpose of these plans is to guide county staff, elected officials, community organizations, and citizens in protecting and restoring beauty and function within the watershed. The plans are intended to be practical tools with specific recommendations on practices that will improve and sustain a healthy environment. At the end of March, 18 plans will be complete and available to the public for review. To complete these plans and characterize each watershed, the following steps have been completed:

- Stream Walks: Assessing the physical health of a stream by evaluating the stream beds, banks, and buffers by walking the entire length of the stream.
- Sampling: Conducting grab sampling on each stream to gather water quality data. This step helps us identify potential sources of impairment and allows us to evaluate the chemical health of the stream.
- Modeling: Determining the amount and sources of pollution in each stream by entering the data we have gathered into a statistical model. The model helps us evaluate options for reducing pollutant loads.
- BMP Selection: Selecting Best Management Practices (BMPs) including physical, educational, and legal options to best improve and protect watershed health.

Visit our website [<http://www.accgov.com/stormwater>] for updates about when all of the plans are complete.



*Hunnicutt Creek converging  
with the Middle Oconee  
River*



*The North Oconee River*



*Carr Creek*

## Upcoming Events

**Hilsman Middle School Family Science Night**  
**Thursday, March 29, 5:00 – 7:00 PM**  
**Hilsman Middle School (870 Gaines School Road)**

ACC Stormwater will be tabling at Hilsman Middle's Family Science Night at the end of March. This event is meant to bring students and their families together to engage in fun, educational science activities. We will have a stormwater trivia game on hand and will be giving out information about the Stormwater Program.


## Contact Us


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## Notice Dumping?

Call the Stormwater Hotline at 706-614-1282 if you see someone dumping into a storm drain or notice flooding due to clogged drains or pipes.

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