

Walnut Creek Wetland Community Project

Research Forum | NC State Hunt Library | Thu. Sep. 11, 2014





Co-Sponsors

Community and university partners

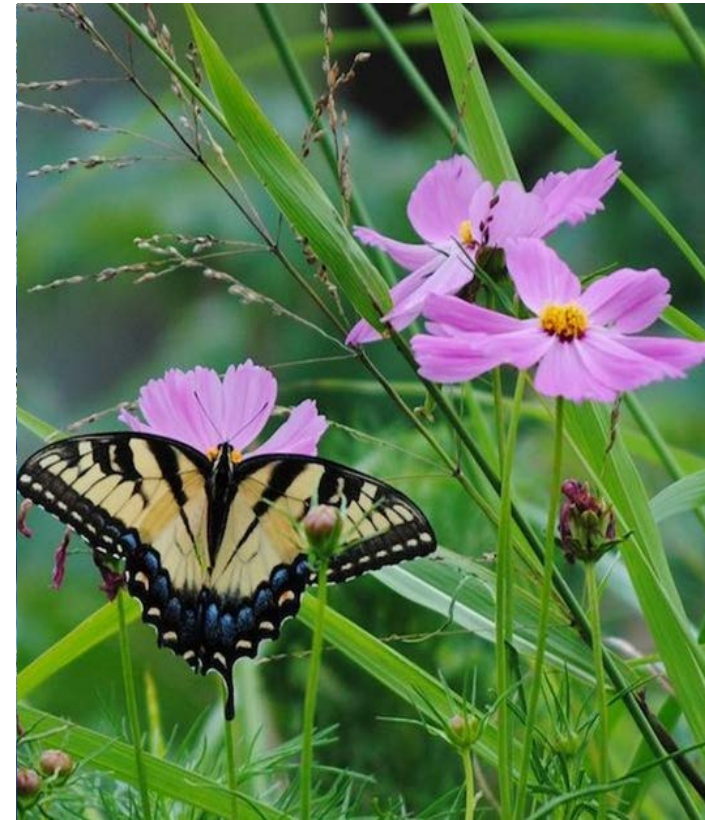
CHASS Dean's Office: Diversity Program

Africana Studies: University in the Community Program

Walnut Creek Wetland Center

Partners for Environmental Justice[PEJ]

St. Ambrose Community Outreach





Acknowledgements

College of Humanities and Social Sciences

Jeff Braden, Dean

Vicki Gallagher, Associate Dean

Joe Johnson, Student Diversity Coordinator

Sheila Smith McKoy, Director of African Studies



Acknowledgements

Graduate Student - Emily McCarthy



- Communications Specialist for Wetlands Research
- Public Administration, PhD Student
2016, North Carolina State University
- Master of Public Affairs
2011, LBJ School of Public Affairs, UT Austin

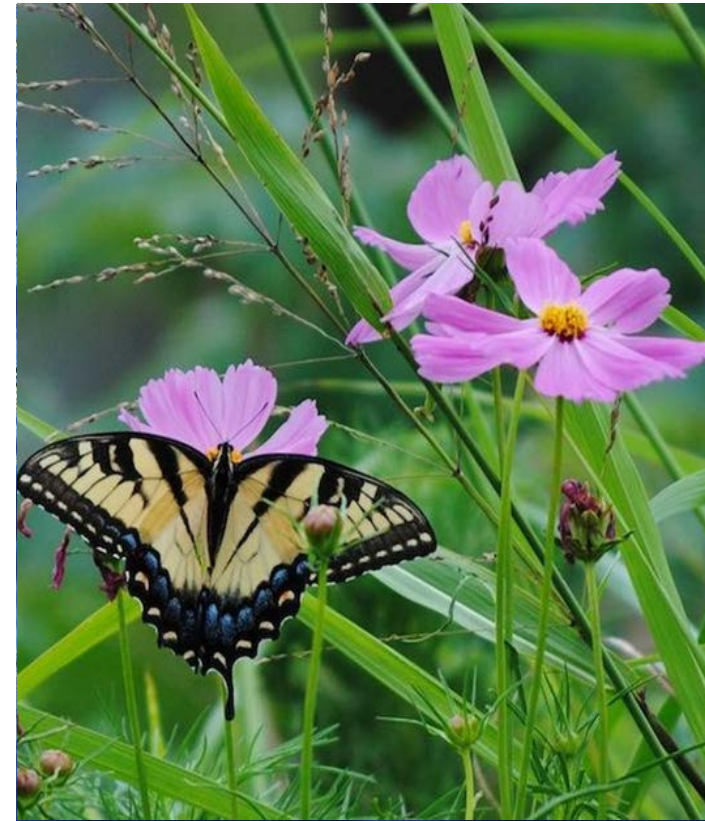


Acknowledgements

Graduate Student - Keon Pettaway



- Communications Specialist for Wetlands Research
- Communication, Rhetoric and Digital Media, PhD Student 2016, North Carolina State University
- Master of Fine Arts, Graphic Design, 2012, East Carolina University





Acknowledgements

Undergraduate students

African Student Union

Africana Studies Student Majors and Minors





Acknowledgements

Committee members

WCWCP Working Committee Members



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Sanitary Sewer Collection System

Sewer Maintenance and Environmental Management System

Last updated Jul. 29, 2014 - 11:13 am



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The City of Raleigh Public Utilities Department provides the best wastewater services for our customers while protecting the environment and maintaining public health at a reasonable cost. The sanitary sewer system built during the 1890s discharged directly into Walnut Creek and Crabtree Creek without treatment; today's system is much different. The sewer system consists of approximately 2,300 miles of mains which convey wastewater to one of three wastewater treatment plants. The City of Raleigh treats wastewater from approximately 183,000 customers in Raleigh and the surrounding communities of Garner, Wake Forest, Rolesville, Knightdale, Wendell, and Zebulon; serving a population of over 500,000 people.

The maintenance of the sanitary sewer collection system is critical to ensuring the public health of our customers. The Sewer Maintenance Division of the Public Utilities Department is the responsible for the sanitary sewer collection system maintenance. Sanitary sewer mains are primarily located underground; connected by a series of manholes that are either at or slightly above ground level. Employees must be able to access the manholes to maintain the system. Manholes are located in public right-of-way or in easements on private property. There are 2,300 miles of sanitary sewer mains in the City of Raleigh service area; approximately 930 miles located in easements on private property. The operation and maintenance of the sanitary sewer system is a protection of the capital investment that the community has made in its wastewater collection system, which extends its effective life cycle and reduces operational costs. Inadequate operation and maintenance of the sanitary sewer system can cause failures, which can result in sanitary sewer overflows.

Resources[Illegal Dumping Reward Program !\[\]\(5fe20d230f80dac6f70ef21181cce44d_img.jpg\)](#)[Your Sewer Service Connection !\[\]\(ce39ca781755c958ae0f92f004d16a3b_img.jpg\)](#)[Sewer Maintenance EMS Manual !\[\]\(e1a4b736df6a1a41c7e489407def10db_img.jpg\)](#)**Contacts**[Tom Johnson !\[\]\(f77d429904de075e826df1d11daf9232_img.jpg\)](#)[Matt Vessie !\[\]\(464021738b128973cd05b6a5856c39ef_img.jpg\)](#)[Marti Gibson !\[\]\(16566bf04d8629c2f265f9cc174bb563_img.jpg\)](#)[T. J. Lynch !\[\]\(8b35c44cc99cfbe0aec5d7e9f22c53d8_img.jpg\)](#)



Historical Narrative

of the Walnut Creek Wetland

1890s to 1950s: Untreated water discharged directly into Walnut Creek

1990s: PEJ (formerly EEJ) organized for environmental justice

2000s: Master plan developed for an Urban Wetland Educational Park

2009: Walnut Creek Wetland Center built and opened

2014: Parks and recreational facilities Bond Referendum (Nov. 4 ballot)



Presenters

2014 Walnut Creek Wetlands Community Project Forum

Southeast Raleigh Wetland Center

Sherry Graham, *Director*

Partners for Environmental Justice

Dr. Norman Camp, *Chair and Community Activist*

St. Ambrose Episcopal Church

Father Jemonde Taylor, *Outreach Ministry*

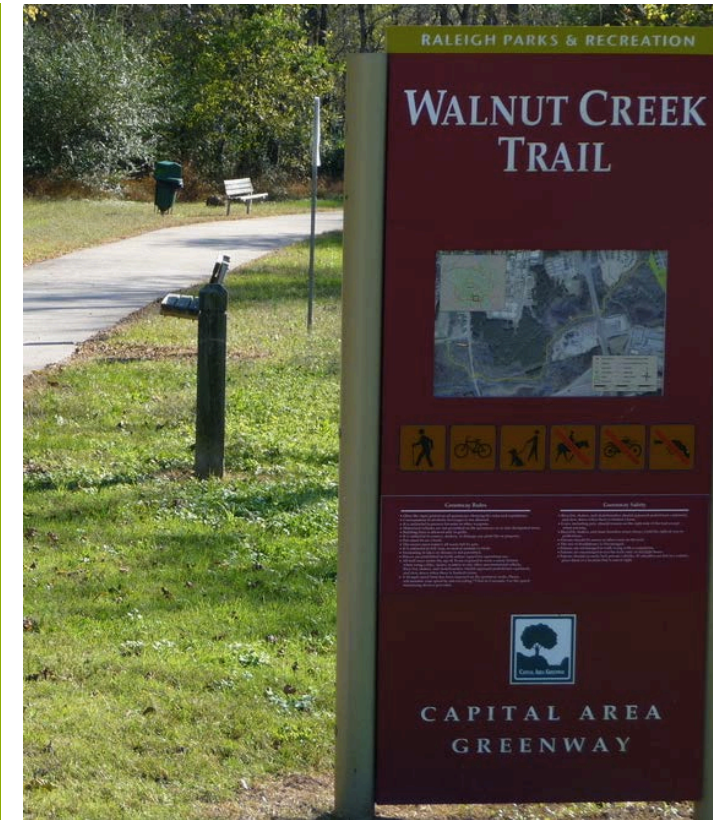
City of Raleigh Parks, Recreation and Cultural Resources Department

Scott Payne, *Assistant Director*

Cassie Schumacher-Georgopoulo, *Senior Planner of Strategic Planning*

David Shouse, *Natural Resource Administrator*

Joanne Sullivan, *Citizen Advocacy Group*



Community Needs

Collaborative brainstorming in break out groups with WCWCP facilitators

Sustainable Living

Focuses on ways residents of the wetland community can conceptualize, realize, and then maintain a mutually beneficial relationship between itself and the natural environment of the wetland, so that both flourish hand-in-hand into the future.

Community Vitality

Focuses on creating strategies and programs that enhance residents' social, economic, and cultural lives by incorporating the gift of the wetland into activities of daily life, as community members pursue their life goals.

Natural Resources

Focuses on the natural wealth and diversity of the wetlands, consisting of land, forests, mineral deposits, water, etc. that are essential for the viability of the wetland.

Conservation

Focuses on how the interplay of sustainable living, community vitality, and natural resources management can protect and promote biodiversity and effective ecosystem functions, while improving residents' knowledge of, and engagement with, the wetland.



DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY AND ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES



Louie Rivers III

Assistant Professor

Education:

B.S., Kentucky State University (2001)

M.S., The Ohio State University (2003)

Ph.D., The Ohio State University (2006)

Research Interests:

My research focuses on the examination of risk and judgment and decision process in minority and marginalized communities, particularly in regards to the natural environment

Current Projects & Collaborations:

- › Comparable Modeling as a Tool to Study Complex Socio-Ecological Systems
- › Climate migration, a case study of the Dust Bowl
- › Fraud in Self-Report of Environmental Discharges
- › Conservation Criminology (<http://www.conservationcriminology.msu.edu/index.php>)
- › Urban Sustainability Research Coordination Network (<http://www.urban-sustainability-rcn.org/index.html>)

Sustainable Living

Dr. Louie Rivers, Assistant Professor, NC State University, Department of Forestry and Environmental Resources

Focuses on ways residents of the wetland community can conceptualize, realize, and then maintain a mutually beneficial relationship between itself and the natural environment of the wetland, so that both flourish hand-in-hand into the future.

Research Areas: Commercial Design; Architecture Design; Africana Studies; Department of Management, Innovation, and Entrepreneurship (MIE)

Departments: Commerce; Affordable-housing ; Community Development; College of Design

Example: The focus group conducted this summer focused on examining local residents perception of the environment, the wetland center and their personal relationship with the natural environment.

Community Vitality

Father Jemonde Taylor, Partners for Environmental Justice, Outreach Ministry of St. Ambrose Episcopal Church

Focuses on creating strategies and programs that enhance residents’ social, economic, and cultural lives by incorporating the gift of the wetland into activities of daily life, as community members pursue their life goals.

Research Areas: Anthropology; Philosophy & Religion; Political Sciences; Communication; Sociology / Social Work; History; Education

Departments: Health Education ; Community-History; Community Engagement

Example: Having residents from the Raleigh Correctional Center for Women interact with the Wetlands related to environmental care, sustainability, or horticulture.

Natural Resources

Sherry Graham, Director, SE. Raleigh Wetland Center

Focuses on the natural wealth and diversity of the wetlands, consisting of land, forests, mineral deposits, water, etc. that are essential for the viability of the wetland.

Research Areas: Parks & Recreation; Forestry; Soil Science; Horticultural Science; Biological sciences

Departments: Parks Access to Waterways; Nature Paths

Example: A biological inventory to create a baseline to see how far we’ve come (and how much further we need to go) in our efforts to maintain a more resilient and productive wetland.

Conservation

Dr. Norman Camp, Chair and Community Activist, Partners for Environmental Justice

Focuses on how the interplay of sustainable living, community vitality, and natural resources management can protect and promote biodiversity and effective ecosystem functions, while improving residents’ knowledge of, and engagement with, the wetland.

Research Areas: Soil Science; Chemistry; Estuarine and Coastal; Plant and Microbial Biology; Environmental literacy

Departments: Learning-environment; Water Quality Management; Environmental Literacy; Soil Preservation; Maintaining Natural-setting

Example: Projects that promote an understanding and protection of the wetlands, enhances community pride, and encourages economic development in a historically under served minority community in Southeast Raleigh.

Next steps

- **Get** the WCWCP Newsletter
- **Sign up** to receive email updates
- **Visit** <http://go.ncsu.edu/walnutcreekwetlands>
- **Upcoming events:** Walnut Creek Wetland Big Sweep, Festival in Motion, and PRCR Bond Referendum



Walnut Creek Wetland Big Sweep




Event Description:

Raleigh Parks and Recreation, Partners for Environmental Justice & Wake County Big Sweep invite you to the Walnut Creek Wetland Litter Clean Up. Wake County Big Sweep is part of North Carolina Big Sweep (www.ncbigssweep.org), a statewide citizen volunteer effort to make our watersheds litter-free to improve water quality and wildlife habitat.

Per Department policies, this volunteer opportunity is not to be used towards court-appointed community service hours.

Event Start Date/Time: Sat, Sep 20, 2014 9:00 AM

Event End Date/Time: Sat, Sep 20, 2014 12:00 PM

Volunteers Needed: 48 



FREE FAMILY FUN EXPLORING NATURE

Saturday > September 27
10am-2pm

COME TO THE
WALNUT CREEK WETLAND CENTER



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Council Approves Parks, Recreation and Cultural Resources Bond Referendum Advocacy Group

News posted Aug. 05, 2014 - 6:00 am

An advocacy group for a \$91.775 million City of Raleigh Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Resources Department (PRCR) Bond Referendum scheduled for the November 4 ballot has been approved by the Raleigh City Council. Members of the advocacy group will be paired with PRCR staff in a series of informational and educational presentations to Citizen's Advisory Councils (CAC), civic groups, professional organizations, homeowner associations, faith-based organizations, and other stakeholders in Raleigh and the Triangle.

The list includes former members of the Raleigh City Council, current members of City Boards and Commissions, CAC chairs, business owners, parks and recreation advocates, coaches and other stakeholders. Group members will be responsible for raising funds to pay for communications materials in support of the upcoming bond; such as signage, print materials and media placement. Advocates voluntarily participate in this process. Staff will work with the advocates according to their ability and willingness to volunteer.

The bond referendum, approved by Council at its July 15 meeting, will improve and expand existing parks and recreational facilities, acquire new park land, and construct new parks and recreational facilities throughout Raleigh. If approved by voters, the \$91.775 million in bonds would necessitate a 1.72-cent increase in Raleigh's property tax rate to go into effect July 1, 2015. The City's tax rate currently is 40.38 cents per \$100 of property valuation.

News

[City of Raleigh Issues Call for Artists for ART-ON-THE-MOVE 2015](#) (today)

[It's Year Two for Bluegrass and Championship 'Cue](#) (today)

[Alert] [City Conducting Smoke Testing on Sewer System Beginning Sept. 10](#) (yesterday)

[IBMA's World of Bluegrass Extends Stay through 2018; Announces Lineup and](#) (yesterday)

Events

Sep 11 [Draft Downtown Plan Presentation & Open House](#)
6:00 pm - 8:00 pm

Sep 12 [Draft Downtown Plan Presentation & Open House](#)
9:00 am - 5:00 pm

Sep 15 [BPAC Meeting](#)
6:00 pm

Sep 16 [City Council Work Session](#)

Power of Research and Collaboration

Thanks for attending! <http://go.ncsu.edu/walnutcreekwetlands>

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