

2018 "ENVIRONMENT MATTERS" ECO LUNCH AND LEARN

MARGARET ALLIGOOD, Environmental, Soil and Erosion and Stormwater Public Education Coordinator
Co-host and facilitator for Columbia County Government Engineering Division.


TRIPP WILLIAMS, Columbia County Agriculture and Natural Resources Agent - UGA Extension
Co-host & program leader of "Understanding Soils, Fertilizers and Management of Turfgrasses"

NATALIE GIBSON, Columbia County Evans Library Reference Manager

MISSION: Adult Public Education Outreach for the Environmental Protection of Natural Water Resources and the MS4 permit awareness. The goal is to make ourselves available to citizens and share with them how we all can be good stewards of the environment. Stormwater Utility and Environmental Services housed in the Engineering Division in collaboration with UGA Extension- Columbia County presented interesting hands on workshops and sessions sharing vast knowledge & expertise. Topics: "Environment Matters" combined with "Introduction to Soils" lesson, "Management of Tools for Turfgrasses", and "Understanding Fertilizer" lessons.

By forming this partnership programming, we were able to educate the fact when rain hits hard impervious surfaces and pollutants quickly travel to the natural water resources. Citizen's landscapes, grass and plantings, can help reduce pollutants from entering our vital natural waters by slowing down water runoff and acting as a filter. We demonstrated this on an Enviroscope table model and the UGA Extension County Agent educated citizens how to be successful in managing landscapes, with many options of various plantings and turfgrasses, with minimal pollutants entering our waterways.

| Program Topics and Guest Speakers | | |
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| 1. | March 22, 2018 Margaret Alligood Tripp Williams Natalie Gibson | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Watershed display and PE session on how to protect it (MA)• Introduction to Soils Session 1 (TW)• Library Programs & Books on topics offered (NG) |
| 2. | April 26, 2018 Margaret Alligood Tripp Williams Danny Phillips, CC Water Plant Manager | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Watershed display and PE session on how to protect it (MA)• Soil Management Session 2 (TW)• " From the River to your House" the Process of Providing Healthy Drinking Water (DP) |
| 3. | May 24, 2018 Margaret Alligood Tripp Williams Jenny Hinson, CC Recycling Center Manager | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Watershed display and PE session on how to protect it (MA)• Understanding Fertilizers Session3 (TW)• Recycling Center facts & tips |

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| 4. | June 28, 2018 Margaret Alligood Tripp Williams (out of town) Natalie Gibson Andrew Strickland, Director Project Greenway Greenbrier Nursery, Mary Jean Newell | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Water pollution prevention education. (MA) Library Programs & Books on topics offered (NG) CC Greenway Project (AS) Plants and pruning tips (MJN) |
| 5. | July 26, 2018 Margaret Alligood Tripp Williams Natalie Gibson Reed Creek Park, Wade Carruth | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Watershed display and PE session on how to protect it (MA) Understanding Fertilizers Session 5 (TW) Library Programs and books available (NG) Every Living Thing Needs Water Education, Snappy the live Alligator visited as an example (WC) |
| 6. | August 23, 2018 Margaret Alligood Tripp Williams Phinizy Swamp Ruth Mead Georgia Master Naturalist Expert and Trainer | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Watershed display and PE session on how to protect it (MA) Turfgrass Management Session 6 (TW) Georgia Master Naturalist Program information (RM) Environmental management and the importance of it (RM) |
| 7. | September 27, 2018 Margaret Alligood Engineering Division, Director Steve Cassell Stormwater Department Soil & Erosion Environmental Department Floodplain Management Department Tripp Williams | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Engineering Department presented "Environmental, Stormwater and Floodplain Management" (CC Engineering Division) The Departments shared what they do daily in their jobs to help protect the environment Demonstration of SW Camera truck inspecting the infrastructure of SW drains and pipes to protect the Citizen's safety Turfgrass Management Session 7 (TW) |
| 8. | October 18, 2018 Graduation Celebration Tripp Williams Margaret Alligood | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recapped all sessions and provided handouts of all sessions Q&A open session (TW) Graduation and ECO Citizen Award- Dennis McClendon  |

2019 "ENVIRONMENT MATTERS" WORKSHOP PROGRAM ECO LUNCH & LEARNS

MARGARET ALLIGOOD , CO-HOST & PARTNER SPEAKER FOR COLUMBIA COUNTY GEORGIA ENGINEERING DIVISION ENVIRONMENTAL, SOIL & EROSION & STORMWATER PUBLIC EDUCATION

TRIPP WILLIAMS, COUNTY AGENT- UGA EXTENSION, CO-HOST & MAIN SPEAKER

NATALIE GIBSON, COLUMBIA COUNTY EVANS LIBRARY REFERENCE MANAGER

MISSION: Adult Public Education Outreach for the Environmental Protection of Natural Water Resources & MS4 awareness. For Citizens having valuable "face time" with Stormwater Utility, Environmental Services, our County Agent and to benefit from his workshops, vast knowledge & expertise.

Topics: "Environment Matters" with an emphasis on "Native Pollinators", "Pollinator Habitats" & "Plants to Attract Pollinators" lessons.

By forming this partnership program we were able to encourage and educate the public on the impact we have on pollinators and highlight the resources the county offers to protect and provide an eco-friendly environment in Columbia County, Georgia. These sessions focused on enhancing landscapes and property for pollinators. The presentations detailed the types of pollinators, life cycles of pollinators, selection of native plants that would attract pollinators, and roadside pollinator plots in Columbia County, GA.

| Program Topics and Guest Speakers - 2019 | | |
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| 1. | February 21, 2019 Margaret Alligood Tripp Williams Natalie Gibson Scott Gordon-Watershed drone flyover demo | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Watershed display, drone flyover ,BMP inspections, Enviro. Dept. Soil Erosion and PE session on how to protect it (MA)(SG) Native Plants to Attract Pollinators Session 1 (TW) Library Programs & Books on topics offered (NG) |
| 2. | March 21, 2019 Margaret Alligood Tripp Williams Lisa Lord- Longleaf Alliance Lower Savannah River Watershed Project Tree Removal w Environment Protection | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Introducing Native Plants to Cutover Timber Land Session 2 (TW) Healthy Forests=Clean Water (MA) Forest Landowners can help support a healthy watershed (LL) |
| 3. | April 18, 2019 Margaret Alligood Tripp Williams Healing Waters-Justin Walter- Veteran Hero Heroes On Water-Jeff Payne Military Ft Gordon | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Native Pollinators Management Session 3 (TW) Military Heroes sharing how a healthy watershed is vital to aquatic life & recreation for the entire community |
| 4. | May 16, 2018 Margaret Alligood Tripp Williams Natalie Gibson Engineering Road Design- Steve Exley or Randy Prickett-Traffic | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Roadside Pollinator Plots Session 4 (TW) Road Designs w the environment in mind Traffic Management |
| 5. | June 20, 2019 Margaret Alligood | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Insects that use Streams to Complete Lifecycle Session 5 (TW) |

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| | Tripp Williams Natalie Gibson Adopt A Stream (Leaders) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adopt A Stream |
| 6. | July 18, 2019 Margaret Alligood Tripp Williams Natalie Gibson R&B- Tim Holloway | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Herbicide Mowing(Not an Option in Columbia County) Session 6 (TW) • R&B road paving interesting facts and sweeping for the environment |
| 7. | August 15, 2019 Margaret Alligood Tripp Williams Natalie Gibson Stormwater Dollars At Work Graduation Finale Recap | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Native Pollinator Habitats Session 7 (Tripp W) • Inspector of subdivisions • Camera Truck SW MNTC (or may have done one prior if someone called out) |
| 8. | September 19, 2019 Graduation Celebration Recap of all sessions handouts Q&A session with the County Agent Tripp Williams, Georgia Master Naturalist Alligood and Reference Manager of the Library-Natalie Gibson | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recapped all sessions and provided handouts of all sessions • Survey for feedback both verbal and written on the program • Graduation and Eco Citizen lunch & learn awards |

Pictures below are from one of the roadside pollinator plantings the class was able to visit. These plots were a collaborative project with Columbia County Roads and Bridges. A no-till drill was used to install the plots.

