



City of Durham Durham County

Joint News Release

For Immediate Release: June 20, 2016

Share! July 6 registration deadline for #Durham Environmental Educator Workshops July 18-21
<http://durhamnc.gov/2889>

News Media Contacts:

Amy Blalock
Sr. Public Affairs Specialist, City of Durham
(919) 560-4123, ext. 11253
Amy.Blalock@DurhamNC.gov

Dawn Dudley
Sr. Public Information Specialist, Durham County
(919) 560-0008
ddudley@dconc.gov



Durham Hosts Environmental Educator Workshops July 18-21

*Teachers to Learn New Approaches for Environmental Education; July 6 Registration
Deadline*

DURHAM, N.C. – Durham County and City of Durham staff are teaming up to offer environmental workshops for educators next month.

[Project WET](#), [Project Learning Tree](#), and [WOW! The Wonders of Wetlands](#) will be a part of this workshop series, which includes nationally recognized curriculum guides aligned with state education standards. Teachers and informal educators, such as park rangers and scout leaders, will learn how to use hands-on activities in topics ranging from the water cycle to forest ecosystems to the value of wetlands.

According to Laura Webb Smith, public education coordinator with the [City of Durham Public Works Department Stormwater & GIS Services Division](#), environmental education has proven benefits for students' physical health, mental well-being, and classroom success. "Whether you bring nature indoors or take students outdoors, the lessons can have a big impact on learning and motivation," Smith said. "These workshops will increase teachers' skill and content knowledge in using the local natural environment across content areas."

The workshops will be held at the North Durham Water Reclamation Facility, 1900 E. Club Blvd. The fee is \$50 for all four days, which covers workshop materials, curriculum guides, and books. For specific times and information on attending workshops separately, visit the [City's website](#). Educators can earn continuing education and environmental education certification credits. Participants should bring a bag lunch each day.

Smith is joined by facilitators from the [Durham County Soil and Water Conservation District](#) and the [City of Durham Water Management Department](#) for these workshops. To register, educators should contact Natural Resources Coordinator Jennifer Brooks with the Durham County Soil and Water Conservation District at (919) 560-0558 or by [email](#) by July 6.

About the Durham County Soil and Water Conservation District

The [Durham County Soil and Water Conservation District](#) seeks to conserve, enhance and promote the natural resources of Durham County by providing technical assistance, environmental education information and economic incentives to County residents, and by exhibiting a diversified program to meet its changing needs. For more information, visit the [Web page](#) or like on [Facebook](#).

About the City of Durham Public Works Department Stormwater and GIS Services Division

The [Stormwater and GIS Services Division](#) with the City of Durham [Public Works Department](#) is guided by the City's [Strategic Plan](#) goals of Stewardship of City's Physical and Environmental Assets as well as Innovative and High-Performing Organization. Activities include storm drainage design and plans review; inspecting and maintaining City-owned drainage systems; enforcing stormwater ordinances and regulations; education and outreach; stream monitoring, restoration, and watershed master planning; maintaining multiple layers of the City's geographic information; and stormwater billing. To learn more, visit the [Web page](#), like on [Facebook](#), and follow on [Twitter](#).

About the City of Durham Water Management Department

The [Water Management Department](#) is responsible for the operation and maintenance of Durham's water supply, water treatment and water reclamation (wastewater treatment) facilities, the collection and distribution systems (including meter reading), and customer billing services. The department has a wide variety of support divisions and programs to maintain the existing infrastructure that provide these integral services and strive to be a responsible steward of the City's physical assets. For information, visit the [Web page](#), like on [Facebook](#), and follow on [Twitter](#).

###