



**CITY OF DURHAM**  
Office of Public Affairs  
101 CITY HALL PLAZA  
DURHAM, NC 27701

## News Release

For Immediate Release: March 3, 2016

### News Media Contact:

Amy Blalock  
Sr. Public Affairs Specialist  
(919) 560-4123 x 11253  
(919) 475-7735 (cell)  
[Amy.Blalock@DurhamNC.gov](mailto:Amy.Blalock@DurhamNC.gov)  
<http://Facebook.com/CityofDurhamNC>  
<http://Twitter.com/CityofDurhamNC>  
<http://YouTube.com/CityofDurhamNC>

## Creek Week Leads Durham Community in Caring for Waterways

Visit [www.DurhamCreekWeek.org](http://www.DurhamCreekWeek.org) for Volunteer Opportunities

DURHAM, N.C. – Residents interested in discovering and protecting Durham’s local waterways should mark their calendars now as Durham celebrates the eighth annual [Creek Week](#) this month.

[Creek Week](#), set for March 12-19, 2016, offers indoor and outdoor activities to help people of all ages and abilities learn more about creeks, rivers, and lakes and how to keep them healthy.

“We depend on water in so many ways – for drinking, fishing, swimming, boating, and supporting habitat for fish and wildlife, to name a few,” said Laura Webb Smith, public education coordinator for the [Stormwater and GIS Services Division of the City’s Public Works Department](#). “The bad news is that pollution from many sources can add up to threaten our local waters. Creek Week shares the good news: there’s something we can all do to help.”

During this week-long event, residents have a chance to join litter cleanups, go on a canoe adventure, learn from experts at a talk at the library, join master naturalists on hikes, and enjoy family fun at the final celebration. The final celebration is set for Saturday, March 19 at 1 p.m. at Forest Hills Park and will kick off with Pierce Freelon’s “Litter Beats” workshop, where participants will make beats with up-cycled trash and other improvised instruments. Other free activities at the park will include “Explore the Urban Wild,” geocaching, and a puppet theater.

Creek Week is a community effort by 19 partners working together to provide opportunities for Durham residents to discover and explore local streams and to do their part to protect water resources. To learn more, visit the Creek Week [website](#) or contact Smith at (919) 560-4326, ext. 30235 or by [email](#).

### **About the Public Works Department Stormwater and GIS Services Division**

The [Stormwater and GIS Services Division](#) with the City of Durham's Public Works Department is guided by the City's [Strategic Plan](#) goals of stewardship of the City's physical and environmental assets and 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 division's [Web page](#), like on [Facebook](#), and follow on [Twitter](#).

###