

Southern Piedmont Local Foods Producers' Conference is February 24

On Tuesday, February 24 the Cooperative Extension Service and Rocky River Local Foods will host the first Southern Piedmont Local Foods Producers' Conference at the Union County Agriculture Center. On-line early registration cost is \$25 per person and includes a fine local foods meal catered by local eateries along with the featured presentation from nationally renowned Chris Blanchard who will discuss efficiency, scaling, marketing, and operations with real-life examples and humor. Specialists will provide workshops on a variety of local food topics including grape production, blueberry production, high tunnel and season extension, livestock management, marketing, land management, and pesticide application.

Chris Blanchard provides consulting and education for farming, food, and business through Flying Rutabaga Works. As the owner and operator of Rock Spring Farm since 1999, Chris raised twenty acres of vegetables, herbs, and greenhouse crops, marketed through a 200-member year-round CSA, food stores, and farmers markets. Prior to 1999, Chris managed student farms, worked as an intern, packing house manager, plant breeding assistant, and farm manager, and provided consulting for a major organic processor, in California, Wisconsin, Maine, and Washington state. His workshops, writing, and consulting throughout the country about farm business concepts, food safety, organic vegetable production, and scaling-up have gained a reputation for fresh approaches, down-to-earth information, and honesty.

Register for the conference at www.rockyriverlocalfoods.com or call 704-283-3801 from more information.

Dustin Adcock, Extension agent, with Local Foods program responsibilities in Anson, Stanly and Union Counties says, "If you are a seasoned farmer, new farmer, baker, gardener, student, market vendor, or simply interested in local foods...this is the conference for you. Spend a few hours learning about all the options open to local foods producers now and in the future."

The conference begins at 9 am with an opening session including light snacks from local eateries. There are sessions provided throughout the day by state Extension specialists and agents on topics including: greenhouse production, blueberry production, grape production, marketing, cost sharing and land management programs, pesticides, livestock management, small flock poultry management, and business decision making.

Between sessions and the meal there will be a trade show featuring local and regional vendors for equipment, packaging supplies, seed, beekeeping supplies, general information, tools, feed, and professional services.

Register soon online or call 704-283-3801.

The North Carolina Cooperative Extension Service is the largest outreach program at North Carolina State University. Based in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, Cooperative Extension reaches millions of North Carolina citizens each year through local centers in the state's 100 counties and with the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians. The N.C. Cooperative Extension Service's mission is to partner with communities to deliver education and technology that enrich the lives, land and economy of North Carolinians. Learn more at www.ces.ncsu.edu.

Cheraw Arts Commission Presents Fiber Art Exhibit

The Cheraw Arts Commission will feature African American Fiber Art in the Burr Gallery during February. The exhibit is from the 2014 North Charleston Arts Festival on loan through the SC State Museum. This annual, juried exhibit showcases art quilts created by African American fiber artists of SC and other states. The theme of "Joy" challenged artists to reflect joy through a variety of traditional and non-traditional fiber techniques. Selections were made by award-winning and nationally exhibiting textile artist, Torrea "Cookie" Washington.

The Burr Gallery is located at the Cheraw Community Center, 200 Powe Street. Hours are 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday. Contact the Cheraw Arts Commission at 843-537-8420 ext 12 for additional information.

Blood Drive March 3 at Anson High School

The Community Blood Center of the Carolinas (CBCC) is holding a Blood Drive on Tuesday, March 3 at Anson High School, from 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. The CBCC's minimum weight requirement for blood donors is 120 pounds.

For blood donations made in March and April, CBCC will make a contribution to the Ronald McDonald House of Charlotte to help provide free night stays for out-of-town families with children in the hospital.

More public drives can be found at Community Blood Center of the Carolinas' website www.cbcc.us. CBCC has donation centers in Charlotte, Concord, Gastonia, Hickory, and Greensboro. Call 704-972-4700 or go to www.carolinadonor.org to make an appointment at any location.

Free Groceries - Mobile Food Pantry is March 4

The Mobile Food Pantry and CMC Mobile Health Unit will be at Austin Grove Baptist Church in Marshville (5919 Austin Grove Church Road) on Wednesday, March 4, from 11 a.m. to noon.

Be sure to bring your own bags, boxes or carts to carry your food. Do not arrive before 9:30 a.m. If it is raining the day of or before the delivery, it will be canceled. If you have not yet done so, bring proof of your income to register. You can only pick up food for yourself and one other registered household.

This event is sponsored by Anson Crisis Ministry and local United Methodist, Baptist, Apostolic, and Presbyterian Churches. Interested in volunteering? Call Steve Little, Austin Grove Baptist Church (704) 320-6535 or Rev. Cindy Lunsford (828) 891-2753.

Directions: From the Wendy's in Marshville on Highway 74, continue west on Highway 74 for 2.8 miles, turn right onto Forest Hills School Road, go 1.7 mile and turn right onto Austin Grove Church Road, church is 1/4 mile on left.

Free Tax Assistance Available March 4 & April 1

Free income tax assistance will be available for Anson County residents sixty years of age or older of low or moderate income needing help in preparing their income tax returns through a program sponsored by AARP and Grace Senior Center. Volunteer counselors trained in cooperation with the IRS will be at Grace Senior Center on March 4 and April 1. Free assistance is designed to help taxpayers fill out forms 1040EZ, 1040A, 1040 and the North Carolina return.

Persons using the service should bring this year tax package, age and earnings statements (forms W-2) received from employers, interest statements from banks (form 1099-INT), a copy of last year tax return and any other relevant information concerning income and expenses.

Electronic filing of returns will be available.

If you are interested call Grace Senior Center to register and for additional information at 704-694-6616.

Sign Up at Field of Dreams for Spring Season Sports Season

Sign up now for spring season at Field of Dreams in Polkton through March 8. Spring sports include:

- Tee ball (ages 4-6) cost \$35 until February 22, after that the cost is \$50
- Baseball (ages 7-12) cost \$55 until February 22, after that the cost is \$70
- Softball (ages 7-18) cost \$55 until February 22, after that the cost is \$70

Two spring sign up days will be held at the Field of Dreams - on Saturday, February 7 and Saturday, February 22, from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. Or you may sign up online at www.sportsmanager.us/aaya.htm. Let's play ball!

Do You Need a Coat or Blanket? Would You Like to Donate?

The Faith-Based Center of Hope has begun their "Warm Coats, Warm Hearts" program. They have distributed coats to several of the churches and schools in Anson County.

Blankets for the elderly are also available.

Ebenezer Missionary Baptist Church is the pick up site, or you can deliver donated items there too. Just call to schedule it.

To donate coats and blankets or to request help, please contact Vancine Sturdivant at 704-848-4412 or Ester Lindsey at 704-848-8452.



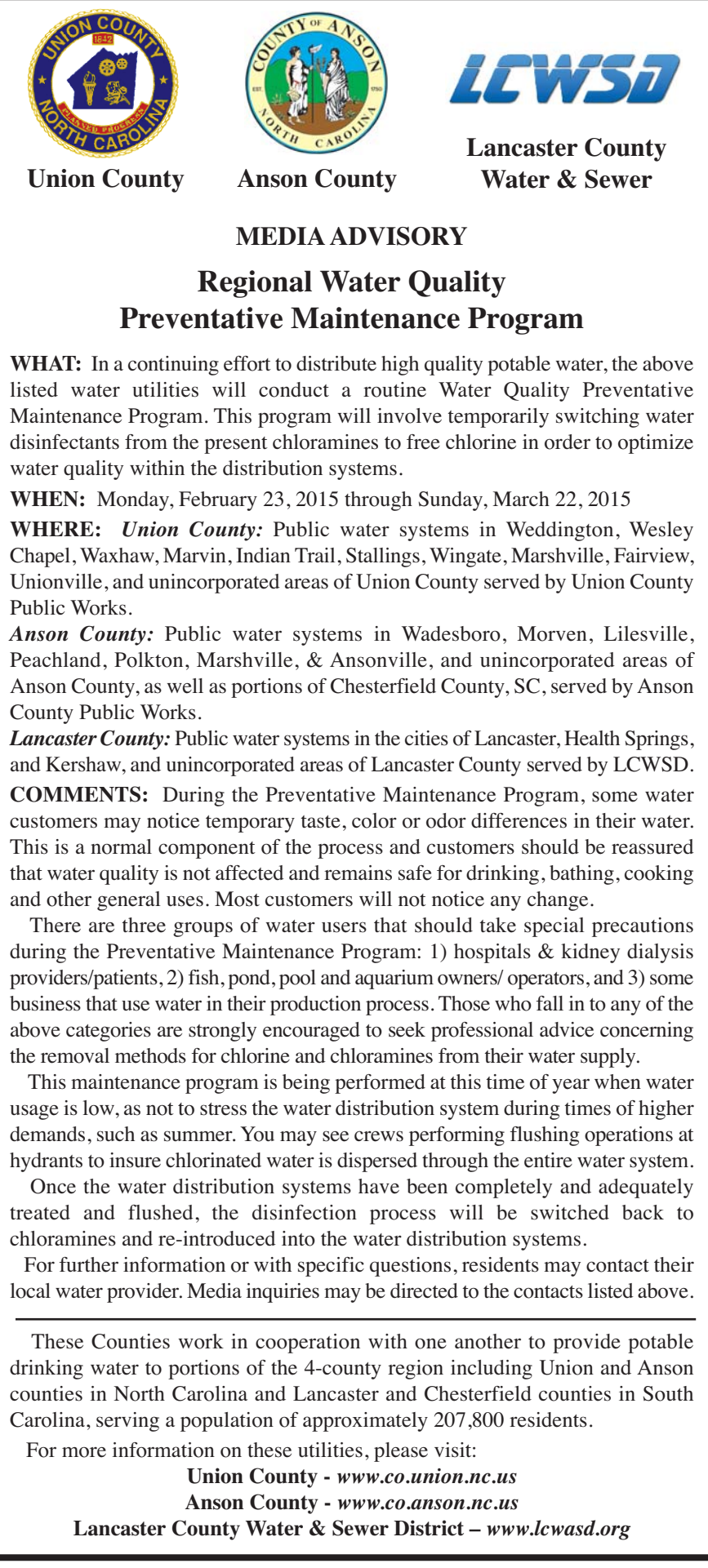
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1134 Holly Street (On Highway 74 across from Forbes Jewelers)
Wadesboro Phone: 704-694-3618
Hours: Monday-Thursday 8:30-5 & Friday 8:30-12:30



Union County Anson County Lancaster County Water & Sewer

MEDIA ADVISORY

Regional Water Quality Preventative Maintenance Program

WHAT: In a continuing effort to distribute high quality potable water, the above listed water utilities will conduct a routine Water Quality Preventative Maintenance Program. This program will involve temporarily switching water disinfectants from the present chloramines to free chlorine in order to optimize water quality within the distribution systems.

WHEN: Monday, February 23, 2015 through Sunday, March 22, 2015

WHERE: Union County: Public water systems in Weddington, Wesley Chapel, Waxhaw, Marvin, Indian Trail, Stallings, Wingate, Marshville, Fairview, Unionville, and unincorporated areas of Union County served by Union County Public Works.

Anson County: Public water systems in Wadesboro, Morven, Lilesville, Peachland, Polkton, Marshville, & Ansonville, and unincorporated areas of Anson County, as well as portions of Chesterfield County, SC, served by Anson County Public Works.

Lancaster County: Public water systems in the cities of Lancaster, Health Springs, and Kershaw, and unincorporated areas of Lancaster County served by LCWSD.

COMMENTS: During the Preventative Maintenance Program, some water customers may notice temporary taste, color or odor differences in their water. This is a normal component of the process and customers should be reassured that water quality is not affected and remains safe for drinking, bathing, cooking and other general uses. Most customers will not notice any change.

There are three groups of water users that should take special precautions during the Preventative Maintenance Program: 1) hospitals & kidney dialysis providers/patients, 2) fish, pond, pool and aquarium owners/ operators, and 3) some business that use water in their production process. Those who fall in to any of the above categories are strongly encouraged to seek professional advice concerning the removal methods for chlorine and chloramines from their water supply.

This maintenance program is being performed at this time of year when water usage is low, as not to stress the water distribution system during times of higher demands, such as summer. You may see crews performing flushing operations at hydrants to insure chlorinated water is dispersed through the entire water system.

Once the water distribution systems have been completely and adequately treated and flushed, the disinfection process will be switched back to chloramines and re-introduced into the water distribution systems.

For further information or with specific questions, residents may contact their local water provider. Media inquiries may be directed to the contacts listed above.

These Counties work in cooperation with one another to provide potable drinking water to portions of the 4-county region including Union and Anson counties in North Carolina and Lancaster and Chesterfield counties in South Carolina, serving a population of approximately 207,800 residents.

For more information on these utilities, please visit:
Union County - www.co.union.nc.us
Anson County - www.co.anson.nc.us
Lancaster County Water & Sewer District - www.lcwasd.org

Anson County Tax Collector

DELINQUENT TAXES

DELINQUENT TAX ADVERTISEMENTS WILL BE PUBLISHED ON OR ABOUT MARCH 10, 2015.

A \$20 FEE WILL BE ADDED TO EACH DELINQUENT TAX BILL. NO EXCEPTIONS. ALL UNPAID 2014 TAXES WILL BE PUBLISHED.

A SECOND ADVERTISEMENT WILL BE PUBLISHED IN LATE APRIL OF 2015. A SECOND \$20 ADVERTISING FEE WILL BE ADDED AT THAT TIME.

PLEASE PAY ALL DELINQUENT 2014 TAXES BEFORE THE ABOVE DATES TO AVOID THESE FEES.

NORTH CAROLINA LAW REQUIRES THIS PUBLICATION. IT IS EXPENSIVE. THE FEES HELP OFFSET THE EXPENSE WITHOUT AFFECTING TAXPAYERS WHO PAY IN A TIMELY MANNER.

**ANSON COUNTY TAX COLLECTOR • 101 South Greene Street
Wadesboro, NC 28170 • 704-994-3218**

