Annual Report for 2010
Surfside Beach Stormwater Committee

The Surfside Beach Storm Water Committee met in Council Chambers on the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 5:00 PM.

Business meetings were held quarterly with the other eight monthly meetings conducted in a workshop format to allow more discussion and participation.

Business meetings were held in January, April, May, July, & November (October business meeting did not have a quorum so was rescheduled). Workshop meetings were held in February, March, June, August, and September. Workshops scheduled for June was cancelled. Committee decided not to meet in December.

The committee began the year with four members with Ken Harbin as Chairman and Joan Saleem, Public Works Executive Assistant acting as recording secretary. Ken Harth became fifth member in November. Director of Public Works John Adair serves as an advisory member of the committee.

Committee Members:
- Ken Harbin - Chairman
- Dan Sine – Co-Chairman
- Ken Harth (began Nov, 2010)
- P. L. Mabry
- John Adair (began April, 2010)
- Melodye Lane-Lavaglia

Events or Accomplishments of note:

- Water Monitoring Program begun – 2 sites were added to undergo regular testing. These locations were Myrtle Lake and Dogwood Lake.

- Training program was undertaken coordinated by CWSEC resulting is 6 trained testers.

- Fountains were recommended and installed in Floral, Myrtle, Cherry and Dogwood for both functional (movement of water) and to make the lakes more esthetically pleasing.

- Continued maintenance of the Magnolia Lake enhancement on 14th Avenue N due to plants dying. Also, protective posts installed to keep fishermen off shoreline edge.

- Wetland carpet installed on eastern shoreline of Myrtle Lake and subsequent removal of the rock riprap. Plantings had to be redone due to waterfowl and salt water damage. More plantings of more sale water tolerant species were preformed with results expected in the spring.

- The EPA study on predictive modeling of pathogen indicators on beaches took place over the summer on Surfside Beaches.
• Installation of permanent beach advisory signage at EPA test site of 2nd Ave. North.

• One workshop for education of public and staff in stormwater measures held and coordinated with the assistance of Nicole Saladin, Coastal Training Coordinator, North Inlet-Winyah Bay Reserve. That position was vacated by Nicole and subsequently our ability to conduct sessions was significantly limited until a new hire was in place. Karen Fuss did attend several meetings and lent assistance as needed but that was not her primary function.

• Eric Smith Research Coordinator North Inlet-Winyah Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve was given access to two of our lakes to incorporate into a study of area retention ponds. Testing was done over a two month period and will be repeated in 2011.

• Removed ten “domesticated waterfowl” from Myrtle Lake. Based on recommendation from SC DNR that having more than two waterfowl per acre in an urban environment can be detrimental to water quality.

**Recommendations** and practices that resulted from meetings and workshops:

• Addition of sterile grass carp as an algae control measure in the lakes as an alternative to spraying chemicals to control algae

• Continue to develop plans and designs for lake enhancement projects (plans to include lighted fountains, viewing areas, benches/gazebos, native vegetation, and other low impact features to protect water quality)

• Continued use of advanced erosion control measures such as those used at Magnolia Lake (14th Avenue N) and Dogwood Lake alternative bulkhead/buffer

• Continue to emphasize education of the Town’s population on stormwater issues

• Continue training and education of public works and other municipal staff on good stormwater practices

• Formation of lake or watershed associations to get citizens more involved in proactive measures to protect water quality

• Continue to fund a volunteer water monitoring program at the present level and add an additional site in 2011.

• Encourage installation of additional pervious pavers where possible throughout the Town as used for the parking lot at Yaupon Dr.

• Encourage the use of indigenous and low maintenance native plants for enhancement projects and Town landscaping
• Complete the installation of fountains as aesthetic amenities with added benefit in aeration to prevent fish kills and mosquito control at a recommended size of ½ HP per acre

• Encourage and add incentives for planting vegetative buffers along all lake shorelines as a method of erosion control and for improving water quality

• Install signage near lakes and in other public places to discourage the feeding of waterfowl and educate residents and visitors about water quality

• Increasing the committee makeup from five to seven members

• Removal of excessive “domesticated waterfowl” from Town lakes, specifically the geese and mallards from Myrtle Lake. Based on recommendation from SC DNR that having more than two waterfowl per acre in an urban environment can be detrimental to water quality. A large flock of mallards and Canadian geese have taken residence there and the US Dept of Agriculture – Wildlife Services will conduct that removal in the spring molting season.

Workshop Subjects, Dates, and Contributors

Wetland Carpet Installation and Workshop (July 30, 2010)
• Nicole Saladin, Coastal Training Program
• Stu Schuck, Charleston Aquatics

Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination for Surfside Beach (August, 2010)
• Nicole Saladin, Coastal Training Program

Volunteer Water Monitoring Training for Surfside Beach (August, 2010)
• Dr. Susan Libes, Coastal Carolina University
• Ken Hayes, Baruch Water Monitor Coordinator

This report respectfully submitted to Surfside Beach Town Council on Tuesday April 19, 2011

Ken Harbin – Chairman  
P L Mabry  
Ken Harth

Dan Sine – Vice-Chairman  
Melodye Lane-Laveglia

SIGNATURES ERADICATED FOR WEB PUBLISHING. ORIGINAL DOCUMENT IS ON FILE IN THE TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE.