

SC-EPPC 2015 Annual Meeting

Fugitive Floras!



September 15, 2015

West End Community and Development Center
404 Vardry Street
Greenville, SC 29601

The mission of the South Carolina Exotic Pest Plant Council is to support the management of invasive exotic plants in South Carolina's natural areas by providing a forum for the exchange of scientific, educational and technical information. The South Carolina Exotic Pest Plant Council is a non-profit organization and is not a regulatory agency.

<http://www.se-eppc.org/southcarolina/>

Pesticide Recertification Credits: 2 (Core: 0.5; Cat 3: 1.5)
Continuing Forestry Education (CFEs) Credits: 2.5 (Cat 1 CF: 1.5; Cat 2 CF: 1.0)

2015 SC-EPPC ANNUAL MEETING

09:30 – 09:50

Registration and Coffee

09:50 – 10:00

Welcome

Lauren Pile (President –SC-EPPC)

10:00 – 10:30

Patrick McMillan

Title: Nature on the Move: Multiple Perspectives on Our Changing Landscapes

10:30 – 11:00

Rick Huffman

Title: Bradford Pear, from Industry Darling to Invasive Disaster

11:00 – 11:30

Bob Head

Title: The Truth in Selecting, Growing, and Marketing Desirable Ornamental Native Plants

11:30 – 12:00

Sherry Aultman

Title: South Carolina Laws and Regulations Update

12:00 – 12:15

Alicia McAlhaney and Carolyn Lanza

Title: Taking back Hunnicutt Creek: A Student-Driven, Community-Based Approach for Riparian Invasive Plant Management

12:15 – 12:30

SC-EPPC Business Meeting

12:30 – 13:15

Lunch – Saffron's Café

13:30 – 15:00

Nikki Grumbine

Field Tour – Friends of the Reedy River

Early Registration (by Sept. 2nd): \$45

Checks payable to: South Carolina Exotic Pest Plant Council

C/O Lauren Pile

261 Lehotsky Hall

Clemson, SC 29634

ONLINE REGISTRATION:

<http://www.eventbrite.com/e/fugitive-floras-annual-meeting-of-sc-eppc-tickets-17972302641>

2015 SC-EPPC ANNUAL MEETING

10:00 – 10:30

Patrick McMillan



Nature on the Move: Multiple Perspectives on Our Changing Landscapes

Bio: Patrick is the host, co-creator, and writer of the popular, Emmy-award winning ETV nature program Expeditions with Patrick McMillan. For over 20 years Patrick has worked as a professional naturalist, biologist and educator. His range of experience has concentrated on botany (plant science) though he is also well-respected through his work in ichthyology, herpetology, and mammalogy. Patrick is a professional naturalist, faculty member of the School of Agriculture, Forestry and Environmental Science at Clemson University, and director of the South Carolina Botanical Garden.

Patrick received his BS in Biology from the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill and his PhD in Biological Sciences from Clemson University. His research has been featured in both National Wildlife and South Carolina Wildlife magazines, as well as in numerous articles in The State, Greenville News and other local and regional newspapers. In 2005, he was awarded the distinctions of Conservation Partner of the Year by the Partnership for the Blue Ridge as well as Outstanding Classified Employee by Clemson University. He is a contributor to the book Life at the Water's Edge, which won the 2005 Renewable Natural Resources Foundation's Outstanding Achievement Award and has been selected to receive one of ten South Carolina Notable State Document Awards for 2005.

10:30 – 11:00

Rick Huffman



Bradford Pear, from Industry Darling to Invasive Disaster

Summary: Mr. Huffman will address how Bradford Pear has fallen from plant industry darling to a mitigated invasive disaster. Mr. Huffman will address what can and should be done to mitigate and address the problem short and long term. Mr. Huffman will address how natives and other great non-natives are a safer alternative selection.

Bio: Rick is principal and founder of [Earth Design Inc.](#) with over 30 years of experience in landscape design, horticulture, bioengineering, and ecology. He has particular expertise in native plants as they occur in natural models. As founder and past-president of the South Carolina Native Plant Society, he has brought awareness of these natural models to the public through presentations and workshops on a statewide and regional level.

Mr. Huffman is a member of The American Society of Landscape Architects and is active in the US Green Building Council's South Carolina Chapter. Rick was named the Upstate Forever Volunteer of the Year for 2010. Mr. Huffman received the 2003 Environmental Educator of the Year Award from the Environmental Educators Association of South Carolina. In 2006, Mr. Huffman received the Governor's Award for Environmental Awareness for his educational outreach and conservation efforts across the state.

His commitment to education is reflected in his work at Earth Design. Mr. Huffman has worked extensively with local schools, teachers, and administrators to promote environmental education and implementation of indigenous plants on school grounds. He has conducted numerous environmental education workshops for the South Carolina Wildlife Federations Schoolyard Habitat Program, the Environmental Educators Association of South Carolina, and the South Carolina Marine Educators Association. **Rick was also one of the founding members of SC-EPPC!**

11:00 – 11:30

Bob Head



The Truth in Selecting, Growing, and Marketing Desirable Ornamental Native Plants

Summary: Increasing biodiversity in urban environments by landscaping with native species has been advocated by many conservation groups and US federal and state agencies. However, it's important that these native plants provide ecological benefits and are economically viable to the grower. For any plant to embody ecological function, cost-effective production, and desirable ornamental traits is difficult, but attainable. Bob Head will present a collection of bred and selected native plants that combine profitability with aesthetics to support landscape biodiversity.

Bio: Bob is a second-generation nurseryman from Walhalla, SC who's recognized internationally for his horticultural acumen and his introduction of an assortment of herbaceous and woody landscape plants to the marketplace. Bob was raised in the nursery industry. In his youth he worked at a vegetable and fruit produce/garden center in Walhalla and then to Oconee Nursery in Seneca. After earning his B.S. degree in Horticulture from Clemson University, Bob joined Clemson Extension in 1978 in Charleston, SC where he conducted educational programs for commercial and consumer audiences in three coastal counties. After moving back to Seneca, Bob returned to the Clemson Extension Service in 1985 and was quickly promoted to Area Agent in six counties in the Piedmont. His responsibilities addressed a variety of horticultural commodities that included tree fruits, vegetables, nursery/greenhouse crops; he also conducted

educational programs for 4-Hers and Master Gardeners. In 1998 he left Clemson Extension to focus his efforts on running the wholesale side of Head Lee Nursery while breeding and selecting desirable landscapes for the marketplace. In 2000, Bob and his wife, Lisa, created Head Ornamentals, Inc., a plant introduction and marketing business. As President and co-owner, Bob breeds and selects plants and then patents, trademarks and licenses them to nursery growers who produce and sell his selections in the marketplace. In 2009, Bob and Lisa created Head's Select, Inc., a second plant introduction and marketing business.

In 2006, as a testament to his knowledge and experience as a plantsman and nurseryman, Bob authored Hutchinson's Tree Book: A reference guide to popular landscape trees (Hutchinson Pub. Corp., Taylors, SC). For his outstanding work and contributions to the nursery industry, Bob Head was recognized as the SC Nursery Professional of the Year in 1997 and received the SC Nursery Louis P. Parsons Award Outstanding Contribution in 2013.

11:30 – 12:00

Sherry Aultman



South Carolina Laws and Regulations Update

Summary: Sherry Aultman will provide an update on the recent changes to the Noxious Weed Act, Plant Pest List and Quarantines.

Bio: Sherry Aultman works for Clemson University's Department of Plant Industry as the program coordinator for the Cooperative Agricultural Pest Survey program and the Organic Certification Program. She has 20 years of professional experience in the agribusiness sector and has worked in multiple aspects of the industry. It is this diverse experience that encourages her current work to protect the industry and the environment from the consequences of invasive species. Sherry received her bachelor's degree from East Tennessee State University and is currently completing her Master's degree at Clemson in Plant and Environmental Science. She has recently been named the interim State Plant Regulatory Official for South Carolina.

12:00 – 12:15

Alicia McAlhaney & Carolyn Lanza



Taking Back Hunnicutt Creek: A Student-Driven, Community-Based Approach for Riparian Invasive Plant Management

Project Summary: Clemson University has a longstanding, fundamental commitment to environmental sustainability. In June of 2013, a multidisciplinary project was undertaken on the lower section of Hunnicutt Creek to restore and enhance selected areas as part of an approved compensatory mitigation plan. An ongoing undergraduate Creative Inquiry research project is documenting the composition and status of vegetation throughout the watershed for purposes of inventory, noncompliance based monitoring, assessment of environmental conditions, and adaptive management. Through Carolina Vegetation Survey plots established and monitored by the students, been determined that the understory of the upper watershed consists primarily of invasive shrubs such as thorny-olive, Chinese privet, and nandina. The restoration of sites in the lower watershed will depend largely on the control of these invaders upstream.

Bio: Alicia McAlhaney is a senior undergraduate in Clemson University's Forest Resource Management program. She has participated in undergraduate research at Clemson University since her sophomore year as both an employee and research assistant involving the restoration of the Hunnicutt Creek watershed. Currently she is employed as a research assistant through Clemson University to assist in creating a non-point source management plan for the broad and Seneca river watersheds. Due to her diverse undergraduate experience, Alicia plans to pursue her passion for wetland restoration by attending graduate school for a masters in research.

Bio: Carolyn Lanza is a senior at Clemson University studying Environmental and Natural Resources: Conservation Biology. She has been a part of the wetland and stream restoration of Hunnicutt Creek since her sophomore year. For the past two years, she has been interning for Clemson Extension Pickens County Stormwater Partners. She is currently working on creating an invasive management plan for Clemson's campus. Carolyn plans to continue her education by attending graduate school for stream restoration.

Alicia McAlhaney, Carolyn Lanza and the Hunnicutt Creek Project are recipients of the 2015 SC-EPPC Community Grant Program

13:30 – 15:00

Field Tour – Friends of the Reedy River



Nikki Grumbine, President



Project Summary: The Upper Reedy River near Greenville is situated within a highly urbanized area and can be characterized by impaired water quality, eroded and unstable banks, and/or compromised riparian conditions along many of its reaches. The historic riparian forest along the urban Reedy has been converted to commercial, institutional and residential developments consisting of paved areas, lawns, and clearings, with the exception of relatively narrow vegetated areas along some sections of the river. These ecological changes have contributed to the degradation of the health and condition of the river and its riparian environment. In areas of the city where a vegetated zone buffers the river, exotic invasive species have become dominant, overgrowing native vegetation and resulting in ruderal conditions with poor quality wildlife habitat and diminished recreational and aesthetic values for parkland and greenway amenities.

In 2014, FoRR adopted a “corridor” along the Reedy and the Swamp Rabbit Trail between Faris Road and Woodland Way Circle. The goal of the Woodland Way Corridor is to become a model for retrofitting of stormwater management of an older urbanized area along the river. Projects have begun with both First Baptist Church Greenville and the YMCA Caine Halter branch. Our tour will include a look at both of these projects. Included in both collaborations is a plan for riparian repair, and in the case of the YMCA, an open air classroom amphitheater is about to break ground.



Friends of the Reedy River (FoRR) is a local, grassroots, volunteer-based, non-profit conservation organization dedicated to promoting, preserving and restoring the Reedy River. The Reedy, Greenville’s “hometown river”, has been an important natural resource for hundreds of years, utilized and valued by people who have admired its scenic beauty and relied on its water for power, sustenance and inspiration.

In 1993, a handful of concerned citizens established FoRR. Recognizing the historic importance of our “hometown river”, the organization has sought to preserve the rich history and cultural heritage that revolved around the river, and to restore the natural environment along the Reedy. Friends of the Reedy River has been involved in projects aimed at protecting the unblemished reaches of the river, restoring areas already impacted, curbing the impacts of sprawl and development, and establishment of trails and park space. Friends of the Reedy River is especially proud of its land trust initiatives to establish conservation easements on flood plain lands along the Reedy and its tributaries to protect lands critical to a future “Reedy River Greenway” that might extend from the headwaters in Travelers Rest to Lake Greenwood.

Bio: Nikki Grumbine has been with FoRR since 2007, after her retirement from a career in textiles. A native of Philadelphia, Greenville has been home since 1995. Long an advocate for all things environmental, she took the reins of FoRR in 2013 at a time of transition. Without any scientific knowledge of watershed management, she has stocked the board of directors with water quality experts, native ecologists, and other passionate citizens. “Just do something” were her initial marching orders when asking for advice on how to lead FoRR. And we have.

**Nikki Grumbine and Friends of the Reedy River are recipients of the 2015
SC-EPPC Community Grant Program**