

**Early
Registration
Deadline
Coming Up!**

January 22

See Agenda on Page 2

**Controlling Invasive and Promoting Native Plants
Through Collaborative Efforts in the Southeast**
Camp St. Christopher, Seabrook Island, SC Feb 1-3, 2010

Up To 11.5 Category 1 Continuing Forestry Education Credits Available!!!

Register at www.surveymonkey.com/invasives or complete the form below.

Please Complete Form Below and Return it with Payment By Mail to:

Rebekah Szivak, ACE Basin NERR
SC Department of Natural Resources
PO Box 12559, 217 Fort Johnson Road
Charleston, SC 29422

**Please make
checks payable to:
SC-EPPC**

NAME:		AFFILIATION:	
ADDRESS:		CITY:	
STATE:	ZIP:	DAYTIME PHONE:	
EMAIL:		DIETARY RESTRICTIONS:	

Please check which sessions of the conference you would like to attend. Note, prices include meals indicated on the agenda.

	ENTIRE CONFERENCE	\$86.00
	DAY 1 & DAY 2 ONLY	\$66
	DAY 1 ONLY (FEB 1)	\$35
	DAY 2 ONLY (FEB 2)	\$35
	EDRR TRAINING ON DAY 3 ONLY	\$20

Please check which breakout group(s) you are most interested in attending. You may select up to 2. Note: this is interest only, but does not commit you to this session.

	A. Targeting the Landscape/Green Industry
	B. Beyond Brochures: Engaging the Public in Addressing Invasives
	C. Controlling Invasives Through Innovative Regulatory Approaches
	D. Working Together and Improving Collaboration

Please indicate your lodging preference. Note, rooms at Camp St Christopher are dorm style rooms, and we encourage you to share rooms if possible due to limited space. Also, register early to ensure available lodging.

	STAYING 2 NIGHTS WITH NO ROOMMATE	\$120
	STAYING 1 NIGHT WITH NO ROOMMATE	\$60 WHICH NIGHT?
	STAYING 2 NIGHTS WITH ROOMMATE	\$60
	STAYING 1 NIGHT WITH ROOMMATE	\$30 WHICH NIGHT?
	I AM NOT STAYING AT CAMP ST. CHRISTOPHER	

Do you need us to find you a roommate?

	YES
	NO, I ALREADY HAVE A ROOMMATE

If you already have a roommate, please indicate name here so that we can ensure you are paired together:

*Note: Register Online to Ensure On-Time Registration, & Avoid Late Fees

Total for Conference Attendance	
Total for Lodging	
Add \$10 late registration fee if registered after Jan 22	
TOTAL PAYMENT DUE	

ABOUT THE CONFERENCE

The spread of invasive plants is a major concern across the Southeast. Many agencies and organizations exist in this region which, through working together, have the capacity to address the spread of invasives. Many invasive species conferences are oriented around informational presentations, with limited time to discuss on-the-ground actions, coordination of efforts, and goal-setting and how to achieve those goals. Thus, this event will focus on maximizing the interaction between participants with focused participatory groups, hands-on exercises, and panel-led discussions.

CONFERENCE AGENDA

Days 1 & 2 combined
qualify for 7.0
Category 1
Continuing Forestry
Education Credits;
Day 3 qualifies for 4.5
Category 1 CFEs

February 1st

- 11:00 a.m. Registration and Sign-in
1:00 p.m. Welcome, Introduction to the NERRs and SE-EPPC, Meeting Overview & Objectives
Nicole Saladin, Coastal Training Program, North Inlet-Winyah Bay NERR
1:20 p.m. Plenary Address: Connecting Invasives to the Big Picture
Dave Moorhead, Center for Invasive Species & Ecosystem Health, University of Georgia
2:30 p.m. Invasive Efforts: State-wide Summary Reports from the Southeast (NC, SC, GA, FL)
State-wide Reports provided by Southeast National Estuarine Research Reserves with Participant Contribution
4:30 p.m. Optional Field Trip of Camp St. Christopher
David Gardner, Naturalist, Barrier Island Env. Education Program
6:30 p.m. Dinner
8:00 p.m. Camp Fire and S'mores Meet and Greet
Connect with colleagues or make new friends while enjoying the beautiful barrier island setting.

February 2nd

- 8:00 a.m. Breakfast, Registration for New Arrivals
8:45 a.m. Concurrent Participant Sessions, Participant Choice (see next page for session descriptions)
Session A: Targeting the Landscaping/Green Industry
Chair: Emily Montgomery, First Coast Invasive Species Working Group
Panelists: Kim Counts, SC DNR/ACE Basin NERR & Kari Whitley, Scout Horticultural Consulting
Session B: Beyond Brochures: Engaging the Public in Addressing Invasives
Chairs: Whitney Jenkins, North Carolina NERR & Suzanne VanParreren, Sapelo Island NERR
Panelists: Betsy Brabson, S.C. Beach Vitex Task Force & Dr. George Kessler, S.C. Cogongrass Task Force
11:15 a.m. Taking Ideas to Action: Participatory Session A&B Report Outs
12:15 p.m. Lunch
1:00 p.m. Concurrent Participant Sessions, Participant Choice (see next page for session descriptions)
Session C: Controlling Invasives Through Innovative Regulatory Approaches
Chairs: Nicole Saladin & Jennifer Plunket, North Inlet-Winyah Bay NERR
Panelists: Randy Westbrooks, US Geological Survey, Sherry Aultman, Dept. of Plant Industries & Matt Nespeca, Nufarm Americas, Inc.
Session D: Working Together and Improving Collaboration
Chairs: Kim Counts & Stefanie Simpson, SC DNR/ACE Basin NERR, Colette Degarady, The Nature Conservancy
Panelists: Chuck Barger, Center for Invasive Species & Ecosystem Health, University of Georgia & Dr. John Nelson, University of South Carolina Herbarium & Dept of Biological Sciences
3:30 p.m. Taking Ideas to Action: Participatory Session C&D Report Outs
4:30 p.m. Summary of Sessions & Emerging Themes, Next Steps, Concluding Discussion
5:00 p.m. Break before dinner, explore Camp St. Christopher
6:00 p.m. Dinner

February 3rd

- 8:00 a.m. Breakfast, Registration for New Arrivals
Early Detection and Rapid Response (EDRR) Training Begins
Chairs: Randy Westbrooks, US Geological Survey & Colette Degarady, The Nature Conservancy
8:45 a.m. Session A: National and International EDRR Overview
9:30 a.m. Session B: Strategies for Development of EDRR Capacity in SC
10:15 a.m. Break
10:30 a.m. Session C: Field Surveys, Data Collection, & Reporting
11:15 a.m. Session D: Overview of State EDRR Target Species
12:15 p.m. Lunch
1:00 p.m. Session E: EDRR In Practice—Field Techniques
2:00 p.m. SC-EPPC Meeting (all are welcome to attend)
2:30 p.m. Conference Adjourns

Sponsored By: the Southeast National Estuarine Research Reserves and the South Carolina Exotic Pest Plant Council



For more information, please visit the ACE Basin Coastal Training Program website at:
www.dnr.sc.gov/marine/NERR/eventsctp.html

PARTICIPATORY SESSION DESCRIPTIONS

***Note: all sessions will include a 10-15 minute break**

Session A: Targeting the Landscaping/Green Industry

Chair: *Emily Montgomery, First Coast Invasive Species Working Group*

Featuring: *Kim Counts, Stewardship Biologist, S.C. DNR/ACE Basin NERR & Kari Whitley, Scout Horticultural Consulting*

In this session we will review the process and results of a small scale preliminary region-wide survey to contact green industry professionals and gauge knowledge and interest in invasive plant issues and the promotion of native plants. We will then discuss case studies of past and ongoing efforts to target the industry. Kari Whitley, a Horticultural Consultant in South Carolina, will present on her work in South Carolina and successful collaborative strategies for working with the Green Industry. The session will conclude with round table discussion and brainstorming on innovative and collaborative ways to engage the Green Industry.

Session B: Beyond Brochures: Engaging the Public in Addressing Invasives

Chairs: *Whitney Jenkins, North Carolina NERR & Suzanne VanParreren, Sapelo Island NERR*

Featuring: *Betsy Brabson, S.C. Beach Vitex Task Force & George Kessler, S.C. Cogongrass Task Force*

The goal of this breakout session is to share strategies for educating all types of audiences on invasive plants beyond just handing out literature. Dr. George Kessler from the Clemson University will discuss his experience with the South Carolina Cogongrass Task Force and Betsy Brabson will share her experiences as the South Carolina coordinator for the Carolinas Beach Vitex Task Force. Session chairs will present key approaches for promoting behavior change through outreach and education, taken from workshops by Doug McKenzie-Mohr, world leading expert on fostering sustainable behavior. The session will also include ample discussion time where participants will be able to share their education experiences and ideas.

Session C: Controlling Invasives Through Innovative Regulatory Approaches

Chairs: *Nicole Saladin & Jennifer Plunket, North Inlet-Winyah Bay NERR*

Featuring: *Randy Westbrook, US Geological Survey, Sherry Aultman, Dept. of Plant Industries, Matt Nespeca, The Nature Conservancy*

This session will provide an overview of existing federal and state regulatory efforts to control invasives. We will then discuss case studies from local governments and the private sector that have employed innovative regulatory or policy approaches in order to manage the spread of invasives. Following presentations will be an open discussion for participants to share similar success stories, identify gaps in regulations or barriers to the use of alternative approaches, and then identify opportunities for local approaches that can supplement existing federal and state efforts. The session will end with identifying specific communities and/or approaches and a list of actionable items that can be implemented by conference participants and partners.

Session D: Working Together and Improving Collaboration

Chairs: *Kim Counts & Stefanie Simpson, SC Dept Natural Resources/ACE Basin NERR, Colette Degarady, The Nature Conservancy*

Featuring: *Chuck Barger, Center for Invasive Species & Ecosystem Health, Univ. of Georgia, John Nelson, S.C. Herbarium Consortium*

As some invasives such as Chinese privet, tallow, and kudzu become a ubiquitous feature of our landscape, efforts to eradicate these species are being replaced by efforts to improve coordination and collaboration among agencies, and strengthen programs to help control other invasive species while they are still manageable. This session will provide information on networks and resources that already exist to help promote strategic collaboration. This session will also discuss existing barriers to communication and collaboration on invasive/native issues and focus on ways to overcome those barriers. The session's goal is to ensure that participants are on the same page about what is available to them and how they can work better together with partners, or start new partnerships. Handouts will also be available highlighting resources, groups, and websites that exist, and the session will have an open discussion about how to improve the use and usefulness of these resources and networks.