

LEE COUNTY COMMUNITY ACTION TEAM



Thursday, April 23, 2009 | Team Meeting

Thanks to all of you who were able to attend the first Lee County Community Action Team (CAT) meeting on April 23th. It was great to see you all! We missed those of you who were unable to attend and hope to see you at our next meeting.

Our meeting presentation is available for download from our website.

The Team was given an introduction to Sustainable Sandhills and examples of our projects and programs.

Who is Sustainable Sandhills? We are a local non-profit organization that raises awareness of environmental concerns, promotes conservation and green lifestyles. We are working in an eight county region surrounding Fort Bragg and look forward to working in Lee County.

What is a Community Action Team (CAT)? A CAT is a group of residents that come together to learn about community projects, take action on new projects and work together for a brighter future. Sustainable Sandhills will plan meetings, provide communication between team members and the community, share project experience and provide links to great local, state and federal resources.

Examples of Sustainable Sandhills Projects and Programs:

- The [Sustainable Sandhills Urban Farm Tour](#)
- An [Energy/water conservation project for low income families](#)- This project was a partnership with other community organizations that are providing rehabilitation of low income housing. SS was able to add energy and water conservation efforts to the project to help families save money. With the help of volunteers, we were able to replace light bulbs with compact fluorescent bulbs, add low flow shower heads and faucet aerators, replace HVAC filters and talk with each homeowner about conservation and money saving measures. We are looking to expanding this project and incorporate more conservation efforts.
- Sustainable Sandhills Green Business Program- [Click here](#) to learn more about a program to make businesses in Lee County more sustainable through recycling efforts, energy and water conservation, education and awareness, purchasing and transportation.

Projects for team discussion:

- Rain Barrel Art Show- We presented the benefits of rain water harvesting and a fun project to help raise awareness of those benefits. Please visit our meeting presentation online to view some great examples of rain barrel art. We are looking for ideas to move this project forward. Four areas have been identified as project planning topics: Finding artists, purchasing barrels, planning the show and auctioning the barrels for fundraising. If you have ideas or would like to help in one of the areas please contact Amanda Blue the Community Action Team Coordinator.

- Recycling Question and Answer- click here to watch the video “the Cycle” to learn what happens after you drop off your recyclables. Joe Cherry from Lee County Solid Waste was there to answer any questions regarding recycling in Lee County. Thank you Joe, for your time and expertise.

Local Project Highlights:

- Stephanie Romelczyk from the Lee County Cooperative Extension Service presented a local community garden project. The project is a partnership of the Lee County Public health Department and the Lee County CES. It consisted of three parts: Fit for Life, Growing Healthy Kids and the 4H Community Garden. It included working with 5th graders to raise awareness of the origins of food, eating healthy and getting more physical activity. Local Master Gardner volunteers helped each 5th grade classroom raise a container vegetable garden and the Lee County CES started a 4H community garden for families with children. Ten families have been chosen and will be provided with two raised bed garden plots and the training to grow their own food. Thank you to Stephanie for the presentation on a great project.

If you know of a local “green” project that others would be interested in hearing about, please let us know and we will try to highlight it during our upcoming meetings.

SAVE THE DATE!

Thursday, June 25, 2009 | Next Community Action Team Meeting

What can you do make the team more successful?

- **SPREAD THE WORD!** Tell your friends, neighbors and coworkers about the meeting.
- **VOLUNTEER!** We need volunteers in order to meet our goal and to take on new projects. If you are interested in helping out, please contact Amanda Blue. We are currently looking for volunteers to help with:
 1. **Community Action Team Meetings** – We need volunteers to help with projects in your community, community action team meetings and project ideas.

Amanda Blue

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Sustainable Sandhills

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