

HARNETT COUNTY

COMMUNITY ACTION TEAM



Tuesday, May 26, 2009 | Team Meeting

Thanks to all of you who were able to attend the first Harnett County Community Action Team (CAT) meeting on May 26th. 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. [Click Here](#)

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 Harnett 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](#)
- **Rain Barrel Art Show**- We presented an example of a project currently starting in Lee County. It includes a fun way of promoting rain water harvesting and its benefits. Please visit our meeting presentation online to view some great examples of rain barrel art. After the great response and interest from the HC team members, we are looking for ideas to start this project in Harnett County. If you have ideas or would like to help us develop this project, please contact Amanda Blue the Community Action Team Coordinator.
- **Sustainable Sandhills Green Business Program**- Click here to learn more about a program to make businesses in Harnett County more sustainable through recycling efforts, energy and water conservation, education and awareness, purchasing and transportation.

Projects for team discussion:

- **Community Trails** - During the "take action" portion of the meeting we presented a community trails project that consists of three components: a cultural resources inventory, trail networks and proposed trail brochures. Sustainable Sandhills is in the process of completing a county wide cultural resources inventory that includes such sites as parks, churches, cemeteries, historic communities and preserved lands just to name a few. The goal is to use this tool for planning and share this comprehensive inventory with others in the community working on trail networks or greenway projects. We are planning to create trail brochures to help promote existing trails, increase the desire for new trails and educate the community regarding ecology

and local history found along those trails. Please view the meeting presentation to learn more about the community trail project. If you have any information regarding proposed trails that you would like to include in our county wide inventory or if you would like to help with a trail brochure, please contact Amanda Blue. amandab@sustainablesandhills.org

- **Harnett County Recycling Task Force Update-** Sustainable Sandhills gave an update on our role in the Recycling Task Force that was active in 2006. Residents at the meeting requested help with a “Recycling Resource Guide” for Harnett County. SS will be working to pull information together on all drop-off sites, what can be recycled and other information to raise awareness of the importance of recycling.
- **An Energy/water conservation project for low income families-** This project was a partnership with Cumberland County 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 low income 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 expand this project and partner with organizations in Harnett County that are providing low income home repair.

Local Project Highlights:

- **Dunn Farmer’s Market** - Tammy Williams from the Dunn Chamber of Commerce gave an presentation on the Dunn Farmer’s Market. The Dunn Farmer’s Market is open Saturday, 8:00am to 12:00pm, May thru October. It is located in downtown Dunn in the parking lot behind Sherry’s Bakery on Clinton Avenue. If you would like more information please call the Dunn Chamber at 910-892-4113. We followed with a brief discussion of the benefits of eating local food.

We closed the meeting with project ideas from the group. Thank you to everyone for the great input. 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!

Tuesday, July 28, 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 CAT meetings and CAT projects.

Amanda Blue

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