



Nation Ford News

The Newsletter of Nation Ford Land Trust

April, 2001



Murray White, Chairman, and wife, Joyce prepare to clean highway.

Nation Ford Land Trust helps keep area clean through Adopt-A-Highway

On Saturday, March 17, members of Nation Ford Land Trust joined other groups across the county in an effort to clear our highways of litter. This is not necessarily a pleasant task but a necessity if we want to maintain the natural beauty of our communities. County-wide, 667 volunteers have participated in spring clean-ups collecting 1,447 bags or 21,996 pounds of garbage left on our roadways by uncaring individuals. Keep in mind there are other groups doing the same thing that are not associated with Adopt-A-Highway!

In addition to adopting a highway, the board members of Nation Ford Land Trust also agreed to adopt the *Fort Mill Litter Task Force*, making it an official committee of the land trust. The litter task force is made up of about 25 very concerned residents of the Fort Mill area. They are diligently working on projects which hopefully will deter people from littering our highways. One of their successes has been to establish a LITTERS hotline that can be used toll-free by all Fort Mill, Rock Hill, and Tega Cay residents to report litterers in the York County area. This LITTERS number (548-8377) is a local Fort Mill number that rolls to the Sheriff's office in York. Sheriff Bryant's staff will take the litter report and a code enforcement officer will contact the owner of the vehicle involved in the litter violation. The caller does not need to give his/her name but a tag number and a brief description of the vehicle is mandatory. The day of the week, time of day, and location of the litter offense is also important information. All local law enforcement offices have agreed to a zero-tolerance for litter violations. Thanks to a grant received from Palmetto Pride, the governor's council on beautification and litter, the task force will soon have bumper stickers available to promote this number. Pick one up at Earth Day or Fest-I-Fun and please put it on your vehicle to help this group in it's effort to swat litterbugs!

Work begins at Civil War Battery Site

After months of filing for grant money and waiting for responses so the land trust could begin work on preserving this historic site, work is finally commencing. A matching funds grant has been received from the county's Tax Accommodations Fund for a much needed fence around the site to protect it from the work of vandals. Prior to erecting a fence, however, work by the Natural Resources Conservation Service will be done to ensure that the fence is appropriately placed so the existing vegetation required for stabilization of the site is not disturbed. Maryann Trent, a district conservationist from the York Service Center and James Erranti, a cultural resources specialist for South Carolina and North Carolina met at the battery site on Wednesday, March 28, to discuss work plans with Dr. John Schmidt, designated project manager, Hugh White, who is responsible for saving this site from excavation, and Carol Dixon, NFLT executive director. This site was donated to the land trust by Kanawha Land Company in 1999.



Hugh White, Maryann Trent, James Errante, and John Schmidt at Civil War Battery Site.



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Mission Statement

The Nation Ford Land Trust is dedicated to the preservation of open spaces, natural beauty, and the scenic heritage of the York County area. Preserving these qualities will ensure that as our home grows, it retains the qualities that have made it a wonderful place to live, work, and raise a family.

York County Forever

York County Forever was South Carolina's first local government acquisition program focused on open space and natural resource protection. The program was proposed to the York County Council by Nation Ford Land Trust and Palmetto Conservation Foundation in 1998.

The program has recently been working to begin a purchase of development rights program for rural property in York County. Through PDR's, landowners can sell the development rights to the county and keep the land in productive use. The Commission has identified threatened soil types, waterfront parcels and property adjacent to the county's special places as key targets for its PDR program.

It's almost time for the spider lilies to bloom at Landsford!



Rocky Shoals Spider Lily - Full Flower Moon

If you have a chance to visit Landsford park during May be sure to either take a walk on the trail to the spot where you can see the spider lilies in bloom or take a canoe ride to get a close-up picture! Better still, call us for one of the prints of this fantastic scene!

We still have some of the prints made from a photo taken in May of 1999 by Ted Borg, a South Carolina nature photographer. They sell for \$100 each (includes shipping). The prints are 22" by 28" and every print is signed and numbered.

The proceeds from the sale of the print will be dedicated to the conservation activities of the land trust in the Catawba River Valley of South Carolina.

The Rocky Shoals Spider Lily is a rare plant which inhabits shoals in Piedmont rivers in the Southeast. The population at Landsford is believed to be the largest in the world!

To order your print, call 803/547-8140.



Murray White

From the Chairman

The South Carolina legislature is currently considering a bill to create a Conservation Bank. The purpose of this legislation would be to define a funding source to accomplish land conservation activities in our state.

The board of the South Carolina Conservation Bank would award grants for the purchase of fee titles or conservation easements on privately-owned lands that meet a certain criteria. Eligible fund recipients would be local governments, certain state agencies, and not-for-profit organizations such as land trusts.

The creation of the South Carolina Conservation Bank would be a tremendous asset to the conservation efforts of South Carolina and to Nation Ford Land Trust as well.

Please contact not only your representative but any member of the legislature that you know and encourage their giving positive consideration to this important legislation.

Upcoming Events

- April 21 *Earth Day*
Anne Springs Close Greenway
10 am - 2 pm
Stop by the Land Trust booth
inside the Dairy Barn
- April 28 *Earthday Birthday*
10 am - 2 pm
Raises ecological awareness - for
children and adults - FREE
Museum of York County
- May 4,5,6 *Tendertail Benefit Trailride*
"Ride for a Child"
Proceeds to Shriners Hospital
Field Trial Barn Area - Greenway
Fee: \$27.50 per rider,
\$10.50 per non-rider
Includes 26 miles of beautiful
trails, camping, BBQ supper with
music and dancing.
For more information, call
Andrea Farmer (803) 327-4210
Claude Dixon (803) 324-0979
- May 4,5,6 *Fest-I-Fun*
Downtown Fort Mill
For more information, call
Town Hall (803) 547-2034

Water: The Drop of Life

The fantastic series "Water: The Drop of Life" is going to be rebroadcast on UNC-TV. It will air for six consecutive Sundays at 6:00 pm, beginning April 22.

This series covers water issues from many different aspects, including environmental, social, biological, religious, political, etc. The titles of the six episodes are:

- . Body and Soul
- . Fuel for Farms and Factories
- . The Perils of Pollution
- . A Price to Pay
- . Water: War and Peace
- . The Endless Search

For more information you can visit the following web sites:

PBS press release from 2000 airing:
<http://www.pbs.org/whatson/press/fall/water.html>

Episode descriptions, care of CPTV:
<http://www.cptv.org/TVNationalWater.shtml>

A very special "Thank You" to
Franklin Printers
in Pineville for sponsoring our newsletter!

Partner with Nation Ford Land Trust

Nation Ford Land Trust is a partnership among those citizens interested in preserving the natural and cultural integrity of York and its surrounding counties. To accomplish the types of projects described in this newsletter, we need the support of people like you who want to ensure that we pass on the good things about this community to our children.

Take a moment to join Nation Ford Land Trust at the highest membership level possible for you and your family. We promise in return that we will continue to work towards conservation in an effective, business-like manner.

Yes, I want to join renew my membership with Nation Ford Land Trust. Please accept my 2001 membership at this level:

\$25 individual \$50 family \$100 business

I want to help conservation in the York County area. Please let me know how I can become involved.

Name _____ Telephone (____) _____

Address _____

Please mail to: Nation Ford Land Trust, P. O. Box 431, Fort Mill, SC 29716

Nation Ford Land Trust is recognized as a 501(c)(3) organization by the Internal Revenue Service. Contributions to Nation Ford Land Trust are deductible to the extent allowable by law.

You CAN make a difference!

Nation Ford Land Trust
Post Office Box 431
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