

# ROCK HILL

## SOUTH CAROLINA

## City Website Gets a Makeover



The City of Rock Hill established a committee in the fall of 2006 to review the City's website and to transform it into a site that is more informative, functional, easy to navigate and fun to look at.

The committee researched and studied every detail involved in a successful website, and has completed the task of updating the City's site. The goal of the new site is to be user-friendly, with accurate and current information. The website is our most far-reaching communications tool, receiving tens of thousands of hits monthly from around the globe. The upgraded City website is now live, with more current and pertinent information for today's user than the older, less user-friendly site that previously existed. The link to access the new site is the same—[www.cityofrockhill.com](http://www.cityofrockhill.com).

Highlights of the new design include information that is grouped according to audience (residents, businesses and visitors). One click links to the most visited pages, alphabetized menu items, consistent department pages and expanded information on several departments are also features of the updated site. Colors have

been spruced up, reflecting the colors of the city logo, and banner photographs refresh randomly to feature city scenes.

New items include the "How Do I..." link in the top navigation bar, where your most frequently asked questions are answered. The site also features links to frequent questions organized by department. Monthly utility bill newsletters are archived, and original television programs from City Channel 19 are available to watch.

The updated site also features many items that were included on the old website, but were buried under layers of other information and difficult to locate. Utility bill payments, job applications, service requests, council ward locations and a business license calculator are among the services available online. Additional features will be added soon, including a search bar, detailed site map and more photographs of city places and events.

Please visit the City of Rock Hill's updated website, and send any comments or questions to Katie Bartnikowski, Public Affairs Assistant, at 803/326-3791 or by email at [kbartnikowski@ci.rockhill.sc.us](mailto:kbartnikowski@ci.rockhill.sc.us). The plan is to keep the new site as informative and current as possible. We're confident you'll be able to find everything you are looking for. And maybe you'll stumble upon some information that you didn't already know about the City of Rock Hill! Let us know your thoughts!

### Important Numbers

#### for 24-Hour Automated Service

803/329-5555 Outage Reporting  
803/329-5588 Billing Inquiries and  
Payment Processing

#### Other Important Numbers

803/325-2500 Customer Service  
Requests  
803/329-5610 City-Maintained  
Road Pothole Reporting  
803/327-6186 State-Maintained  
Road Pothole Reporting

### Rock Hill Economic Development is World Wide

Rock Hill Economic Development has a new website dedicated to economic development efforts in the city. The new site can be found at [www.rockhillusa.com](http://www.rockhillusa.com) and contains a variety of information designed to boost business.

From business parks to events, neighborhood redevelopment to downtown retail and restaurants, and investment incentives to quick facts, Rock Hill USA has all you need. Visit [www.rockhillusa.com](http://www.rockhillusa.com) to research available commercial properties, check on redevelopment progress or just find a good downtown restaurant or shop. Spread the word and make sure to add [www.rockhillusa.com](http://www.rockhillusa.com) to your favorites!



## City Council Contacts



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611 Oakwood Lane  
Rock Hill, SC 29730  
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# Federal Regulations Require Cities to Address Stormwater Runoff

A heavy rain provides water to the trees and grass, and often cools the air after a steamy South Carolina afternoon.

Clean water is critically important to the state's economy. It provides drinking water, a means for producing electricity, economic development opportunities and recreational activities. It is too important a natural resource to sit back and watch it disappear.

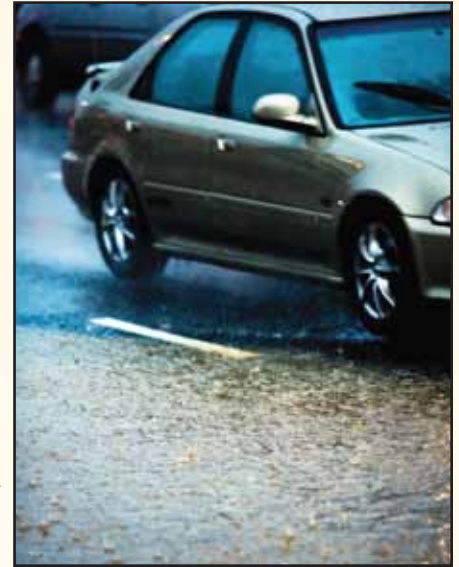
But all too often, stormwater trickles over roads and parking lots, roofs and construction sites, carrying with it to local streams and rivers a dangerous mix of sediment, chemicals and debris. This stormwater runoff can impact water quality, kill fish and other wildlife and erode the banks of streams.

The Catawba River faces a growing pollution problem that threatens both the public and wildlife.

Parts of the Catawba and many of its tributaries have failed to meet federal clean-water standards because of bacteria and chemicals polluting the water from homes, stormwater runoff and sewage spills, according to the S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control.

It's a problem faced by areas across the country. People have long relied on the Mississippi River for food, drinking water, recreation and a means of commerce. But after decades of pollution from industrial waste and runoff from cities and sewers, the river is in poor health.

Some areas around the Mississippi have tried to address runoff concerns by educating businesses and residents and by creating or enforcing stormwater management techniques. Adding plants and vegetation to soak up water, and



## Star Treatment For Wayne and Nancy Edwards

The December's Recycling Star goes to Wayne and Nancy Edwards. Congratulations Wayne and Nancy, you are awarded a free rolling recycling bin in recognition of your excellent commitment to recycling in Rock Hill and the positive example you set to those around you.

The Recycling Star Program recognizes a resident every month who has been an exceptional curbside recycler. This could mean numerous bins at the curb, well prepared bins or consistent recycling habits. Each month a route driver selects a winner. The Recycling Star is presented with a free rolling recycle bin and recycled content prizes, as well as a certificate designating them as the Recycling Star. You could be next month's Recycling Star. All you need is a bin to win! Don't have a bin? Need an extra? Call 803/329-5610 to request a recycle bin or for more information on the Recycle Star Program. Keep recycling Rock Hill!

capturing and filtering runoff before it reaches the river are methods that have been used to prevent pollution.

The federal government first addressed the issue of water pollution in the 1970s, when municipal and industrial wastewater pollution had become a national concern. Congress passed the Federal Clean Water Act of 1972, which created the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit Program. NPDES permits, which are mostly granted by the states, seek to prevent pollutants from entering local water bodies by stormwater runoff.

DHEC manages South Carolina's stormwater program. It requires permits for construction sites, many industrial sites

and all regulated municipal storm sewer systems. The stormwater program requires development and implementation of a plan to control runoff and sediment to prevent them from entering water.

The issue of stormwater runoff control will have an impact on cities for years to come, said Howard Duvall, executive director of the Municipal Association of South Carolina.

"This is going to involve billions of dollars of expense for cities," Duvall said. "It's going to take a lot of manpower and time."

*Reprinted with permission from the Municipal Association of SC*

# DON'T WRECK THE ENVIRONMENT!

## TAKE CARE OF THE ENVIRONMENT WHILE TAKING CARE OF YOUR CAR.

Proper maintenance not only helps your car last longer, it also can help maintain a healthy environment. Follow the tips below to improve your car's performance and protect our land, air and water.

- **Recycle your used motor oil.** It's the law in South Carolina. Keep it out of our lakes and streams.
- **Replace oil and air filters frequently.** It will keep your air cleaner. Remember, oil bottles and oil filters are recyclable.
- **Check the air pressure in your tires.** Under-inflated tires cause wear and reduce your gas mileage.
- **Rotate your car's tires regularly.** This will extend the life of your tires.
- **Turn off your car's engine when parked.** This will reduce ground-level ozone emissions and save gasoline.
- **Refuel your car in the evening.** This reduces ozone emissions, too.

## RECYCLE YOUR USED MOTOR OIL, OIL BOTTLES AND FILTERS!

The City of Rock Hill is now accepting your used motor oil, oil bottles and filters for recycling! Drop off your used motor oil (free from contaminants), oil bottles and filters at the

### City of Rock Hill Operations Center Garage

Door Number 4, 349 Columbia Avenue, 7 a.m. to 3 p.m., Monday through Friday.

If you have any questions, please call 803-329-5610. Receive a **FREE** oil change pan and funnel when you drop off your oil – while supplies last.



# RECYCLE!



Funded in part through grants and/or services provided by the S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control's Office of Solid Waste Reduction and Recycling  
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For more information about recycling in the City of Rock Hill, call 803-329-5610 or visit [www.scdhec.gov/environment/lwm/recycle/york.htm](http://www.scdhec.gov/environment/lwm/recycle/york.htm).



# Home Water Check-up

When customers better understand their water consumption habits, they can begin to learn the best ways to conserve based on their family lifestyle. Water is one of our earth's most precious natural resources, so, when we work together to conserve, we contribute to a healthier environment for future generations to come...and a healthier budget for the entire family!



## How often and when do you water your lawn and garden during the growing season?

Do you water by hand (using hoses or sprinklers) or do you have an automatic irrigation system? Do you have drought-tolerant plants?

*The size and composition of each household's lawn & garden varies. However, statistics show that automatic irrigation systems use more than twice the amount of water than hand watering with a hose or sprinkler. Planting native and drought tolerant plants also helps to reduce water consumption.*

*Consumers with automatic irrigation systems can help save water if they regularly adjust irrigation heads and valves to prevent runoff, check for leaks, control irrigation timing and install rain shut off devices. Low-water use lawns and gardens, with proper soil composition and regular maintenance, establish deeper roots and are more disease and insect resistant. Watering at night helps to reduce evaporation.*

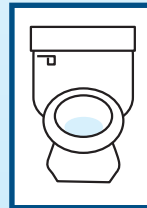


## How many showers are taken each day by members of your household?

How many minutes on average does each of these showers last? Take these numbers and multiply them by 4 gallons per minute to calculate how much water your household uses for showers each day.

*4 showers/day x 6 minutes/shower x 4 gallons/minute = 96 gallons/day or approximately 2,880 gallons/month.*

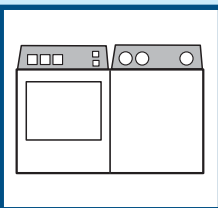
*Reduce shower times by 1 minute and save nearly 1,000 gallons/month!*



**Did you know that each time you flush a toilet an average of 3.5 gallons of water is used?** On average, each person flushes a toilet about 5 times per day.

*4 people in household x 5 flushes/person x 3.5 gallons/flush = 70 gallons of water/day or 2,100 gallons/month!*

*Install high efficiency toilets that use on average only 1.5 gallons/flush and save 40 gallons of water/day, or approximately 1,200 gallons of water/month! Even better, consider installing new and innovative "dual flush" toilets that utilize half-flush and full-flush modes.*



## How many loads of laundry are washed each week?

Each load of laundry uses approximately 55 gallons of water. Take the number of loads washed per week and multiply this by 55.

*6 loads of laundry each week x 55 gallons/load = 330 gallons/ week or approximately 1,320 gallons/month!*

*Always wash full loads of laundry, which may help reduce the number of loads washed each week. Reduce laundry by one load/week and save 220 gallons/month!*

For more information on water conservation, visit the Utilities pages at [www.cityofrockhill.com](http://www.cityofrockhill.com) and go to the H<sub>2</sub>ouse icon. Go on a "water saver" home tour, learn more conservation tips and find valuable information about water efficient products that can help you save on your water usage.

**For more information on water quality, visit the following web sites:**

[www.epa.gov/safewater](http://www.epa.gov/safewater) or [www.scdhec.net/water](http://www.scdhec.net/water)