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information, go to
www.scnps.org

UPSTATE *happenings*

JAN 2013

Jan 12, 10:15 am DNR Workday at Stevens Creek HP in McCormick County

SC DNR's Mary Bunch invites us to a volunteer workday at Stevens Creek Heritage Preserve on Sat., January 12, 2013. "We will meet at the parking area on Garrett Rd at 10:15 am. If it is raining hard or snowing/sleeting the make-up day will be January 19th (Sat) same time/location. We will control invasive plants and tidy up the trail. We need to make another go at that chinaberry tree-it still lives after EZ Ject injections and hack-n-squirt, so we'll cut it down and paint the stumps.

"Please wear clothes you don't mind getting dirty, bring gloves if you have them and lunch. I will bring some drinks and will have extra gloves on hand. You are welcome to bring clippers/loppers etc and I will have some on hand also." —
Mary Bunch, bunchm@dnr.sc.gov

Stevens Creek Heritage Preserve is in the southern tip of McCormick County. From the town of McCormick go south on US 221/SC 28. After US 221 leaves SC 28 at Clarks Hill, go south on SC 28 for .2 miles and turn left onto the first paved road. After crossing a railroad, turn left onto secondary road 88 and go 1.2 miles to the parking area on the left.

Tuesday, Jan 15, 7:00 pm
The Clemson Experimental Forest: An Update On Resources and Activities
See story page 1.

Saturday, Jan 19
Plant Rescue at Twin Chimneys Planting at Conestee Nature Park
This time we will rescue woodland plants, primarily ferns, from Twin Chimneys in the morning, and in the afternoon we will plant in a wooded area near the Lake Conestee Nature Park Office.

The purpose of a plant rescue is to relocate native plants (with the landowner's permission) that are in the direct path of development. Rescued plants go primarily to public spaces, but one of the perks of being a rescuer is the opportunity to take some plants home!

A carpool will leave at 8:30 am from the Home Depot parking lot on South Pleasantburg Dr in Greenville. For those coming from other areas and wanting to carpool, meet at the Clock Restaurant on

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The Clemson Experimental Forest: An Update On Resources & Activities

The Clemson Experimental Forest is the largest tract of public conservation land in the upper Piedmont of South Carolina. Its 17,500 acres and diverse settings make it a unique treasure trove for native plant diversity. Situated within its boundaries are beautiful stands of oak-hickory forest, bottomland forest, rocky streams, waterfalls, as well as special cultural resources.

The Forest grows on depleted land purchased through federal "New Deal" programs in the 1930's. As a result of efforts led by Dr. George Aull, professor of agriculture, the government initially granted Clemson management of the tracts near its campus and, in 1954, deeded 27,400 acres to the college.

In the years since, Clemson has developed diverse areas for recreation, research and teaching. Today's Forest is an important classroom, experimental forest, and research area in constant use by Clemson University faculty and students.

Clemson Forest is also a major educational and recreational resource for the general public, providing hiking, birding, nature photography, bicycle and horse trails, and hunting and fishing opportunities. A number of off-campus groups do service work within its boundaries. Over recent years SCNPS has provided a number of field trips on the Clemson Forest to see some of its habitats and botanical gems. Our most recent field trips were part of the SCNPS annual symposium in April of this past year.

In this presentation Ben Sill and John Garton will provide an update on conservation activities and resource information about the Forest. The update will include a power point presentation on wildflowers and other resources. — Amy Fendley

John Garton holds a BS in wildlife management and an MS in biology from Tennessee Technological University. He belongs to a number of environmental organizations – although not as many as he used to, he says. After 29 years with the Environmental Department of Duke Energy, John retired and stepped into his dream second career as a part-time employee working on natural resources of the Clemson Experimental Forest.

Ben Sill recently retired from teaching engineering at Clemson. He has had a long-term interest in the Clemson Forest. Over the years, Ben has made numerous presentations about the Forest, and for over 5 years he has taught an Honors College course about the Forest.

John Garton & Ben Sill

Clemson Forest

Tuesday, Jan 15, 7:00 pm

Founders Hall in Dining Commons, Southern Wesleyan University, Central

For a map and more information, visit <http://www.scnps.org>

**South Carolina
Native Plant Society
PO Box 491
Norris, SC 29667**
Upstate Chapter

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Upcoming Events

SC Hwy 25 south just past the 185 toll road, ready to depart at 8:40.

We'll be at the Greenville County landfill at 9:00 and remove plants until about 11:00, then have lunch at a nearby restaurant. (If you cannot be there in the morning, you can meet us at the Conestee site at 1:00.) At Conestee we will put these plants into the ground, and plan to be done by mid-afternoon.

Please sign up with Bill Sharpton, gsharpton@aol.com. This will allow us to better plan the day's agenda, and it is the only way we can know whom to contact if there is a change of plans, rain delay, etc! Be sure to provide a phone number!

Bring gloves, shovel or sharp-shooter; wear long pants.

Directions to the Twin Chimneys Landfill plant rescue site: From Greenville, take US Hwy 25 South to Ware Place (where 418 & 8 intersect 25). Go south approximately 7.5 miles; turn left onto West Ridgeway; bear right onto Traynham Rd then look for signs.

Directions to Conestee Nature Park Office: From the intersection of I-85 and South Pleasantburg Dr/Hwy 291 (Exit 46), follow SC 291 South for 1.1 miles

and turn left at the traffic light onto Old Augusta Rd; after 0.4 miles turn left (gas station on corner) onto Fork Shoals Rd. Follow Fork Shoals Road 0.5 miles then turn left into the Park Office Trailhead parking lot at the junction of Fork Shoals Rd and White Horse Rd Ext.

See map: www.conestee.org

SCNPS and the Upstate Master Naturalists will hold several joint workdays in the next few weeks:

Saturday, Feb 9, 9:00 am Jack-in-the-pulpits @ Swamp Rabbit

This surprising woodland cove, in the heart of Greenville just off the Swamp Rabbit Trail on the Reedy River, is owned jointly by Naturaland Trust and the Friends of the Reedy River. It is home to an impressive population of jack-in-the-pulpits, accompanied by other great native plants. However, it is also plagued by exotics. We will remove English ivy. There is some poison ivy on the site, so wear long pants and long sleeves. We will meet in the lower parking lot of YMCA on Cleveland Street in Greenville at 9 am and walk down to the site. We will finish by noon.

Please let us know you're coming by sending an email to Dan Whitten (sdwhit10@aol.com). Be sure to provide a phone number! If you have questions,

contact either Dan Whitten or Frank Holleman (holl2759@bellsouth.net).

Saturday, Feb 23, 9:00 am Green Woodland Orchids in Berea

Naturaland Trust recently acquired 10 acres of *beautiful marsh on the Reedy River* in Berea, near Furman. It contains hundreds of green woodland orchids and some bunched arrowhead. There are some exotics to remove – privet, shrubs, and some ivy. Wear boots or shoes you can get wet. There is poison ivy on the site, so wear long pants and long sleeves. We will meet in the parking lot of Berea Middle School on Berea Middle School Road at 9 am and walk to the site. We should be finished by 11.

Please let us know you're coming by sending an email to Bill Sharpton, gsharpton@aol.com. Be sure to provide a phone number! If you have questions, contact Frank Holleman (holl2759@bellsouth.net).

Tuesday, Feb 19, 7:00 pm Janisse Ray!

How Clearcut Does It Have to Be?

When Columbus landed in the New World, 93 million acres of longleaf pine forests covered the southeastern tip of what would become the United States. By 1995, a survey of endangered ecosystems found that the pine flatwoods were 99 percent gone.

In this talk Janisse Ray explores — with story, poetry, and passion — this amazing ecosystem, what happened to it, and why bringing it back is vital.

Janisse Ray is an award-winning writer, naturalist, and environmental advocate. To view an interview recorded at Warren Wilson College in Asheville, visit http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7Ylms_moepM&feature=endscreen&NR=1

J Verne Smith Technical Resource Center Auditorium on Main Campus of Greenville Tec, 620 South Pleasantburg Dr, Greenville



Rescuers on Dec 1 enjoyed a balmy day in the out-of-doors. Photo by Rick Huffman.