

Partnership Results in Preservation of Land

A conservation easement protecting 57 acres

The Mount Pleasant Land Conservancy (MPLC) and Mount Pleasant Waterworks (MPW) have finalized the details of a conservation easement protecting 57 acres of undeveloped property in Mount Pleasant.



Mount Pleasant Waterworks and Mount Pleasant Land Conservancy board members look on as MPW Commission Chair Dr. William L. Golightly and MPLC Board Chair Susan Duffie sign the easement.

On Thursday, February 4th the Mount Pleasant Waterworks Commission officially donated a conservation easement to the Mount Pleasant Land Conservancy. A formal signing ceremony and reception was held at the Waterworks Operations Center. The public celebrated the official opening of this exciting new community trail at a

ribbon cutting ceremony on Saturday, February 6th.

“This conservation easement is significant for two primary reasons,” stated John Girault, Executive Director for the MPLC. “Collaborating with a government agency that is interested in voluntarily protecting a portion of our natural environment is substantial enough, but the fact that this conserved area will be open to the public for community enjoyment is an extra layer of benefit that we should all celebrate.”

The 57 acre conservation easement contains 6.5 acres of high ground on the back portion of the MPW Operations Center. A paved walking path that was previously installed will now be available for public access. A gate will remain open during daylight hours to permit the community access to the new Marsh View Trail. The pine and oak lined trail winds through the preserved area and opens up to amazing unobstructed marsh views.

“Mount Pleasant Waterworks is pleased to partner with the MPLC in the preservation of this land. We believe in their mission, and the fact that this donation did not cost the public or MPW any money is a winning situation. Our commitment to protecting our natural resources is essential to the future of Mount Pleasant and our quality of life,” stated Dr. Golightly, Mount Pleasant Waterworks Chair. He continued, “We hope that it brings recreational enjoyment to residents as well as the important preservation of this beautiful piece of land.”

The Mount Pleasant Land Conservancy is a non profit land trust that was created to protect land and natural resources that contribute to the

The Mount Pleasant Land Conservancy (MPLC) would like to thank the Mount Pleasant Waterworks Commission for generously donating this important



conservation easement. By doing so, the initial protection of this property did not require any public money. However, the MPLC has accepted the critical responsibility of permanently monitoring this location and ensuring that it remains in its natural state forever. In order to fulfill these duties, the MPLC, as an independent 501(c)(3) non-profit organization is seeking community support to help raise \$25,000 this spring that will be placed into a permanent stewardship endowment, ensuring funds are always available to protect this site. You can mail your tax deductible contribution for the Waterworks Marsh View Trail to the Mount Pleasant Land Conservancy at 106 Pitt Street, Mount Pleasant, SC 29464 or by going to the MPLC website at www.mountpland.org, or calling 843-884-1060 for more information. Thank you for helping to save this piece of Mount Pleasant’s natural splendor!

unique Mount Pleasant and East Cooper quality of life. This includes wetlands, upland property, scenic vistas and public spaces such as parks. To find out more about the MPLC and the new Marsh View Trail visit www.mountpland.org.



Children from Whitesides Elementary School, and members of Mount Pleasant Town Council, Mount Pleasant Waterworks and the Mount Pleasant Land Conservancy Board cut the ribbon to the new nature trail. Future plans include outdoor teaching opportunities for area schools.

Poster Contest

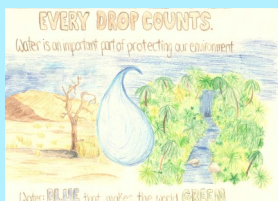
Calling all Children from Kindergarten through 8th grade!

MPW's Annual Poster Contest is underway. The contest is open to all students public, private, or home-schooled. The winners in each category will be presented with checks for \$100 (1st Place), \$75 (2nd Place), and \$50 (3rd Place).

Posters should be a celebration of our most precious natural resource - WATER. So get out your markers, crayons, or paints and be creative (all mediums are acceptable, there are no restrictions to your creativity). Poster size submissions should be 11" x 17".

PLUS, winning posters and artists will be photographed and published in the Moultrie News during Drinking Water Week, May 2-8, 2010.

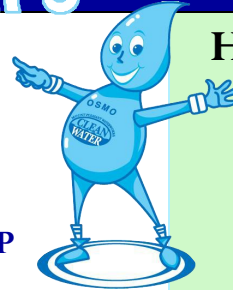
All entries must be received by the end of the business day Friday March 26, 2010. For more information contact Nicole Bates at nbates@mpwonline.com.



The MPW Commission Newsletter, Water Lines, is produced in-house and mailed to customers each month with bills and statements. Current and past issues can also be viewed and downloaded from our website.

OSMO's TIPS

Save Money on Your Water Bill



SPRING IRRIGATION CHECK-UP

This is the perfect time to plan new gardens and to make sure your outdoor irrigation system is in good working condition. Here are a few helpful tips that could make your system more efficient and save you money at the same time:

PREVENTIVE MAINTENANCE

- 1. Check and clean your irrigation hardware including sprinkler heads and all connectors. Rust and dirt deposits can clog systems if left unchecked over a period of years.
- 2. Position broadcast sprinkler heads to avoid paved surfaces.
- 3. Check your timer. If your system uses an automatic timer, make sure it's working properly by timing the system with a separate watch.

WATER-WISE LANDSCAPING IDEAS

This is a great time of year to start planning new landscape projects. If you're looking for plant material ideas, consider using plants that are native to the South Carolina Lowcountry. Ornamental grasses, palmetto, scrub palm, wax myrtle, and flowers such as gaillardias and black-eyed susans (pictured right) can enliven any landscape and need little to no watering once established. Check with a local garden center for more information.



Help a Neighbor!



Turn your pennies into DOLLARS to benefit East Cooper Community Outreach (ECCO) or Water Missions International (WMI). Just call 884-9626 and tell us you want to ROUND-UP your next bill payment to the next highest dollar and request the change go to either ECCO or WMI.

You can also sign up online by clicking the Customer Service tab on the navigation bar, then ROUND-UP on the dropdown menu.



FY2011 BUDGET MEETING SCHEDULE

MARCH 22, 2010— Regular Commission Meeting

APRIL 19, 2010— Budget Workshop at 5:00 p.m.; Regular Commission Meeting 6:00 p.m.

MAY 17, 2010— Budget Public Hearing at 5:00 p.m.; Regular Commission Meeting

JUNE 7, 2010— Public Hearing on Proposed Operating and Capital Budgets and FY2011 and FY2012 rates, fees and charges at 5:30 p.m.

JUNE 28, 2010— Annual Commission Meeting to Adopt FY2011 and FY2012 Budgets and Rates at 6:00 p.m.

The MPW Commission normally meets the third Monday of each month at 6:00 p.m. at the MPW Operations Center, 1619 Rifle Range Road. Customers and other interested parties are invited to attend. Please check our website at www.mountpleasantwaterworks.com to confirm date changes.

MPW Operations Center
1619 Rifle Range Road
Monday-Friday 8 a.m.-5 p.m.
884-9626 (phone)
customerservice@mpwonline.com
Email requests will be processed
the following business day.

GO PAPERLESS, Sign Up For Electronic Billing This Month

Want to reduce your incoming mail and help keep your water bill at an affordable rate? Electronic billing through Mount Pleasant Waterworks' Easy Pay System is easy to use. After you sign up, you will receive a monthly email when your bill is available to be viewed. Electronic billing saves MPW money and that keeps your water and wastewater bill the second lowest in the tri-county area. To go paperless today, visit our website and sign up for Easy Pay Online.

