

LAND *development*



CHARLOTTE
March 2013

If you would like to be added or deleted from our *Land Development Newsletter*, please contact Shauna Salanger at ssalanger@ci.charlotte.nc.us or 704-432-0960.

Charlotte's Urban Forest Makes Top Ten

Charlotte's tree canopy was recognized Tuesday as one of America's Top 10 urban forests by the Washington-based American Forests. The organization's panel of urban forest experts from a broad range of scientific and urban resources disciplines identified the best urban forests from the 50 most populous U.S. cities.

"In Charlotte, the city government, citizen groups and nonprofits have banded together to improve the community's urban forest through initiatives on both public and private land," said Scott Steen, American Forests CEO. "The city has taken the lead on establishing clear goals for its urban forest to improve Charlotte and the well-being of its residents."

In addition to Charlotte, the judging panel selected Austin, Denver, Milwaukee, Minneapolis, New York, Portland, Sacramento, Seattle and Washington using these criteria:

- Strength of civic engagement between the city, nonprofits, community groups and individuals in maintaining the urban forest.
- Implementation of urban forest strategies addressing challenges such as energy conservation, storm water and recreation.
- Public access to the urban forest and green spaces, including percentage of park land per capita.
- Overall health and condition of the city's urban forest.
- The city's documented knowledge of its tree canopy, species diversity and age class range.
- Status of urban forest management plans and important management activities such as tree canopy goals and ordinances.

This recognition comes in large part because of City Council's Environment Focus Area Plan, its "50% by 2050" tree canopy goal, the City tree ordinance, an aggressive street trees program and the creation of Trees Charlotte.

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Be recognized as the region's leader in regulatory services that protect the welfare of the public and the environment, and support smart growth.



Accela Electronic Document Review User Guide Available Online

As you are aware, all new commercial plans must be submitted electronically through Accela Citizen Access. If you were unable to attend the Accela Electronic Document Review (EDR) Training or would like a refresher on the City's electronic submittal process, a User Guide is now available online. To access the User Guide, log onto Accela Citizen Access at <https://aca.accela.com/charlotte/Default.aspx> and click on "Help" in the upper left hand corner of the page.

As a reminder, the resubmittal of plans originally submitted through the EPlan process should continue via email to ldplans@charlottenc.gov until the plans are approved. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Land Development Customer Service at 704-336-6692.

Charlotte-Mecklenburg Soil Erosion & Sedimentation Control Training Spring Seminar

A soil and sedimentation control overview seminar and Charlotte-Mecklenburg Certified Site Inspector (CMCSI) certification preparation will be held on Tuesday, April 30, 2013. Upon completion, an optional certification test will be administered for those interested in becoming a certified Charlotte-Mecklenburg Certified Site Inspector.

It is a great time to renew your certification or have new employees trained in the latest techniques for soil erosion and sediment control on construction sites. To register and pay online for the April 30th CMCSI Seminar, log on Citizen Access at <https://aca.accela.com/charlotte>. Persons who do not wish to register and pay online may complete and submit a paper application. Applications can be downloaded from our website at <http://cmcsi.charmeck.org>. If you have any questions regarding the CMCSI Training Seminar, please contact Jay Wilson at 704-517-1152.

Upcoming Stakeholder and Committee Meetings

All meetings are open to the public.

STORM WATER ADVISORY COMMISSION (SWAC) MEETING: Meetings are typically held on the third Thursday of every month.

SUBDIVISION STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING: Meetings are typically held on the third Wednesday of every other month.

TREE ADVISORY COMMISSION: Meetings are typically held on the third Tuesday of every month at the Charlotte Mecklenburg Government Center, 600 East Fourth Street.



The City of Charlotte will be closed on Friday, March 29, 2013.

Happy Easter to all!

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