

Bluffton Today, 03-20-2011

We say...

Help clean the May

As we go to work, take the children to soccer, or meet and great with friends, a river runs through it. And, she needs our help. Next Saturday presents every man, woman and child in Bluffton with a chance to help take care of the very heart of Bluffton. Join the Town of Bluffton, Friends of the Rivers and Keep Beaufort County Beautiful for the 11th Annual May River Cleanup from 8 a.m. to noon on Saturday at the Oyster Factory Park on Wharf Street. Not only will you be helping Bluffton, you'll be taking part in a larger American effort: the Great American Cleanup.

Gloves, bags, sunscreen, bug spray and snacks will be provided. If you have a boat or kayak to use, please bring them. Additional kayaks will be available from Outside Hilton Head on a first-come, first-serve basis. Other partners include Waste Management, Beaufort County Public Works, Beaufort County Recycles, Clemson Extension, River Smart and Hilton Head Island Starbucks.

"This annual event is perfect for giving the May River a spring cleaning prior to boating season," said Kim Jones of the town of Bluffton. "Last year more than 200 people removed 2 tons of trash from the river and her banks." It's also a great way to meet friends and neighbors and enjoy the outdoors. There are other ways to help the May: Cleaning up pet waste can help decrease those levels of fecal coliform we keep hearing about.

Go easy with, or just avoid, pesticides and fertilizers, which wash straight into her waters. Get a rain barrel to help limit too much fresh water messing with her salty balance. And lend a hand on Saturday. You won't regret it. For more information contact Kim Jones in the Department of Growth Management at 706-4593, kjones@townofbluffton.com or visit the office at the Theodore D. Washington Municipal Building, at 20 Bridge Street.