

**ORANGE COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

ACTION AGENDA ITEM ABSTRACT

Meeting Date: February 3, 2009

Action Agenda

Item No. 3-c

SUBJECT: 2008 N.C. Big Sweep Caroline Parker Outstanding Achievement Award

DEPARTMENT: Planning & Inspections
Erosion Control Division

PUBLIC HEARING: (Y/N)

No

ATTACHMENTS:

None

INFORMATION CONTACT:

Laura Blackmon, 245-2300

Craig Benedict, 245-2592

Ren Ivins, 245-2586

PURPOSE: To recognize Stormwater Resource Officer Terry Hackett of the Planning and Inspections Department, Erosion Control Division as the co-recipient of the 2008 N.C. Big Sweep Caroline Parker Outstanding Achievement Award.

BACKGROUND: The Caroline Parker Outstanding Achievement Award is given annually to a N.C. Big Sweep County Coordinator who demonstrates outstanding performance in the annual statewide litter clean-up event. Terry Hackett co-coordinates the event in Orange County, along with Wendy Smith, Education Specialist for the Town of Chapel Hill's Stormwater Division.

In addition to administering the County's stormwater program, Mr. Hackett is tasked with oversight and implementation of the Town of Hillsborough's stormwater program. Since these stormwater programs require public outreach and participation, coordinating N.C. Big Sweep, which promotes litter free watersheds, is a natural fit. It also makes sense to collaborate with the Town of Chapel Hill's efforts since its stormwater program also conducts outreach and education.

Three hundred sixty-six (366) Orange County volunteers collected nearly 27,000 pounds of trash during the event on October 4, 2008. This included over 600 pounds of materials recycled by Orange County Solid Waste. The bulk of the trash came from the site of the Town of Hillsborough's Gold Park. An old dumpsite was located during construction by the general site contractor, Mainline Contracting. In fact, Mainline donated manpower and equipment to help get the heavier debris off the site.

The number of volunteers and the amount of trash collected this year were both records for Orange County, which contributed to the pair receiving this award.

N.C. Big Sweep is a grassroots nonprofit organization started 22 years ago as a component of the International Coastal Cleanup. It has grown into a statewide effort to clean up litter while educating the public.

FINANCIAL IMPACT: There is no financial impact associated with recognizing Stormwater Resource Officer Terry Hackett of the Planning and Inspections Department, Erosion Control Division as the co-recipient of the 2008 N.C. Big Sweep Caroline Parker Outstanding Achievement Award.

RECOMMENDATION: The Manager recommends the Board recognize Stormwater Resource Officer Terry Hackett of the Planning and Inspections Department, Erosion Control Division as the co-recipient of the 2008 N.C. Big Sweep Caroline Parker Outstanding Achievement Award.