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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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SPRING SWEEP: GET DIRTY WHILE CLEANING UP OUR STREAMS!

We've all seen litter along roadsides, in parking lots, and even in our front yard! The fast flowing water from a heavy rain can carry trash all the way down into High Rock Lake! Every time it rains, trash washes directly into our streams, or into storm drains which carry it untreated into a nearby stream. Not only is litter unappealing, it can leach dangerous chemicals into our water, entrap wildlife and drive away tourists.

Most citizens don't realize the impact their actions have on water quality. Poor water quality is the result of agricultural and residential fertilizer and pesticide use, leaky septic systems, dirt from construction sites, motor oil leaking from vehicles, suds from a carwash fundraiser, litter and even dog waste. Because it comes from everywhere, it can be very difficult to control. It is our responsibility as citizens to understand the impact of our everyday actions and take steps to improve our waters.

On April 16th, from 9:00-Noon, The City of Thomasville and Stormwater SMART are sponsoring a stream cleanup event. Join us at the **Thomasville Public Works Facility** located at **525 Turner Street** in Thomasville. Wear comfortable old clothes (you will get dirty), bring sunscreen, snacks and drinks, insect repellent and gloves, and wear sturdy, closed toe shoes. This project is one of many geared towards improving our water in Thomasville and Davidson County. For more information on this event, or to learn more about stormwater runoff, please visit www.stormwatersmart.org.

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