

Red Brook Community Meeting to be held May 18th

What does a retail store, a commercial business, a farm and a residential property all have in common? They all live or do business in a watershed and in this case, they happen to live or work in the Red Brook Watershed.

A watershed is the land area that drains (or sheds) water to a particular stream, river, lake or coastal water body. Ridges of higher ground generally form the boundaries between watersheds. All land is in a watershed.

The Red Brook Watershed is unique as each landowner or business values and views it from a different perspective.

The Cumberland County Soil & Water Conservation District and the Town of Scarborough would like to invite the watershed to a community meeting on **May 18th** to learn more about the Red Brook Watershed Management Plan Project. As the first public meeting of the project, it will be an opportunity to share existing information about the watershed and to increase participants' understanding of issues and trends in the watershed.



The Community meeting will begin at 6:00 pm and project committee members will provide background information about the brook, where it is located, water quality and challenges facing the brook. We will also discuss what a Management Plan is, why we need one and how it will be used in the future to protect the brook.

Participants will have the opportunity to share their perspectives as they work in small groups and discuss things they like, dislike and value about living and working in the Red Brook Watershed. The small groups will then reconvene and provide a brief summary of their conversation to the larger group.

Workgroups

One of the outcomes of the Community Meeting will be to convene action workgroups to flesh out the ideas generated at the meeting and ultimately integrate them into the final watershed management plan. One workgroup will focus on Land Use and Future Development in the watershed and the another will focus on Roads and Technical Retrofits of existing development.

Management Plan

The end result of the project will be a community supported Watershed Management Plan. The Plan will identify specific watershed restoration needs, water quality information, community input and strategies for financing the implementation of the Plan. The Plan will clearly detail the work that is needed in order to improve the water quality of Red Brook. The Project Committee will also solicit input and finalize the Plan by the spring of 2011. For more information, please contact Project Manager, Betty Williams at Cumberland Co. Soil & Water Conservation District at 207-892-4700 or betty-williams@cumberlandswcd.org or go to ([list website](#)).