

ANNOUNCING the 2nd Annual
**South Mississippi Watershed Forum Roundtable
and Watershed Fair**

**An Open Discussion About Water and Watersheds in Coastal
Mississippi**

Friday and Saturday, April 25 and 26, 2003

**Mississippi Air National Guard Combat Readiness Training
Center, Gulfport**

Friday (9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.), Saturday (10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.)



Sponsored by the
***South Mississippi Environmental & Agricultural
Coordination Organization (SMEACO)****

Goals and Objectives of this Year's Event

This **FREE**, two-day event is designed to continue the work of the *South Mississippi Watershed Forum* a broadly-based coalition of public and private entities that promotes the wise use of water and protection of watersheds across the Mississippi Gulf Coast. This year's event promises to build upon the successful inaugural meeting of the Forum held in March 2002. The two-day event consists of a Friday and Saturday schedule that, by design, will allow for broader participation from both the public and private sector, including youth and families. Major components of the meeting include:

- An all-day meeting of the Forum (Friday**) that will focus on topics key to the operation and promotion of the group (see schedule of presentations on next page).
- A Watershed Fair (Saturday) targeted to the general public, teachers, and youth that will include displays and hands-on activities that focus on water-related topics.

*SMEACO is a network of persons from local, state, and federal agencies, non-profit groups, and business and industry within the six coastal counties of south Mississippi interested in promoting environmental education.

Due to base security requirements, we must have an accurate list of attendees for the Friday Forum Roundtable. We must also plan for lunch (offered free of charge). Confirm your attendance by calling or e-mailing the MSU Coastal Research & Extension Center at **228-388-4710 / markl@ext.msstate.edu no later than Friday, April 18, 2003.

Who Should Attend?

Anyone interested in issues relative to water and watersheds is invited, including:

- General Public
- Municipal and County Personnel
 - Planners
 - Managers
- Elected Officials
 - County Supervisors
 - City Mayors and Aldermen
 - State Senators and Representatives
- Financial Institutions
- Real Estate and Development Industry
- Recreational Groups
- Environmental Groups
- State and Federal Environmental and Agricultural Agencies
- Community Colleges and Universities
- Business and Industry

Forum Roundtable Meeting Schedule

9:00 – 9:10 a.m.	Welcome, Opening Remarks
9:10 – 9:30 a.m.	Status of the Mississippi Watershed Forum
9:30 – 10:30 a.m.	Success Stories (including Wolf River Conservation Society, Pascagoula River Alliance, Pearl River Partnership, Grand Bay NERR, Mississippi Coastal Preserves Program, and Gulf Restoration Network)
10:30 – 11:00 a.m.	BREAK
11:00 a.m. – Noon	Who Does What? (Water-Related Regulations and Regulatory Agencies) – Overview and Panel Discussion (including MS Dept of Environmental Quality, MS Dept of Marine Resources, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, MS Dept of Health, MS Dept of Wildlife, Fisheries & Parks, and MS Secretary of State)
12:00 – 1:00 p.m.	LUNCH (provided for participants – Free of Charge)
1:00 – 2:30 p.m.	Monitoring and Regulatory Programs (including MS Coastal Adopt-A-Stream Program, MS Beach Monitoring Program, MS Stormwater Program, MS Stream Quality Program, MS Oyster Program, and Gulf-wide Fish & Shellfish Consumption Advisories, Gulf Hypoxia Sub-Basin Committee).
2:30 – 3:00 p.m.	BREAK
3:00 – 4:00 p.m.	Land-Use Practices (including MS Comprehensive Resource Management Plan, and discussions about BMP's for Agriculture, Forestry, Urban, and Stream Mining)
4:00 p.m.	Stewardship Opportunities (Programs and Opportunities for contributing to improving water quality and education)
4:30 p.m.	Wrap-up