

Green Infrastructure sustains land for forestry and agriculture, which provides resource-based livelihoods, local food and resource production, and opportunities for agri-tourism. It also maintains the rural character of our region.

JCNRI is comprised of county and municipal governments, natural resource professionals, and non-profit organizations. As part of our efforts, we will organize public information meetings and various workshops in the county.



Photo by Chris Moorman

Current Partners

Johnston County Soil & Water
Johnston County Cooperative Extension
Johnston County Planning Department
N.C. Natural Heritage Program
N.C. Division of Forest Resources
N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission
North Carolina State University
Town of Clayton
Town of Smithfield
Town of Benson
Triangle Land Conservancy
Triangle J Council of Governments

For more information:
Log onto the N.C. Division of Forest Resources Web site at <http://dfr.nc.gov>

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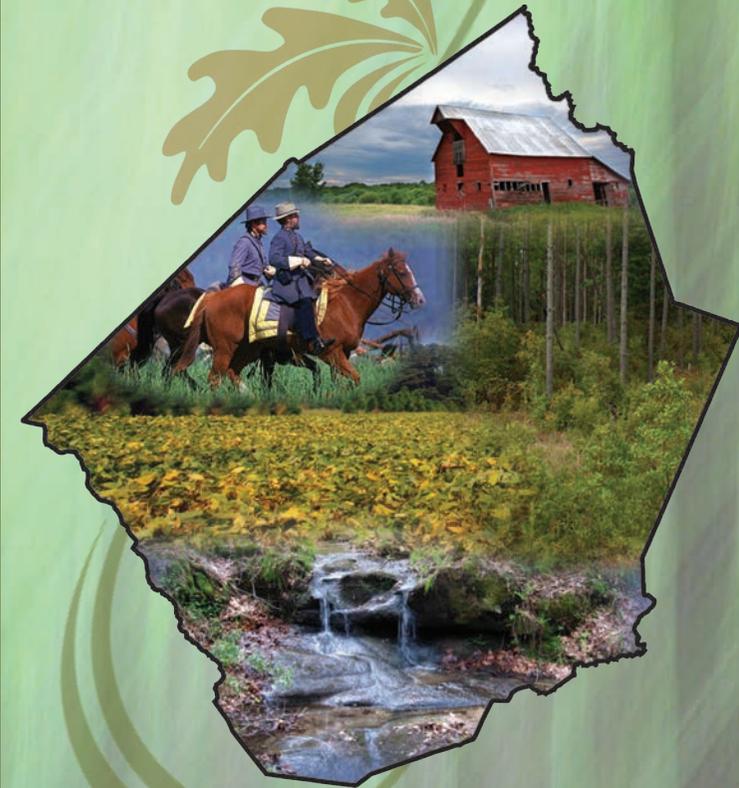
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jcnri.wikispaces.com

Johnston County Natural Resource Initiative



To develop and promote strategies for conservation of natural resources through a network of farms, forests, and natural areas within Johnston County.

Johnston County Natural Resource Initiative's (JCNRI) goal is to develop a resource guide and build support within the county to promote strategies for conservation of natural resources through a network of farms, forests, and natural areas within Johnston County.

Johnston County is the 5th most rapidly urbanizing county in the state. Its proximity to the state's capital and the presence of transportation corridors makes Johnston County a desirable place to live and work. In order to retain rural character as we grow and develop, we need to incorporate these natural areas into our growth strategy.

Green Infrastructure is the natural system necessary for optimal environmental, social, and economic health and sustainability. Green infrastructure planning understands that development and growth are inevitable and necessary. However, the pattern of that growth, its location, form, and intensity can be directed and managed to reduce negative impacts on the natural system. To coordinate the conservation efforts going on in the county, various groups are working with local and state governments to achieve similar goals.

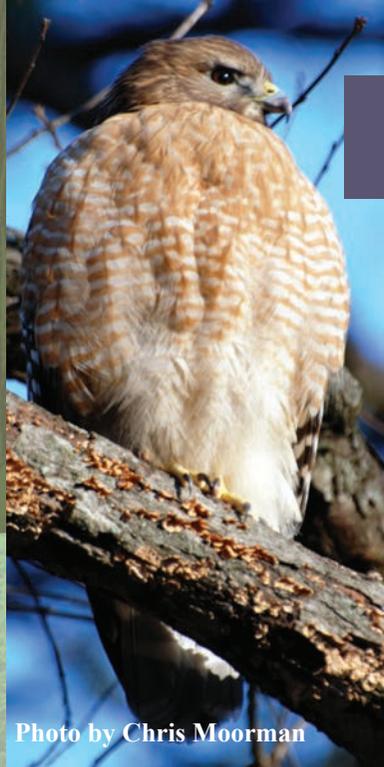
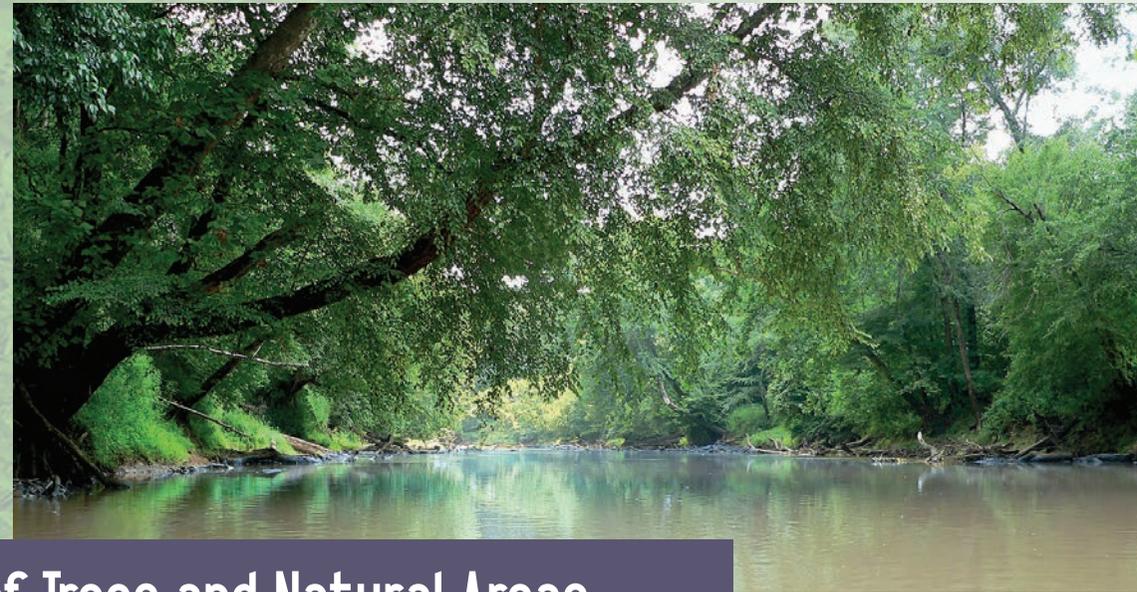


Photo by Chris Moorman



Benefits of Trees and Natural Areas

- Trees and forests help protect water quality by slowing storm runoff, reducing soil erosion, and improving water infiltration which recharge aquifers.
- Streamside forests filter pollutants, such as sediments, fertilizers, and pesticides, from agricultural and urban runoff.
- Trees and natural areas improve air quality by reducing the amount of carbon, ozone, and particulates in the air.
- Forest canopy lowers ambient air temperature by providing shade.
- Trees and associated plants create local ecosystems that provide habitat and food for wildlife.
- Trees and green space can significantly increase property values of nearby residences.