

# **3rd Annual Lake James Watershed Symposium**

## *Celebrating 50 Years of Protecting Lake James and its Watershed*

**November 8, 2023 8:30 AM to 3:30 PM**

Foothills Higher Education Center  
2128 S Sterling St, Morganton, NC 28655

*Presented by*

*Lake James Environmental Association, Catawba Riverkeeper Foundation, and Foothills Conservancy of North Carolina*

**Check-in (8:30 –9 AM)**

**Welcome, Logistics, and Opening Comments (9 AM)**

### **Morning Sessions (9:15 AM- 12 PM)**

- **9:15** Celebrating our Accomplishments and Continued Progress - Sophie McCarthy (LJEA), Michael Gaffney (FCNC), John Searby (CRF)
- **10:00** LJEA/NCSSM Collaboration - Collyn Gaffney (NCSSM)
- **10:15** Fonta Flora Park Watershed Restoration and Habitat Enhancement-Cadence Davis (NC State) and Anya Moysey (NCSSM)
- **10:35** Break
- **10:50** Emerging Contaminants of Concern in the Watershed - Jesus Lovaton (LJEA)
- **11:15** Catawba River Riparian Buffer Evaluation Tool - Marshall Taylor (LJEA)
- **11:35** Turtle & Reptile Survey - MJ Strange (Montreat College)

**12:00 Lunch**

### **Afternoon Sessions (1 PM- 3:30 PM)**

- **1:00** Update on Invasive Species Management - Eryn Molloy (Duke Energy)
- **1:20** Update on the Northern Catawba Basin Plan and its Implementation - Grant Buckner (CRF)
- **1:50** Report on the Multi-Generational Environmental Science Field Experiences Pilot Program - Sophie McCarthy (LJEA) and Zoe Riggs (Montreat College)
- **2:00** Break
- **2:15** Exploring LJEA Watershed Data
  - On the EQI Data Portal - Ann Marie Traylor (Environmental Quality Institute)
  - On the LJEA Website - Todd Bell (LJEA)
- **3:00** LJEA and CRF Advocacy - Joanne Deyo (LJEA) and Ryan Carter (CRF)
- **3:15** Raffle Drawing
- **3:20** Closing statement and adjournment - Chip Whitfield (LJEA)

**Please join us for Happy Hour at Hillman Beer in downtown Morganton after the Symposium!**