

**Contact:**  
**Will Rothschild**  
**Communications Manager, City of Spartanburg**  
**(864) 596-2491**  
**wrothschild@cityofspartanburg.org**

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## **City of Spartanburg to benefit Northside waterways with \$100,000 grant from Duke Energy Foundation**

SPARTANBURG, S.C. – The City of Spartanburg received a \$100,000 grant to continue its commitment to protecting and enhancing regional waterways and the environment. The grant is part of the Water Resources Fund, a \$10 million commitment from Duke Energy.

The City of Spartanburg is one of 15 organizations across North Carolina, South Carolina and Virginia to collectively receive more than \$1 million in the first grant announcement of 2015. The Water Resources Fund is a multi-year commitment that will leave a legacy of improved water quality, quantity and conservation in the Carolinas and neighboring regions.

“This grant will help us realize our vision on the city’s Northside while making a significant positive environmental impact that will benefit the larger community and region,” said City Manager Ed Memmott. “We thank Duke Energy for its support and are eager to launch this project so that we can continue serving our local waterways.”

The grant will be used to help fund a half-mile linear park adjacent to the Butterfly Branch, a now-piped creek that will be daylighted later this year.

“The Water Resources Fund is a testament to Duke Energy’s long history of investing in the health and vitality of our communities,” said Stick Williams, president of the Duke Energy Foundation. “We look forward to our partnership with the City of Spartanburg and the impact this grant will have in the Northside and beyond.”

The Duke Energy Foundation and community leaders will gather on April 30 to honor the inaugural Water Resource Fund grant recipients and celebrate their ongoing commitment to communities across the Carolinas.

Investment decisions are carefully reviewed by the Water Resources Fund committee, an independent body that includes five environmental experts and two Duke Energy employees. Selected projects are chosen on several criteria, including whether the project is science-based and research-supported.

Duke Energy anticipates two grant announcements per year over the course of five years. Applications for the next Water Resources Fund grant cycle are due May 15, 2015. An information session will also be available to interested organizations April 1. Please visit [nccommunityfoundation.org](http://nccommunityfoundation.org) for more information on how to apply and register for the session.

### **About the Duke Energy Foundation**

The Duke Energy Foundation provides philanthropic support to address the needs vital to the health of our communities. Annually, the Foundation funds more than \$25 million in charitable grants, with a focus on education, environment, economic and workforce development and community impact. Duke Energy has long been committed to supporting the communities where its customers and employees live and work, and will continue to build on this legacy.

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