



**Mecklenburg County  
Park and Recreation**  
*The Natural Place  
To Be...*  
[www.parkandrec.com](http://www.parkandrec.com)

## Changes coming to Upper McAlpine Creek

Mecklenburg County Park and Recreation (MCPR) has been working closely with the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Utility Department (CMUD) to reduce the impact of the sewer project on adjacent public facilities such as Boyce Park and McAlpine Creek Park, especially the fall 5K race season. The large sewer pipe is necessary for the community to eliminate sewer overflows and provide carrying capacity for many years of area growth. The sewer project must run through McAlpine Creek Greenway due to the presence of adjacent sewer and natural gas pipeline corridors. The two sewer lines, existing and proposed, will both be used.

This existing granular greenway is one of the oldest in the County. It is used by many individuals and coaches in the area for running, track practice, strolling and dog-walking; however, the granular surface has another side. Small-tired wheelchairs, street bicycles, roller bladers, cannot function well on a granular surface material. In addition, loose material and soil are washed away from the trail by the powerful floodwaters of the creek. Sediment, the primary stream pollutant in the County, impacts the water quality of McAlpine Creek. MCPR will not place new granular fill on the greenway, therefore any granular surface trail would no longer be maintainable. MCPR will provide wide, mowed shoulders on both sides of the new trail for runners. Additionally, the existing weirs (concrete fill with pipe in creek) will be replaced with bridges. The weirs have become a safety concern, high maintenance and unfriendly to the creek.

MCPR held a general public information meeting and an on-site focus group with the running community. Minutes of these meetings and additional information is located in the yellow box at

<http://charmeck.org/mecklenburg/county/ParkandRec/Greenways/Pages/default.aspx>

### Challenges

- **3 miles of McAlpine Creek Greenway will be impacted.**
- **Greenway will be closed from McAlpine Creek Park to Sardis Rd for up to 2 years of construction starting in mid to late 2013.**
- **5K trail events in McAlpine Creek Park cannot be interrupted between 8/1 and 12/15 of any year of construction.**



Runner on Upper McAlpine Creek Greenway



Nearby Campbell Creek Greenway

### Opportunities

- **CMUD is able to provide a structural base stone to receive an asphalt surface.**
- **Asphalt greenway will meet current greenway and ADA standards and be possible to maintain.**
- **Weirs (concrete structures with a pipe) in the creek will be replaced by bridges, if funding and flood modeling allows.**
- **Wide, mowed grass shoulders for runners will be provided if not prevented by site conditions.**



Corridor for relief sewer is shown in blue and County property in green

Comments are always welcome: [Gwen.Cook@MecklenburgCountyNC.gov](mailto:Gwen.Cook@MecklenburgCountyNC.gov)  
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