



October 4, 2010

Dear Members and Friends of Olde Towne Daphne Association,

The Olde Towne Daphne Association (OTDA) will host a General Meeting to discuss the purpose of the Baldwin County Watershed Coalition and what voters will be asked to decide on November 2<sup>nd</sup> when we vote on Baldwin County Local Amendment 1.

This has been a hot topic recently on television and in the press. We invite you to join us at the Daphne Public Library on Tuesday, October 12 at 6:30 p.m. A member of the Coalition will give a brief presentation and discussion will follow. Come a few minutes early and enjoy our signature chocolate chip cookies before the meeting.

**The Issue:** Currently there are no federal or state laws that manage storm water quantity which can cause flooding and erosion. There are no consistent regulations across Baldwin County's cities and unincorporated areas.

The Baldwin County Watershed Coalition (BCWC) was formed by Baldwin County's political, business, and environmental leaders in 2004 to address the problem of storm water management. Because storm water issues happen on a watershed scale, and do not follow city or county boundaries, the BCWC is working to find a regional solution about how to coordinate and regulate storm water across the county.

**The Amendment:** *'Relating to Baldwin County, proposing an amendment to the Constitution of Alabama of 1901, to authorize the Legislature to provide by general or local law for the formation of a public corporation for the purpose of managing storm water in the county; and to authorize the levy and collection of storm water service charges on certain property containing impervious areas in the county (Proposed by Act 2008-507).'*

**The Funding:** The BCWC proposed a public corporation to be funded by a "small, equitable user fee, based generally on area of impervious surface (hard surface which does not allow water penetration), with credits for innovative storm water management features". Its function will include watershed stewardship provision, standards and criteria development, regulatory compliance coordination, stream system management, and partnership in local storm water programs.

Please read the following websites for background information:

[www.baldwincountywatershedcoalition.org](http://www.baldwincountywatershedcoalition.org). Overview, including proposed fees, and a box for e-mailing comments to the Coalition. There is a list of the municipal and county representatives comprised of both staff and elected officials, representatives of local environmental organizations, state legislators, and representatives of local business and development interests.

[www.mobilebaynep.com](http://www.mobilebaynep.com). On the Home page, under 'In the Forefront', click on Baldwin County Watershed Coalition for very comprehensive source of information including priority projects and maps.

***Olde Towne Daphne Association, as always, makes no recommendations about how to vote on this or any other issue. We do strive to keep you informed and provide the opportunity for discussion. Hope to see you on October 12<sup>th</sup>!***

**Community Calendar:**

- **October 7<sup>th</sup> (Thursday) Brown Bag at the Bay** returns to May Day Park! Starts 11:30, bring your lunch and enjoy the music!
- **October 8th-10th (Friday to Sunday) Weeks Bay Native Plant Sale:** Safe Harbor across US Hwy 98 from the Weeks Bay Reserve. From 10 to 4:00p.m.
- **October 12th (Tuesday) General Meeting: Baldwin County Watershed Coalition and Baldwin County Local Amendment 1**. A presentation by a Coalition member will be followed by discussion. Daphne Public Library, 6:30 p.m.
- **October 19<sup>th</sup> (Tuesday) Public meeting on Storm Water at Daphne City Hall**. 6:00p.m.
- **October 24<sup>th</sup> (Sunday) May Day Park Re-dedication** with big band music from 5-6:30 p.m!
- **November 2nd (Tuesday) Vote!!**
- **November 9<sup>th</sup> (Tuesday) ODTA Board Meeting:** Discuss map project, community updates. Daphne Public Library, 6:30 p.m.
- **November 13th (Saturday) Mamma Mia Cook-off!** Once again Main Street will be closed off for this popular fundraiser for SEEDS. OTDA has a team again this year. Daphne City Hall, 7-10 p.m. For tickets or information contact SEEDS at 656-SEED (656-7333) or [info@seedsindaphne.org](mailto:info@seedsindaphne.org).

**Note from the President:**

You might have noticed that this is not a newsletter! We need your help. There are many small “jobs” that can be done to help OTDA provide the platform for discussion of community issues. I know that we all have busy schedules, but just a small amount of your time or talent will benefit our community. OTDA has been an advocate for our community for 10 years. As our community changes, OTDA evolves and we value everyone’s perspective.

We are looking for help on our Board and with the newsletter, gathering the information on issues or events that need to be highlighted, our web-site [www.OldeTowneDaphne.org](http://www.OldeTowneDaphne.org) is a great way of keeping everyone current, but only if we are timely with information! Please consider participating. Give me a call at 621-0286 and we can find a role for you!

Kären Nady

If you have not paid your membership dues this year, or simply want to support OTDA with a donation, please consider doing so today! We have noted your membership status:

Active (dues paid)  Inactive (last paid \_\_\_\_\_)

Enclosed is my check for: \_\_\_\$25 Family \_\_\_\$50 Non-Profit \_\_\_\$100 Business \_\_\_\$250 Sponsor  
\_\_\_\$50 Non-Profit \_\_\_\$100 Business \_\_\_\$250 Sponsor

**Please mail check to:** P.O. Box 1022, Daphne, AL 36526  
[www.OldeTowneDaphne.org](http://www.OldeTowneDaphne.org)