



THE PONDS

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NEWS RELEASE

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Researchers Prepare for November Release of Striped Bass into the Ashley River as Part of Study to Rebuild the Population

SUMMERVILLE, S.C. -- Recreational fishing contributes \$30 billion to the South Carolina economy with striped bass being the most popular catch when it comes to freshwater fishing. But over the years, the striped bass population has been on the decline and Summerville residential community [The Ponds](#) has a role in trying to figure out why and to help rebuild the population.

The Ponds is participating in a study that has been conducted for several years by the S.C. Department of Natural Resources that involves stocking the Ashley River with striped bass to determine patterns of the fish with the hope of re-establishing the population.

In early to mid-November, the Department of Natural Resources will release six-month-old striped bass into the Ashley River at two locations, one of them just 5 miles from The Ponds. Reporters and photographers are invited to attend the release.

Two different groups of phase II striped bass will be released: one at a brackish water site and one at a fresh water location. The actual release dates will depend on the weather and water temperature.

It takes striped bass three to five years to become reproductively active, so it's a waiting game to see if the population will become self-sustaining. This year, researchers are beginning to see some wild fish – believed to be a result of the stocking efforts.

Schulz Lake, which is located at The Ponds, is the headwaters of the Ashley River. The lake is often cooler than the rest of the Ashley River, so it may be a refuge for the bass as they seek cooler waters.

The Ponds – a 1,950-acre master-planned community in Summerville – has set aside 1,100 acres for its Conservancy, giving residents access to an incredible nature preserve that will not be developed. The Ponds works closely with groups like DNR to maintain the natural setting and wildlife.

Jack Kornahrens is a natural resource consultant who handles the forestry and ecological aspects of the property. He leads nature talks for residents, does routine water monitoring and just completed wildlife census count to ensure the wildlife and the community are in balance.

Tanya Darden, associate research scientist with DNR, can discuss details of the striped bass study, which includes monthly monitoring and the upcoming release into the Ashley River.

About The Ponds

The Ponds is a 1,950-acre master-planned community set between the town of Summerville and the Ashley River Historic District. In addition to a 1,100-acre nature preserve, residents of The Ponds enjoy the benefits of an on-site Summerville Family YMCA, EMS/Fire Station and several community parks. Greenwood has also set aside land for a proposed K-8 public school.

The Ponds' residential offering includes custom home sites for new homes priced from the \$70s and single-family homes priced from the high \$100s. Community amenities include a pool, outdoor pavilion, 11-acre multipurpose field and a restored historic farmhouse, along with a outdoor waterfront amphitheatre and several neighborhood parks. A 60-mile sidewalk and trail system connecting to The Ponds' 1,100-acre nature preserve will be phased in as development progresses. An early part of the system, however, linking the community trail head at the restored farmhouse to hundreds of acres of woods, pastures and ponds, is complete and in service. For more information, call 843-832-6100 or visit www.DiscoverThePonds.com.

About Greenwood Communities and Resorts

Greenwood Communities and Resorts, based in Greenwood, S.C., is a leader in the creation and management of award-winning residential and resort communities in the southeastern United States since 1978. Beginning with the award-winning Palmetto Dunes Resort at Hilton Head Island and evolving to current communities like The Ponds, Big Canoe near Atlanta and The Reserve at Lake Keowee, Greenwood's mission has remained the same: Create memorable places that foster meaningful and fulfilling lives. Greenwood has been actively involved in the Charleston market for almost 20 years, successfully completing Coosaw Creek Country Club in North Charleston and Beresford Hall on the Cainhoy Peninsula in Charleston. For more information, visit www.greenwoodcr.com.