



In the Community

Alcoa continues its commitment to local education and training

Alcoa and the Alcoa Foundation are proud to support community programs and organizations throughout central North Carolina. Throughout the year, we will spotlight how organizations have used grant money to develop worthwhile programs dealing with education and the environment.

Montgomery County has launched a new literacy program that provides area residents with the opportunity to improve their English and develop practical workplace skills. The Workplace Skills Literacy Program, supported by a 2005 Alcoa Foundation grant, provides free training classes twice a week.

Classes are held each Saturday, now through June 24, at the Montgomery County Public Library in Troy. Classes are held from 9:30-11:30 am and 12:30-2:30 pm.

"This program allows the library to offer assistance to community residents who have low to intermediate English skills," said Linda Lamp, Supervisor of Montgomery County Public Library. "Alcoa's involvement will impact the community positively over time."

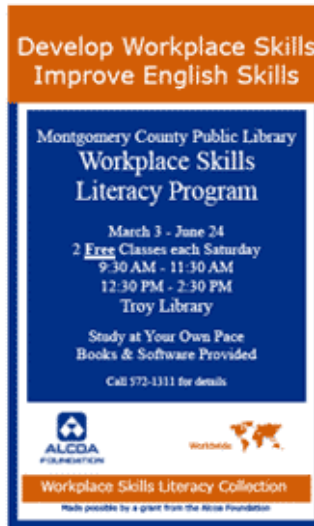
With funding from Alcoa, the library was able to purchase a new collection of materials, including books, CDs and software, designed to help program participants improve their workplace skills.

"The Workplace Skills Literacy Program is a wonderful resource for those seeking to sharpen their skills," said Tommy Gibson of Alcoa. "Alcoa is proud to be involved with a program that has the ability to help strengthen the workforce right in our own backyard."

The library hopes to have as many as 12 students per class, Lamp says. High school students and adults are welcome to attend the classes, which encourage participants to study at their own pace.

"The classes are designed to assist self-directed studies or complement formal education," Lamp said.

For more information about the Workplace Skills Literacy Program, call the library at 910-572-1311.



Yadkin Relicensing News

Relicensing Update

As Alcoa-Yadkin prepares to file its license application with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) in April 2006, it is holding a series of voluntary settlement negotiations meetings with organizations representing recreational lake users, state and federal agencies, environmental groups and other stakeholders.

We will provide regular updates on the progress of those meetings in this space.

Alcoa-Yadkin is planning to present a new proposal regarding the future operation of the Yadkin Project at its next round of settlement negotiations meetings on March 21-23.

While Alcoa-Yadkin remains committed to reaching a settlement agreement with stakeholders, it is simultaneously preparing a Final License Application for submission to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). Alcoa-Yadkin must file its final application by April 30, 2006.

It is anticipated that settlement negotiations will continue for several months after the April 2006 filing deadline. FERC allows parties to continue working past the filing deadline to reach a settlement agreement.

Upcoming Meetings

Settlement Negotiations Meeting
March 21-23, 2006

Alcoa Conference Center, Badin
*Authorized Representatives and Participants Only

Upcoming Events

Around the Lakes

Davidson County Sheriff's Office puts new rescue boat to work

Barry Davis, a Davidson County Sheriff's Deputy, prepares to cruise High Rock Lake in a new 21-foot patrol boat donated last year by Alcoa-Yadkin. The new boat allows the Davidson County Sheriff's Office to increase shoreline patrols, better assist stranded boaters and provide additional support during search and rescue efforts.



North Carolina Parks Recognized Among Nation's Best

The North Carolina state park system was named one of four finalists for the 2005 Gold Medal Award for Excellence in Park and Recreation Management. The award, presented by the American Academy for Park and Recreation Administration, is considered the most prestigious award in parks and recreation management.

Albemarle MS Walk

10:00 am

April 1, 2006

Stanly County YMCA

Join individuals and teams dedicated to finding a cure for multiple sclerosis. The 2- and 5-mile walks will begin at 10:00 am at the Stanly County YMCA. The event is hosted by the Mid-Atlantic Chapter of the National Multiple Sclerosis Society. For more information, call 800-477-2955 or visit www.nationalmssociety.com.

Did You Know?

North Carolina and federal law requires that all children under 13 must wear a life jacket when boating. The life jacket must be a Coast Guard-approved personal flotation device that is the appropriate size for the child.

Tip of the Month

With the start of the recreation season right around the corner, Alcoa-Yadkin reminds boaters to "play it safe" on the water.

The best way to protect yourself is to always wear a life jacket when on the water. Accidents can happen quickly and you may not have time to reach a stowed life jacket.

Statistics from the National Safe Boating Council reveal that nearly 500 boaters drowned in the United States in 2004 – and 90% of the drowning victims were not wearing life jackets.



This electronic newsletter is designed to keep the community informed about important issues related to the relicensing of the Yadkin Project.

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Balancing Energy Generation, Recreation *and* Environmental Resources