

Wednesday, March 21: 7 pm **STRAWS, the film & discussion**

Guest Speaker: Francis DiGiano, Clean Jordan Lake

Location: Chapel Hill Public Library, 100 Library Drive, Room B



Who would have thought a simple plastic straw could be such a hot topic?! Well, it's not one, but over 500 MILLION SINGLE USE STRAWS PER DAY in the U.S., many littering our roads and waterways and harming animals and water quality. With colorful straw history animation and segments narrated by Oscar winner Tim Robbins, STRAWS (33 minutes) is funny and entertaining. The film takes us on a journey around the world, onto beaches and into the ocean where single use straws and other plastics pose severe threats to life throughout the food chain. Learn how individuals, business owners and leaders can make a world of difference. www.strawsfilm.com

STRAWS won the Outstanding Achievement Award in Environmental Film at Cayman International Film Festival, and was called "An inspiring story of how it's possible to make a sea of change, one straw at a time," by the Philadelphia Environmental Film Festival.

The film and short discussion will be followed by a presentation by local environmental hero Francis DiGiano.



Speaker Francis DiGiano is cofounder of Clean Jordan Lake and Professor Emeritus, Department of Environmental Sciences and Engineering at UNC-Chapel Hill. Since 2008, he has tirelessly mobilized 5800 volunteers in over 340 cleanup events, removing about 138 tons of trash including 4300 tires. His efforts and those of volunteers have focused on improving the water quality of Jordan Lake, a 14,000-acre recreational area and drinking water reservoir, important wildlife and recreational reservoir, and the drinking water source for approximately 300,000 people.

All creeks in Chapel Hill and Carrboro flow into Jordan Lake, which is a backup drinking water source for those communities. www.cleanjordanlake.org

LEARN MORE!

Trash and Plastics in Lakes and Oceans

Did you know that plastics and plastic particles are not just trash, but also act as sponges for waterborne contaminants such as pesticides and toxins? When particles are ingested by fish and wildlife, toxins then move up the food chain.

[Plastic Pollution Coalition](#)

[The Last Plastic Straw](#)

[5 Gyres](#)

[Smithsonian Ocean Portal](#)

[National Geographic: Ocean Trash...](#)

[Plastic Particles Harm Freshwater Organisms, Too](#)

[Journal of Great Lakes Research: Plastic Debris...](#)

Littering:

[2009 Study: Littering Behavior in America](#)

[NCDOT Beautification Program](#)

[Report illegal dumping in Orange County, NC](#)

Cigarette Litter Prevention

[Keep America Beautiful](#)

[Cigarette Waste](#)