

# NEW-INDY NEWS

COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

Q4 | 2025



*This edition of the New-Indy Catawba Newsletter examines the condition of South Carolina's forest industry, the mill's educational initiatives, the successful release of rehabilitated wildlife, and more.*

## SOUTH CAROLINA'S FOREST INDUSTRY AT A TURNING POINT

South Carolina has historically maintained a strong, sustainable forest products industry. In 2023, the industry contributed \$23.2 billion to the state's economy, employed over 100,000 people, and ranked No. 1 in employment, No. 2 in labor income, and No. 3 in direct economic output among the state's manufacturing industries. South Carolina's forests contain more standing wood inventory than ever recorded and, in 2021, the forest products industry was manufacturing wood products at record levels.

At the same time, the state's timber industry is navigating significant vola-

tility and transition. While the state's forestland remains a robust resource with 12.9 million acres, the market faces major challenges that have caused several mill closures. Between 2021 and 2024, 10 major mills closed or cut back production, resulting in a projected loss of roughly 25% of the state's wood fiber market.

To sustain this vital industry, stakeholders, including consumers and policy-makers, must strengthen the remaining mill operations and develop new markets for South Carolina's abundant forest products.



*With roughly 25% of the wood fiber market impacted by recent mill closures, stakeholders are working to strengthen existing operations and develop new markets for South Carolina's record-high wood inventory.*

## NEW-INDY HOSTS TECH STUDENTS FOR NATIONAL MANUFACTURING DAY

New-Indy Catawba celebrated National Manufacturing Day last fall by hosting students from the Rock Hill Applied Technology Center for a mill tour and panel discussion. The students, specializing in mechatronics, engineering, and logistics, are part of a program overseen by Career & Technical Education (CTE) Directors who manage state-level technical schooling. The group explored the mill and interacted with a four-person panel consisting of a mill manager and three apprentices, two mechanical and one electrical.



*Students from Rock Hill's Applied Technology Center visited New-Indy Catawba for an immersive mill tour and a Q&A session with a panel of professional apprentices and a mill manager.*

## NEW-INDY AWARDS GRANT TO LOCAL EDUCATOR

New-Indy Catawba supports the Foundation for Rock Hill Schools. As part of its commitment, the company sponsors an annual Teacher Grant.

Last year's award went to Darrin Patterson, a teacher at Sullivan Middle School in Rock Hill. The funding allowed Mr. Patterson to buy Adobe Photoshop licenses so his students could use the important software for art projects.



*New-Indy Catawba's James Lindow presents a grant to Sullivan Middle School's Darrin Patterson to purchase software licenses.*

## FOXES FROM CATAWBA JUNCTION RELEASED AT NEW-INDY

The Catawba Junction Wildlife Rehabilitation and Farm Animal Sanctuary recently partnered with New-Indy Catawba to release a mated pair of foxes. The facility used a “soft release” strategy, providing the duo with temporary food and shelter to help them acclimate to their new surroundings. This method aims to establish the foxes in the area near their release, thus reducing the likelihood that they will wander into human-populated areas when they search for food.



*New-Indy Catawba has become a vital sanctuary and rehoming destination for local rehabilitated wildlife.*

## NEW-INDY CATAWBA: ASB THEN VS. NOW

New-Indy Catawba has significantly enhanced its wastewater treatment efficiency through a series of restorative projects, with a primary focus on the Aerated Stabilization Basin (ASB).

The mill conducted extensive dredging and vegetation removal to clear years of accumulated solids, a process vital for proper aeration and mixing of wastewater. A key addition to this system is the installation of turbidity curtains. These act as “underwater fences” that direct the flow of water along a specific path to ensure the wastewater stays in the basin for the optimal amount of time needed for effective treatment.

### PROJECT MILESTONE

New-Indy is on track to achieve a six-foot-tall water column throughout the basin by the end of 2026, ensuring the system operates at peak design capacity.



**ASB in early 2023**

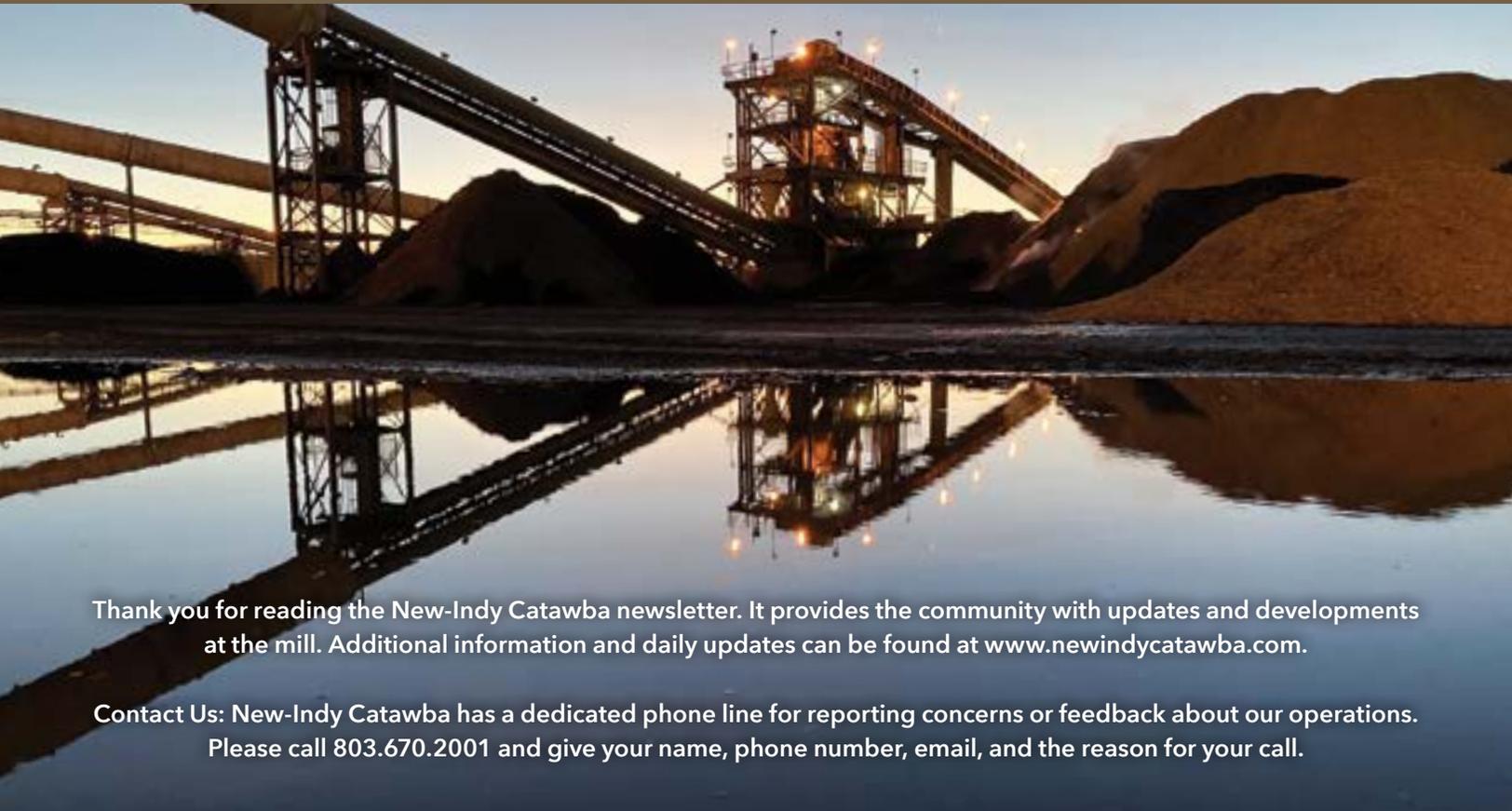


**ASB in late 2025**

## ABOUT NEW-INDY CATAWBA

*New-Indy Catawba is a world-class integrated virgin linerboard and pulp manufacturing mill located on the Catawba River. The facility opened in 1959 and began operation as New-Indy Catawba in 2019. The mill produces a lightweight linerboard used in corrugated packaging and unbleached pulp for other applications.*

*The facility supports the livelihoods of more than 400 hard-working men and women and their families as well as hundreds of indirect regional jobs in logging, chemical and material supply, and transportation. In addition, New-Indy Catawba has partnered with the U.S. Department of Labor and York Technical College to develop an accredited apprenticeship program.*



Thank you for reading the New-Indy Catawba newsletter. It provides the community with updates and developments at the mill. Additional information and daily updates can be found at [www.newindycatawba.com](http://www.newindycatawba.com).

Contact Us: New-Indy Catawba has a dedicated phone line for reporting concerns or feedback about our operations. Please call 803.670.2001 and give your name, phone number, email, and the reason for your call.