

Haywood Waterways Association, Inc.

Annual Report for 2001

**Haywood Waterways Association, Inc.
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History: Haywood Waterways Association (HWA) began in 1994 as a small group of citizens concerned with surface water quality in Haywood County. The group was formed in response to the creation of the Pigeon River Fund (PRF). Since its beginning, HWA has initiated projects to improve water quality and helped other organizations develop their projects, locate sources of funding and write grant applications. Over the past few years, HWA has focused much of its effort on public awareness and education. HWA became a non-profit, charitable corporation, on September 23, 1998 and received 501(c)(3) tax-exempt status from the Internal Revenue Service on January 29, 1999.

2001 Organizational Goals Achievements: HWA enjoyed another year of significant accomplishments. As of December 31, 2001, HWA had received its 202nd membership with a total membership of 197; the latter is three short of the goal of 200. We increased business and organization memberships by 10 with dues and donations of \$2,400; the latter exceeded our goal of \$1,250. HWA received cash donations and membership dues totaling \$9,020. This amount is 90.2% of our year 2001 goal of \$10,000. A pledge of \$500 is still outstanding; when paid we will have reached 95.2% of our goal. The 2001 donation goal was increased by a very ambitious 236%. We thank all of you who helped make 2001 another banner year!

Programs and Projects:

- Kids in the Creek Water Quality Education Program
- Summer Youth Water Quality Education Program
- GLOBE Program water testing with Waynesville Middle School students
- Watershed Action Plan and Educational Publications
- Volunteer Water Information Network(VWIN) Water Sampling Program
- Watershed improvement work with Haywood Soil & Water Conservation District

Writing the Watershed Action Plan (WAP) for Haywood County, beginning work on the EPA project and negotiating our grant agreement with the NC Clean Water Management Fund were major initiatives in 2001. We continue to focus on educational programs, increasing public awareness and water quality monitoring as well. Numerous programs were presented to community clubs, civic organizations and local public school students in the classroom. The VWIN water sampling program was expanded and now includes 24 sites in Haywood County. Our HWA website has the VWIN data and WAP available for your review. Check them out at our website www.haywoodwaterways.org.

The first edition of the Watershed Action Plan has been completed. Specific action items are identified and prioritized by sub-watershed. An individual addenda for each sub-watershed will be published as part of the plan. The plan will be presented to elected officials for endorsement in March 2002. The plan will help HWA and local organizations concerned with water quality issues target problem areas and make the best use of our financial resources. In addition to the plan itself, we will publish a user friendly booklet explaining the various recommended Best Management Practices for different land applications, the equipment needed to construct them, available technical assistance, the cost range landowners should expect to pay for construction and typical heavy equipment hourly rates.

HWA and the Haywood Soil & Water Conservation District began work on the EPA project, and negotiated the grant agreement for the Clean Water Management Trust Fund project. The Southwestern NC Resource Conservation and Development Council (RC&D Council) is our fiduciary partner for these grants and will disburse the funds. Construction plans are being developed with participating landowners and construction will begin in 2002 for both projects.

The Kids in the Creek program was offered to all eighth grade public school students this year. Approximately 760 students and teachers attended. HWA is also collecting and testing weekly water samples from Richland Creek with Waynesville Middle School students. Four parameters are evaluated and the data entered in the worldwide database of the GLOBE program.

Three new educational projects were conducted in 2001, a Summer Youth Program, Alternative Spring Break and two sessions of the Clear Water Contractor workshop. The Summer Youth Program was

a partnership effort with the Waynesville Recreation Department and three Haywood County public school teachers. Fifth and sixth grade students attended five days of activities and field trips related to water quality education. Alternative Spring Break was a cooperative effort with the University of Virginia and brought civic minded college students to Haywood County to help with hands-on water quality projects. The Clear Water Contractor workshops, offered to earth moving contractors, were conducted by the NC Department of Environment and Natural Resources staff. HWA paid for the cost of the workshops and 43 Haywood County contractors received their Clear Water Contractor certifications. This certification is a marketing tool and identifies contractors serious about protecting our water resources.

HWA purchased water testing and educational equipment for Project Aspire, a program for “at risk” Haywood County students. HWA Board Directors Dave Dudek and Zora Rhodes conducted a workshop for the students and Project Aspire staff. HWA also helped Central Haywood High School and the Haywood County Schools Foundation with Pigeon River Fund grant applications. With these new funds, water quality education will take another leap forward in Haywood County thanks to the Pigeon River Fund.

In response to the tragic loss of our dear friend, Pink Francis, HWA made a donation to the scholarship fund established in his memory (see the 2001 financial statement). Supporting conservation education is our way of helping develop the next generation of natural resource stewards.

Management: HWA revised its policy statement and management plan. These documents include our organizational goals, prioritize projects and clarify areas of responsibility. The management plan includes duties and responsibilities for HWA officers, HWA committees and contract staff. Contact us at 452-9077 if you would like to see a copy of either document.

The HWA Board of Directors and Executive Committee meet monthly at the office of the RC&D Council. The RC&D Council provides us administrative, technical and financial support and allows HWA use of its office space and equipment. For the first time (2001) the HWA Board of Directors purchased liability insurance for HWA, its board members, officers and contract staff.

2001 Board of Directors:

Executive Committee:

Bill Eaker President	Dave Dudek Vice-president
Peggy Melville Treasurer	Robin Minick Secretary
Joetta Rinehart	

Directors:

Richard Alexander	Don Ebaugh	Pink Francis	Yvonne Hannah
Dr. Mark Jaben	Scott Loftis	Jennifer Pratt	Zora Rhodes
Charles Schaefer	Leslie Smathers	Skip Thompson	Bill Yarborough

The Board of Directors wishes to send its sincerest thanks to the Pigeon River Fund and all our members for their generous financial support. We also wish to thank the individuals and organizations that serve and support the VWIN program, Kids in the Creek and serve on our Technical Advisory Committee. This support, including time, financial and technical support, has made our success and progress possible.

Contract Staff: Ron Moser, Director; Gordon Small, Project Manager

Grants Received: HWA received 2001 general operating support, VWIN and educational program funding from the Pigeon River Fund. A portion of the EPA 319 Grant is dedicated to the VWIN program, sediment monitoring and staff support for this project. These grants and our membership dues and donations have resulted in a strong financial position for HWA at year end.

Over the past four years, HWA and its partner organizations have collaborated on 27 successful grant applications. These awards have brought \$1,909,060 to Haywood County for water conservation and educational projects.

Fiscal Year 2001

Income:

Pigeon River Fund		
Administrative Support	\$ 27,750.00	
Kids in the Creek	8,740.00	
VWIN Program	<u>5,200.00</u>	
	PRF Total:	\$41,690.00
EPA 319 Grant		\$6,629.00 (1)
Dues and Donations		\$ 9,020.00 (2)
Sales Tax Refund		\$269.38
Lake Junaluska VWIN Contribution		\$700.00
T-shirt Sales		\$417.00
Interest Income		<u>\$647.50</u>
	Total Income:	\$ 59,372.88

Expenses:

Accounting	\$275.00	
Awards	\$389.75	
Banking Charges	\$15.75	
Contractors	\$24,986.64	
Education Programs		
Clear Water Contractor	\$1,185.53	
Kids in the Creek	\$4,139.80	
Summer Youth Program	\$1,676.83	
Pink Francis Scholarship	\$1,150.00	
EPA Project	\$3,217.46	
Equipment	\$50.00	
Insurance	\$1,063.00	
Internet Web Page	\$550.00	
Meetings	\$340.76	
Office Supplies	\$356.90	
Organizational Dues	\$175.00	
Postage & PO Box Rental	\$705.19	
Printing	\$3,372.55	
Promotions, T-shirts and Photographs	\$940.40	
Telephone	\$363.08	
Travel	\$1,551.00	
VWIN	<u>\$4,200.00</u> (3)	
	Total Expenses:	\$50,704.64

Notes:

1. Approximately \$3,350 is due from the EPA grant.
2. An outstanding pledge of \$500 for Kids in the Creek has been billed and will be collected in 2002.
3. The remaining balance owed for the VWIN program is \$4,200 and will be paid in January 2002 when invoiced by UNC Asheville, Environmental Quality Institute.
4. Outstanding bills total \$5,500; this figure includes the \$4,200 for VWIN lab tests.
5. Our bank account balances as of December 31, 2001 total \$23,329.71. The balance remaining after paying the above noted expenses and collecting amounts due HWA is projected to be \$21,679.71. This amount is our cash carryover to year 2002.