



Annual Report for 2003

**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. HWA has initiated projects as well as help other organizations develop projects, locate sources of funding and write grant applications. Much of our success is the result of effective partnerships. HWA became a non-profit, corporation, on September 23, 1998 and received 501(c)(3) tax-exempt status from the Internal Revenue Service on January 29, 1999.

Organizational Achievements: HWA continues to grow. On December 31, 2003 our membership totaled 284, plus we have 34 Associate members. Dues and donations collected for the year totaled \$8,942 including a Trout Festival donation of \$1,000 for Kids in the Creek and \$800 from Lake Junaluska Assembly for the Volunteer Water Information Network (VWIN) program. We exceeded our membership goal of 275 but fell short on the dues and donations collected; our 2003 goal was \$10,000.

Programs and Projects:

- Kids in the Creek water quality education program
- Summer Camp water quality education program
- Haywood Environmental Initiative (HEI) education program
- GLOBE Program water testing with Waynesville Middle School students
- Watershed Action Plan (WAP) and public awareness campaign
- Volunteer Water Information Network(VWIN) water sampling program
- Sediment Monitoring
- Watershed improvement work with Haywood Soil and Water Conservation District
- Greenway project support

Significant progress was made in 2003 on implementing the Watershed Action Plan for Haywood County. This was due to the collaborative efforts of several local groups including HWA. Education programs, water quality monitoring and work on the EPA and the Clean Water Management Trust Fund (CWMTF) projects were much of the focus in 2003. Numerous public awareness and educational programs were presented to civic, business and professional organizations, local, state and federal government and public school students. Water quality monitoring through the VWIN and sediment monitoring programs are ongoing efforts. Most important was the progress Haywood Soil and Water Conservation District (HSWCD) made in putting Best Management Practices on the ground. EPA and CWMTF funding were used to help participating landowners reduce or eliminate sources of sediment and animal waste in our streams.

HWA assisted the local greenway effort and Haywood County schools as well. Two new positions were funded in 2003 with Pigeon River Fund grants: a greenway project manager and a public school coordinator for water quality curriculum. The greenway manager will work for the County's recreation department and the curriculum coordinator for Haywood County schools. The new positions will provide the staffing needed to ensure these programs make even greater progress in 2004.

Haywood County Schools, Lake Logan Episcopal Center, HSWCD and HWA make up the Haywood Environmental Initiative (HEI). This is an environmental education initiative focused on water quality education. The new education coordinator will lead the implementation of the Adopt-A-Watershed curriculum in our public school system and serve as HEI team captain. The Adopt-A-Watershed program includes workshops for the HEI team and local teachers; a series of teacher workshops was held in June. The HEI goal is to bring water quality curriculum to all grade levels in Haywood County.

Kids in the Creek and our Summer Camp continue to be exciting opportunities for elementary and middle school students. Kids in the Creek now includes three individual events: an introduction to the food chain and KIC overview conducted in the classroom, a half-day field trip to the Pigeon River and a follow-up classroom session to conduct an actual Index of Biotic Integrity (IBI) using the data students collected during the field trip. The program is offered to all eighth grade public school students in Haywood County. Approximately 740 students, parents and teachers attended this year.

The Summer Camp is a partnership effort with Haywood County public school teachers. Fifth and sixth grade students enjoy five days of hands-on activities and field trips related to water quality education. 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.

The VWIN sampling program is conducted monthly at 24 sites in Haywood County. Sediment monitoring is being done at six stations in the Richland Creek and Fines Creek watersheds. Our HWA website (www.haywoodwaterways.org) has the VWIN data and the Watershed Action Plan available for your review. Current data should be posted early in 2004.

Haywood Soil and Water Conservation District (HSWCD), HWA and the RC&D Council are cooperating on the EPA and CWMTF grant programs. HSWCD made tremendous progress in 2003 on the landowner projects funded with these grants. Twenty individual projects have either been completed, are under construction or are in the design phase. Over 9,700 feet of stream restoration/buffer protection have been accomplished to date. An additional 6,000 feet are either under construction or in the design phase. A second CWMTF grant application was submitted in June and \$207,000 approved. Due to the state's budget problems, only the engineering and monitoring portions of the grant were funded in 2003. A follow-up proposal will be submitted for construction funding. The total CWMTF grant request will exceed \$844,000.

HWA met with EPA in February to discuss the Watershed Action Plan and its implementation timeline. EPA will use HWA and the plan as models for other organizations and communities across the nation. EPA published *Building Support for Non-point Source Management* in September 2003. The case study included HWA and its work. We will post the EPA report on our website in 2004.

The Board of Directors made donations of \$1,000 to Canton for their Rough Creek Watershed conservation easement and \$1,500 to Haywood Soil and Water Conservation District to help with the travel expenses for six local Envirothon teams going to the state competition in Burlington, NC.

Management: HWA updated its annual management plan. The plan includes our organizational goals, prioritizes projects and clarifies areas of responsibility. The Board of Directors and Executive Committee meet monthly at the office of the SWNC RC&D Council. The RC&D Council provides administrative and financial support and allows HWA use of its office space and equipment.

Board of Directors:

Executive Committee:

Dave Dudek, President	Peggy Melville, Vice-president	Joetta Rinehart, Treasurer
Yvonne Hannah, Secretary	Bill Eaker, At-large Member	

Directors:

Richard T. Alexander	Billy Case	Don Ebaugh	Carolyn Hipps
Dr. Mark Jaben	Scott Loftis	Jennifer Pratt	Barry Stevens
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 everyone that participated in the VWIN program, Kids in the Creek and served on our Technical Advisory Committee.

Contract Staff: Ron Moser, Director; Gordon Small, Project Manager; Bill Schaefer, Sediment Sampling Technician. Due to family needs, Gordon resigned in August. The Board of Directors plans to fill the vacancy in March of 2004.

Grants Received: HWA received 2003 general operating and program support from the Pigeon River Fund. A portion of the EPA and CWMTF grants are dedicated to water quality monitoring and staff support for these projects. Funding from grants, membership dues and donations has resulted in a strong financial position for HWA at year end.

Over the past five years, HWA and its partners have collaborated on 34 successful grant applications. These awards have brought more than \$2.23 million to Haywood County for water conservation and educational projects.

Income Statement for Year 2003

Income:

Pigeon River Fund	\$ 32,000.00
CWMTF Grant	13,810.52
EPA 319 Grant	6,363.71
Dues and Donations	8,142.00
Sales Tax Refund	342.75
Lake Junaluska VWIN Contribution	800.00
T-shirt Sales	101.00
Interest Income	522.50
VWIN funding (2002)	<u>9,600.00</u>
Total Income:	\$ 71,682.48

Expenses:

Accounting	\$ 385.00
Awards	409.00
Banking Charges	12.00
Contractors	18,940.05
Donations	
Pink Francis Scholarship Fund	100.00
Canton Conservation Easement	1,000.00
Envirothon Teams' Travel	1,500.00
Education Programs	
Kids in the Creek	9,891.29
Summer Youth Camp	1,559.56
CWMTF Project	10,643.66
EPA Project	4,188.12
Equipment	454.88
Insurance	1429.00
Internet Web Page	300.00
Member Meetings	1,406.84
Office Supplies	468.57
Organizational Dues	75.00
Postage & PO Box Rental	652.05
Printing	1,474.07
Promotions and Photographs	55.30
Telephone	383.65
Travel	1,379.64
VWIN (2002 & 2003 Costs)	<u>19,200.00</u>
Total Expenses:	\$75,907.68

Note:

1. On December 31, 2003, HWA had \$42,803.91 on deposit; \$32,000 of this amount was a Pigeon River Fund grant for year 2004 program expenses.