

Haywood Waterways Association, Inc.

Annual Report for 2000

**Haywood Waterways Association, Inc.
Post Office Box 389
Waynesville, NC 28786
828-452-9077**

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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. HWA filed its articles of incorporation and became a non-profit, charitable corporation, registered in the state of North Carolina on September 23, 1998. In December of 1998, we filed our application for 501(c)(3) tax-exempt status with the Internal Revenue Service and received our tax-exempt ruling on January 29, 1999.

2000 Organizational Goals Achievements: Our second year achievements rival the outstanding success we enjoyed in 1999, our first year as a membership organization. We exceeded all our organizational goals. As of December 31, 2000 HWA had received its 150th membership. They include 47 business and organization memberships and 103 individual and family memberships. This is 150% of our membership goal of 100. HWA received cash donations and membership dues totaling \$8,000. This amount is 188% of our year 2000 goal of \$4,245. Please note, the above reported figure for donations and memberships includes the cash donations of \$945 paid on behalf of HWA for our Annual Membership Meeting and dinner held at the Lambuth Inn. We also received our first Benefactor membership this year which is the \$500 level. We thank all of you who helped make 2000 another banner year!

Programs and Projects: Writing the Watershed Action Plan (WAP) for Haywood County and expansion of the Kids in the Creek program were our two major initiatives in 2000. In addition, some existing HWA programs were expanded or improved. The VWIN water sampling program now has 23 sites in Haywood County. Our HWA website is being improved with new graphics and more links. Check us out at our website www.haywoodwaterways.org.

The Kids in the Creek educational program was offered twice this year. We conducted a Spring program for the 1999/2000 school year and conducted the program, on four consecutive days in September, for the 2000/2001 school year. For the first time, the entire eighth grade class of Haywood County public school students participated. Approximately 600 students and teachers attended. HWA also began collecting and testing water samples from Richland Creek with Waynesville Middle School eighth grade students. Four parameters are evaluated weekly and the data entered in the worldwide database of the GLOBE program.

Three new educational projects we worked on in 2000 will come to fruition in 2001. They are: Summer Youth Program, Project Aspire and Alternative Spring Break. Our new Summer Youth Program planned for 2000 was postponed and will be offered the Summer of 2001. This 40 hour program is a partnership effort with the Town of Waynesville Recreation Department and will likely be staffed with three Haywood County public school teachers. HWA purchased water testing and educational equipment for Project Aspire, a county program for Haywood County "at risk" students. HWA Board Directors, Dave Dudek and Zora Rhodes will conduct a workshop to train Project Aspire staff in the use of the equipment and provide water quality educational materials. HWA has been working with a group of college students from the University of Virginia on plans for their "Alternative Spring Break". This group of civic minded students devotes their Spring Break week to constructive work; this year they chose to work with HWA. Our plans include construction of an observation deck on Jonathan Creek at Jonathan Valley Elementary School and some stream bank plantings. A day of training in water quality assessment techniques and water testing with Waynesville Middle School students is also planned for the college students. Education is our way of helping develop the next generation of natural resource stewards.

The HWA Technical Advisory Committee did an outstanding job of analyzing the Haywood County Non-point Source Pollution Inventory database and developing the Watershed Action Plan outline. A key component of the process was the four citizen forums we conducted to present our findings to the public. The initial draft of the plan has been completed and specific action items are being identified and prioritized by sub-watershed. An individual addenda for each sub-watershed will be published as part of the plan. The final draft of the plan will be completed early in 2001 and presented to the public and elected

officials for comment. In addition to the plan itself, we intend to 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.

Management: HWA developed a comprehensive management plan that includes organizational goals, sets its course of action and clarifies areas of responsibility. The plan includes duties and responsibilities for HWA officers, HWA committees and contract personnel.

The Board of Directors and Executive Committee both meet monthly at the office of the Southwestern NC Resource Conservation and Development Council (RC&D). The RC&D Council provides administrative, technical and financial support through the use of its office space and equipment.

2000 Board of Directors:

Executive Committee:

Bill Eaker President	Dave Dudek Vice-president
Ron Moser Treasurer	Robin Minick Secretary
Joetta Rinehart	

Directors:

Richard Alexander	David Ashe	Charles P. Francis
Dr. Mark Jaben	Jennifer Pratt	Zora Rhodes
Charles Schaefer	Leslie Smathers	Steve West

The Board of Directors wishes to send its sincerest thanks to the Pigeon River Fund, Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation and all our members for their generous financial support. We also wish to thank the individuals and organizations that serve in the VWIN program 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 general operating support from the Pigeon River Fund. In partnership with the Haywood Soil & Water Conservation District, we were awarded an EPA 319 Incremental Fund grant, and expect to begin drawing on this grant early in 2001. These two grants and our membership dues and donations have resulted in a strong financial position for HWA at year end.

In addition to administrative funding, the Pigeon River Fund awarded grants to purchase our laptop computer and video equipment and partial funding for 23 VWIN sampling sites in Haywood County. A small grant was received from ESRI to purchase our GIS software.

HWA is honored to have helped the Lake Junaluska Assembly obtain \$605,000 in funding for sediment removal and public education. These funds were received from the Pigeon River Fund and the State of North Carolina. The HWA Non-point Source Pollution Inventory database, other HWA documentation and our joint efforts with the Haywood Soil & Water Conservation District to correct problems within the Lake Junaluska Watershed helped enable the Assembly to be successful in their funding requests.

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 Improvement Action Plan and Educational Publications
- Volunteer Water Information Network(VWIN) Water Sampling Program
- Expansion of our Internet web page

Fiscal Year 2000

Income:

Pigeon River Fund	
Education Grant	\$9,700.00
Equipment Grant	\$10,000.00
Administrative Support	\$ 20,000.00
VWIN Program	<u>\$ 6,300.00</u>
	PRF Total: \$46,000.00
Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation (carryover from 1999)	\$ 15,577.00
Dues and Donations	\$ 8,000.00
Interest Income	<u>\$1,088.79</u>
	Total Income: \$ 70,655.79

Expenses:

Accounting	\$175.00
Awards	\$198.21
Banking Charges	\$19.25
Contractors	\$ 30,190.50
Education Programs	\$8,692.91
EPA Project	\$1,639.81
Equipment	\$9,962.36
Internet Web Page	\$345.00
Office Supplies	\$286.06
Organizational Dues	\$50.00
Postage & PO Box Rental	\$505.42
Printing	\$3,502.06
Promotions and Photographs	\$71.69
Telephone	\$381.79
VWIN	<u>\$7,234.00</u>
	Total Expenses: \$63,254.06

Note: Our bank account balances as of December 31, 2000 total \$14,624.03 This amount is our cash carryover to year 2001.