



Annual Report for 2004

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

www.haywoodwaterways.org

Key: Haywood Waterways Association	HWA
Haywood Soil and Water Conservation District	HSWCD
Southwestern NC Resource Conservation and Development Council	RC&D Council
NC Clean Water Management Trust Fund	CWMTF
US Environmental Protection Agency	EPA
Pigeon River Fund	PRF
Kids in the Creek Program (education program)	KIC
Haywood Environmental Initiative (education program)	HEI
Volunteer Water Information Network (water sampling)	VWIN
Watershed Action Plan	WAP

History: 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 PRF. HWA has initiated projects as well as help other organizations develop projects, locate sources of funding and write grant applications. 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: On December 31, 2004 HWA membership totaled 333, including the 35 Associate members. Dues and donations collected for the year totaled \$8,492 including a Trout Festival donation of \$300 for KIC and \$800 from Lake Junaluska Assembly for the VWIN program.

Programs and Projects:

- Kids in the Creek and Summer Camp water quality education programs
- Partner in the Haywood Environmental Initiative education program
- GLOBE Program water testing with Waynesville Middle School students
- Watershed Action Plan and public awareness campaign
- Volunteer Water Information Network water sampling program; 24 sites in the county
- Sediment Monitoring program; seven stations in the county
- Watershed improvement work with Haywood Soil and Water Conservation District
- Greenway project support and member of the Haywood Greenway Advisory Council

This was another very busy year for HWA and our partners. In addition to the planned work, we were faced with the devastation from two major floods. The back-to-back floods severely impacted our residents, many streams and the Pigeon River. Plans and projects had to be rescheduled as personnel and resources were reassigned. We lost all of our sediment monitoring stations during the floods and KIC was postponed due to the conditions at the Canton Recreation Park. Next year will be very challenging as we help our partners, local government and our neighbors in the recovery process.

In April 2004, the Board of Directors hired Eric Romaniszyn to serve as the Project Manager. Eric is an aquatic biologist with a graduate degree in entomology. He has worked as a consultant on environmental assessments, biological assessments for threatened and endangered species, ecological inventories and risk assessments, and a variety of permit applications. His specialty is benthic (bottom dwelling) insects which is one of the most fascinating stations in the KIC program. Eric will assist with our education programs, lead our efforts to help the towns with their EPA Phase II Storm Water Permit requirements and chair our Technical Advisory Committee as we evaluate our progress and update the Watershed Action Plan.

Water quality education and increasing public awareness are the major focus of HWA. Two publications, funded by EPA and CWMTF grants, were completed: a 28 page newspaper insert and an eight page manual entitled *Stewardship Begins in Our Backyards, A Landowner's Guide to Protecting our Land and Streams*. A great deal of time was devoted to these publications and the feedback has been very positive. There is a wealth of useful information in both. They are posted on the HWA website, www.haywoodwaterways.org, and hard copies of the manual are available from HWA. Our contact information is on the cover of this report.

HWA education programs continue to be very popular. KIC is our biggest event each year. It was rescheduled to May of 2005 for the current eighth grade class. Our Summer Camp was a big success. This education program is led by HWA staff and three Haywood County public school teachers. Fifth and sixth

grade students enjoy five days of hands-on activities and field trips studying water quality. HWA is also collecting and testing water samples from Richland Creek with Waynesville Middle School students for the GLOBE program. We hope to expand this effort to include all three middle schools in 2005. Four parameters are evaluated and the data entered in the worldwide GLOBE database. The data is available for public viewing on the GLOBE website: www.globe.gov.

HWA continues to support HEI. The group was formed in 2002 to coordinate and enhance local education programs. Its main focus is water quality and the interactions at the watershed level. Water quality education in Haywood County Schools saw tremendous growth in 2004. With assistance from the Pigeon River Fund, Kathy Boydston was hired as the new Haywood County Water Quality Curriculum Coordinator and team captain for HEI. Kathy conducted workshops for local teachers and serves as a resource person. She introduced new water quality lesson plans and water quality monitoring in all the Haywood County elementary schools.

The local greenway effort took another big step with the creation of the Haywood Greenway Advisory Council. Local governments, Richland Creek Action Committee, HSWCD, Lake Junaluska Assembly, HWA, interested citizens (serving as at-large members) and the Blue Ridge Bicycle Club are all represented on the council. A great deal of progress was made this year. Tony Sexton, the County's Greenway Project Manager, negotiated several critical easements for the Richland Creek Greenway. We hope to see construction begin on the Richland Creek trail in 2005.

Watershed planning, water quality monitoring and completing work on the EPA and CWMTF projects remained priorities in 2004. HWA and the Maggie Valley Sanitary District entered into a Memorandum of Understanding to establish two new sediment monitoring stations on Campbell Creek and Jonathan Creek. We now have seven sediment monitoring stations and 24 VWIN sites in the county. Our HWA website has the VWIN data and the Watershed Action Plan available for your review.

Two new grants were received from the CWMTF. They include funds for a feasibility study at the new Bethel Elementary School and a variety of stewardship activities. The study will explore the use of innovative storm water controls to minimize the impact on two streams at the new school site. Our goal is to use a variety of Best Management Practices to reduce pollution in the storm water runoff and showcase them as a demonstration site for the public. The grants will also help sustain our education programs, water quality monitoring and implementation of the Watershed Action Plan.

HSWCD, the RC&D Council and HWA are partners on the EPA and CWMTF grant projects. Most of these funds will be used to help participating landowners reduce or eliminate sources of sediment and animal waste in our streams. Tremendous progress has been made with these grants. Over the past three years, 20 individual projects have resulted in nearly three miles of restored stream banks and a variety of other improvements on the ground. HSWCD has done an excellent job planning and directing this work and helping with stream restoration work to repair flood damage.

Management: The HWA Management Plan was updated; it includes the organizational goals, prioritizes projects and defines areas of responsibility. The Board of Directors conducted a retreat in July 2004. This was the first step in developing our long range strategic plan which is scheduled for completion in 2005. The Board of Directors and Executive Committee meet monthly at the RC&D Council Office.

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		

Contract Staff: Ron Moser, Director; Eric Romaniszyn, Project Manager; Bill Schaefer, Sediment Sampling Technician.

Grants Received: In 2004 HWA received operating and program support from the PRF and partnered with HSWCD and the RC&D Council on two successful CWMTF grants. Over the past six years, HWA and its partners have written 34 successful grant applications. **These awards have brought more than**

\$3.2 million to Haywood County for water conservation projects, stream monitoring and educational programs.

Income Statement for Year 2004

Income:

Pigeon River Fund (1)	\$ 32,000.00
CWMTF Grant	16,081.20
EPA 319 Grant	12,422.97
Dues and Donations	7,691.50
Sales Tax Refund	546.26
Lake Junaluska VWIN Contribution	800.00
Interest Income	<u>407.84</u>
Total Income:	\$ 69,949.77

Expenses:

Accounting	\$ 385.00
Awards	618.62
Banking Charges	00.00
Contractors	31,335.67
Donations & Memorials	80.64
Education Programs	
Kids in the Creek (2)	00.00
Summer Camp	2,156.83
Equipment	2,096.23
Insurance	1,431.00
Internet Web Page	350.00
Member Meetings	1,490.06
Board of Directors Retreat	368.21
Office Supplies	306.59
Organizational Dues	325.00
Postage & PO Box Rental	543.36
Printing	1,422.78
Publications (Newspaper Insert)	3,505.00
Promotions and Advertising	593.12
Telephone	362.99
Travel	1,313.28
Monitoring	
Sediment	4,173.20
VWIN	<u>9,600.00</u>
Total Expenses:	\$62,457.58

Notes:

1. HWA deposited the \$32,000 Pigeon River Fund grant awarded for year 2004 program expenses on December 31, 2003.
2. Kids in the Creek for the 2004/2005 eighth grade class scheduled for September 2004 was postponed due to the floods. It has been rescheduled for May 2005.
3. As of December 31, 2004, HWA had \$18,296.10 on deposit.