



Annual Report for 2005

**Haywood Waterways Association, Inc.
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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
NC Department of Environment and Natural Resources	DENR
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 numerous projects and for the past five years partnered with others to develop projects, locate sources of funding and write grant applications. HWA became a NC 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, 2005 HWA membership totaled 335, including the 35 Associate members. Dues and donations collected for the year totaled \$7,138 which was significantly less than our goal of \$10,000. Fundraising from new sources will be a priority in 2006.

Programs and Projects:

- Watershed Action Plan and public awareness campaign
- Watershed improvement work with Haywood Soil and Water Conservation District
- Hyatt Creek Restoration Project
- Kids in the Creek, Summer Camp and HEI water quality education programs
- Stewardship Begins in Our Backyards, a Landowner’s Guide for Protecting Land and Streams
- Volunteer Water Information Network and Sediment Monitoring water sampling programs
- Greenway project support and member of the Haywood Greenway Advisory Council
- Haywood County flood relief support
- HWA Strategic Management Plan

Water quality education and partnering to secure funding for watershed restoration projects were our major priorities in 2005. Restoration projects include stream bank stabilization and a variety of Best Management Practices to reduce stream and lake sedimentation. Education programs include classroom presentations, collecting and analyzing water quality data and hands-on activities. Other initiatives include water quality monitoring, assisting the County with the flood recovery effort, supporting greenway projects, Big Sweep and developing a long-range, strategic management plan for HWA.

Watershed planning and water quality monitoring are perennial tasks. We use this information to identify priority projects. Our Technical Advisory Committee analyzed and updated the WAP that we published in 2002. This committee also developed a detailed work plan for the Hyatt Creek Restoration Project. The HWA website has the WAP and VWIN monitoring data available for your review.

Our partnerships with HSWCD and the RC&D Council continue to pay dividends for Haywood County. A grant contract was signed for \$480,000 and an additional \$462,000 request received approval from the CWMTF. They include funds for an innovative storm water management project at the new Bethel Elementary School and a variety of stewardship activities. The school project will help protect water quality and serve as a storm water demonstration site for the citizens of Haywood County. The CWMTF grants also help sustain our education programs, water quality monitoring and implementation of the Watershed Action Plan.

HSWCD, the RC&D Council and HWA continued work on prior EPA and CWMTF projects. Most of these funds have been 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.

The HWA Technical Advisory Committee pulled together a coalition of local, state and federal agencies and organizations to focus on cleaning up Hyatt Creek. The ultimate goal is to remove Hyatt Creek from the State's 303(d) list of impaired streams. We wrote a successful EPA grant application and were awarded \$500,000 for this project. Additional funds were pledged by TVA, DENR, and the NC Department of Transportation, and in-kind donations were received from the NC Wildlife Resources Commission, HSWCD and the RC&D Council. The total cost of this project is estimated at \$904,210.

Education programs and increasing public awareness are ongoing efforts. KIC is our largest event each year and was conducted twice in 2005. It had been postponed for the 2004/2005 class due to the 2004 floods. Approximately 1,400 students and teachers participated for an estimated 6,300 student hours. Our Summer Camp was a fun and interesting week. This year students worked on display boards to share their new knowledge with others. They concluded the week by displaying them on Main Street in Waynesville with pedestrians stopping by for a quick lesson on water quality in Haywood County.

HWA continues to support other education programs in our area and we are a charter member of HEI. This group sponsors workshops for teachers and the team captain, Kathy Boydston, has developed lesson plans and a stream monitoring program for Haywood County elementary schools. HWA Project Manager, Eric Romaniszyn, helped with two new initiatives in western NC: *It's Our Water*, an educational program for teachers sponsored by the US Fish and Wildlife Service and a citizen based, benthic macro-invertebrate monitoring program led by Clean Water for NC. Eric also helped HSWCD with their annual Conservation Field Day for fifth grade public school students.

Local greenway efforts saw significant progress in 2005. Several critical easements were secured for the Richland Creek Greenway and a new section of trail was constructed. The Haywood Greenway Advisory Council helps coordinate local efforts and is developing a long range master plan for Haywood County. HWA is actively involved in the Council's work.

Management: HWA began developing a long-range, strategic management plan that is to be completed in 2006. HWA hired the Institute for Conservation Leadership to help guide the planning process. Funding for the plan was received from the Community Foundation of Western NC and the Mott Foundation. Our Board of Directors conducted an assessment of HWA in September followed by a planning retreat in December. Analysis of feedback from the community, including local government officials, was part of this process. Four sub-committees were created to address the key elements of the plan: board development, fundraising, public relations and succession planning. The strategic plan will be our guide as we work to ensure the long-term viability and success of HWA.

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	Marty Prevost
Bill Skelton	Gordon Small	Bill Yarborough	

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

Grants Received: Seven grants were received in 2005: two grants from the PRF and one each from the Mott Foundation, the Community Foundation of Western NC and BassPro shops. HWA also partnered with HSWCD and the RC&D Council on an EPA grant and a CWMTF grant. Over the past seven years, HWA and its partners have written 41 successful grant applications. **These awards have brought more than \$4.27 million to Haywood County for soil and water conservation projects, stream monitoring and educational programs.**

Income Statement for Year 2005

Income:

Pigeon River Fund	\$ 32,000.00
CWMTF Grant (2000)	14,569.28
CWMTF Grant (2003)	1,372.79
CWMTF Grant (2004)	7,107.98
EPA 319 Grant	13,996.95
Haywood County (Flood relief)	1,801.38
Dues and Donations	7,138.00
Interest Income	453.21
Sales Tax Refund	<u>406.71</u>
Total Income:	\$ 78,846.30

Expenses:

Accounting	\$ 385.00
Awards	120.00
Banking Charges	12.00
Contractors (staff)	44,636.21
Donations & Memorials	526.00
Education Programs	
Kids in the Creek	18,567.40
Summer Camp	1,950.00
Equipment	409.24
Flood Relief Supervision	1,801.38
Insurance	1,187.00
Internet Web Page	530.00
Member Meetings	15.66
Office Supplies	302.00
Organizational Dues	325.00
Postage & PO Box Rental	1,003.15
Printing	1,899.26
Publications (BMP Manual)	3,192.00
Strategic Planning Consultant	2,170.07
Telephone	392.07
Travel	3,057.35
Workshop	45.00
Water Quality Monitoring	
Sediment	2,446.23
VWIN	<u>10,100.00</u>
Total Expenses:	\$95,072.02

Notes:

1. Kids in the Creek was conducted twice in 2005, once for the 2004/2005 eighth grade class and the second time for the 2005/2006 class. Funding for the 2004/2005 class was brought forward from 2004 and was included in the cash on hand reported in the 2004 Annual Report.
2. Some grants are paid on a reimbursable basis. Billings for the last quarter of 2005 in the amounts of \$15,790.59 plus \$5,861.74 were received in January 2006. Adding this accrued income to the above reported amount results in a positive income for the year.
3. As of December 31, 2005, HWA had \$2,070.38 on deposit.