



Annual Report for 2006

**Haywood Waterways Association, Inc.
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Key: Haywood Waterways Association	HWA
Haywood Soil and Water Conservation District	HSWCD
Haywood Community College	HCC
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
Geographic Information System	GIS
Pigeon River Fund	PRF
Kids in the Creek Program (education program)	KIC
USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service	NRCS
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, 2006 HWA membership totaled 329, including the 45 Associate members. Dues and donations collected for the year totaled \$17,430 which is an increase of 144% over 2005 (\$7,138.00). We also received non-cash donations of services that totaled \$1,495.00.

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 and Haywood Environmental Initiative water quality education programs
- Volunteer Water Information Network and Sediment Monitoring water sampling programs
- Greenway project support and member of the Haywood Greenway Advisory Council
- County Publication “What Regulations Affect Land Disturbing, Land Clearing, Development and Construction Projects?” (Copies are available.)
- HWA Strategic Management Plan
- Resource Assessment for Mountainside Development demonstration project

Completing our strategic plan, the Hyatt Creek Restoration Project and two new projects were our priorities in 2006. Key objectives of the strategic plan are to diversify our funding sources and decrease our reliance on grants for operating funds. Income from dues and donations increased significantly and two new restricted funds were established, the Headwaters Reserve Fund and the HWA Endowment Fund. Almost \$6000 was raised for these funds. This will help ensure a strong, financial future for HWA.

The two new projects included a publication and a demonstration project. “*What Regulations Affect Land Disturbing, Land Clearing, Development and Construction Projects?*” was commissioned by the Haywood County Board of Commissioners. This publication is a compilation and summary of the local, state and federal rules and regulations for land development in Haywood County. Five-thousand copies were printed and are available through the County Planning Office, the Erosion and Sedimentation Control Office, the Building Inspections Office and HWA.

The demonstration project involved the planning of two major subdivisions using our GIS database and computerized mapping. The cooperating entities were HCC, HSWCD and NRCS; the project was initiated and led by HWA Board member Gordon Small. The product was two residential subdivision plans that were sensitive to site conditions, conservation principals and the needs of the developers. Innovative use of digitized soils maps, topographic maps and on-the-ground site evaluations by NRCS and HSWCD soil scientists were key elements of the plans. The best locations for house sites and roads were identified first and the lot lines established last. Areas with fragile/shallow soils, rock outcroppings, springs/seeps and other areas not well suited for development were avoided. The objectives are safe, stable

home sites; stable roads with reduced maintenance costs; and minimized problems and reduced development costs for the developer. HWA believes this type of site planning will significantly improve the quality of mountainside developments in Haywood County and reduce the potential for future landslides and home site failures.

The Hyatt Creek project is underway. Public outreach efforts include mailings, a special edition HWA newsletter, press releases and a free BBQ for residents of the watershed. HSWCD is working with several landowners and two homeowners' associations on storm water controls to reduce soil erosion. HWA is working with the owners of the Green Valley Mobile Home Park on some voluntary upgrades to the Park's waste water treatment plant. TVA grants for the Hyatt Creek project will cover a large portion of the plant upgrade costs. Several homeowners have received financial assistance for septic repairs through DENR and our EPA grant; additional septic repairs are planned in 2007. The ultimate goal is to remove Hyatt Creek from the State's list of impaired streams. Funding for this project includes a \$500,000 EPA 319 Program grant with additional funds pledged by TVA, DENR, and the NC Department of Transportation. Additional in-kind donations were received from the NC Wildlife Resource Commission, HSWCD and the RC&D Council. The total cost of this project is estimated at \$912,000.

Educational programs, increasing public awareness, collecting and analyzing water quality data and watershed planning are ongoing efforts. KIC is our largest event each year with nearly 725 students, parents and teachers participating for an estimated 3,400 student hours of instruction. Our Summer Camp was cancelled due to a lack of participants; we will try it again next summer. The HWA website has been updated significantly. We have our WAP, Strategic Plan, all our newsletters, VWIN data, the Hyatt Creek Restoration Project, and a few additional pages for your ready reference.

The Bethel Elementary School storm water management project is under construction. Most of the innovative features will be some of the last items completed in the spring of 2007. The school project will help protect water quality and serve as a storm water demonstration site for the citizens of Haywood County. HWA and the RC&D Council secured a \$422,000 CWMTF grant to offset the additional costs for the innovative storm water management features and the education and public awareness portion of the project. HWA is responsible for the kiosk and educational signage.

Local greenway efforts saw progress in 2006. A section of the Richland Creek Greenway trail running through the Industrial Park was completed. The Haywood Greenway Advisory Council plans to mark the new walking loops in early 2007. HWA is a member of the Council.

Management: HWA completed and published the strategic management plan, restructured our committees and established the Headwaters Reserve Fund and an endowment fund. These actions will help 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 Jr.	Billy Case	Don Ebaugh	Carolyn Hipps
Scott Loftis	Jennifer Pratt	Marty Prevost	Bill Skelton
Gordon Small	Bill Yarborough		

Contract Staff: Ron Moser, Director; Eric Romaniszyn, Project Manager; Christine O'Brien, Sediment Monitoring Technician.

Grants Received: Six grants were received in 2006: four grants from TVA, one from the PRF and another from ESRI, a GIS software manufacturer. Over the past eight years, HWA and its partners have written 48 successful grant applications. **These awards have brought more than \$4.36 million to Haywood County for soil and water conservation projects, stormwater management, educational programs and stream monitoring.**

Income Statement for Year 2006

Income:

Pigeon River Fund	\$ 38,750.00
Community Foundation of WNC	5,000.00
CWMTF Grant (2004)	36,620.27
EPA 319 Grant	26,804.85
Tennessee Valley Authority*	20,365.91
Haywood County	1,973.26
Dues and Donations	11,727.00
Restricted Funds (Endowment and Headwaters Reserve)	5,703.00
Interest Income	760.74
Insurance Premium Refund	69.00
Sales Tax Refund	639.91
Total Income:	\$148,413.94

Expenses:

Accounting	\$ 385.00
Awards	128.85
Banking Charges	12.00
Contractors (staff)	65,521.65
Donations & Memorials	50.00
Education Programs	
Kids in the Creek	9,024.28
Land Developing Demonstration Project	415.44
EPA Phase II Storm Water Program Support for Towns*	1,422.42
Equipment	4,129.42
Hyatt Creek Project	1,256.37
Insurance	1,433.00
Internet Web Page	605.00
Member & Board Meetings	1,136.61
Office Supplies	714.79
Organizational Dues	175.00
Postage & PO Box Rental	1,199.79
Printing	2,059.68
Promotions & Advertising	321.79
Strategic Planning Consultant	3,452.78
Telephone	449.67
Travel	3,025.39
Workshops	40.00
Water Quality Monitoring	
Sediment	5,809.45
VWIN	<u>10,900.00</u>
Total Expenses:	\$113,668.38

Notes:

1. *TVA funding includes \$9,150 designated for wastewater plant upgrades and \$1,422.42 for EPA Phase II Storm Water Program support for Canton, Clyde and Waynesville.
2. As of December 31, 2006, HWA had \$36,815.94 on deposit: \$5,703 restricted funds, \$9,150 TVA funds and \$21,962.94 general fund.