



THE MOUTH OF THE HAW

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE HAW RIVER TRAIL PARTNERSHIP

Spring 2008

www.thehaw.org

What is the Haw River Trail Partnership?

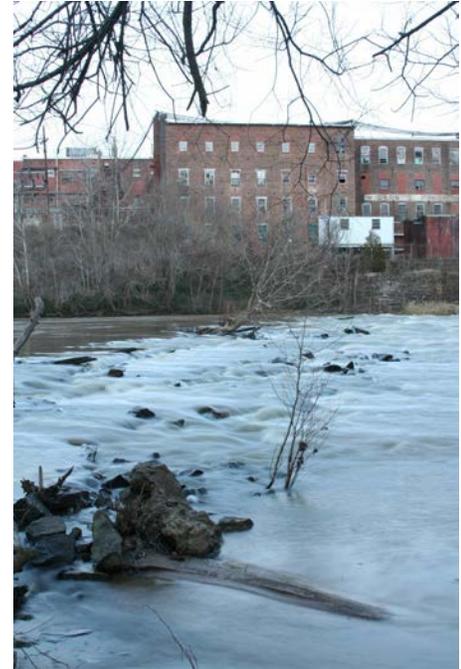
In 2006, 10 governmental agencies signed a Memorandum of Understanding agreeing to work together for the development of the Haw River Trail and the conservation of its land and waters.

In this spirit, the cities of Burlington and Graham have partnered with Alamance County, the Elon University Center for Environmental Studies and the Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation to fund a full-time position to coordinate conservation and trail efforts on the Upper Haw River. This newsletter, and our website: www.thehaw.org, are an effort to inform the public about the accomplishments and goals of these positions and the ongoing work stemming from the 2006 Memorandum of Understanding.

TOWN OF HAW RIVER ACQUIRES 15 ACRES FOR "RED SLIDE" PARK

The Town of Haw River has acquired 15 acres of property adjacent to the Haw River for the creation of a new public park. The park will be called "Red Slide Park" in reference to the historical name of the neighborhood. The property is located off Lang Street, across the Haw River from the historic Granite Mill. The current owners of Granite Mill, Haw River Business Center, sold the majority of the property to be used for the park. Additional property was sold by the Odis and Gloria Fogleman family.

The park will extend the Haw River Trail/Mountains-to-Sea Trail through the Town, and will create a new access point to the Haw River Paddle Trail. The park will also protect approximately 3300 linear feet of frontage on the Haw River. The park's acquisition and development are funded, in part, by a \$75,000 grant from the North Carolina Recreational Trails Program. The park project is a cooperative effort between the Town and the Haw River Trail Partnership. The Haw River Trail Partnership is made up of several local governments and the Elon University Center for Environmental Studies. The Town of Haw River was one of 10 local governments to pledge to work cooperatively



View of Granite Mill from the new park property

YEE-HAW! RIVER PADDLE DRAWS OVER 170 TO HAW

The First Annual Yee-Haw! River Paddle was a great success. The event brought over 180 people from across the State to the Haw River for a day of paddling and fellowship. Three events tailored to beginners, families and experienced paddlers gave all skill levels a chance to enjoy the river, many for the first time.

The event was a joint effort by the Haw River Trail Partnership including the City of Burlington, the City of Graham, Alamance

HRT PARTNERSHIP REACHES 1,000 ACRE MARK

The Haw River Trail Partnership reached a milestone this Spring. Less than two years after the signing of the first of its kind Memorandum of Understanding, the Partnership broke the 1,000 acre barrier. Every county and municipality along the Haw River Trail joined with the State in signing the MOU to work together to promote conservation and recreation on the Haw River. Since May 2006, MOU Partners have conserved 1034 acres along the Haw River, and

CONTINUED AT Yee-Haw on Page 2

CONTINUED AT 1,000 Acres on Page 2

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Page 2

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Want More Pictures?

To see more pictures of the Yee-Haw! River Paddle, or of life on the Haw River Trail, visit the Haw River Trail Group on Flickr.com.

Upload a few of your own while you are

Want To Help?

We welcome community involvement in our projects and can always use motivated volunteers. We currently need volunteers to assist:

- Picking up Litter on the Trail and in the River
- Manning Booths at Festivals and Events
- Organizing and Leading Volunteer Events
- Creating Newsletters and Promotional Materials
- Building Trails and Footbridges

To help, please email us as getinvolved@thehaw.org

Yee-Haw! continued

County, and the Elon University Center for Environmental Studies. Haw River Canoe and Kayak Company outfitted dozens of paddlers with boats and instruction and a sponsorship by the Burlington-Alamance Convention and Visitor's Bureau allowed some of the proceeds to benefit the Elon University Center for Environmental Studies Haw River Trail Fund.

Our post-paddle survey indicated we can expect an even larger crowd next year. Thanks to all who attended, and we hope to see you next April.

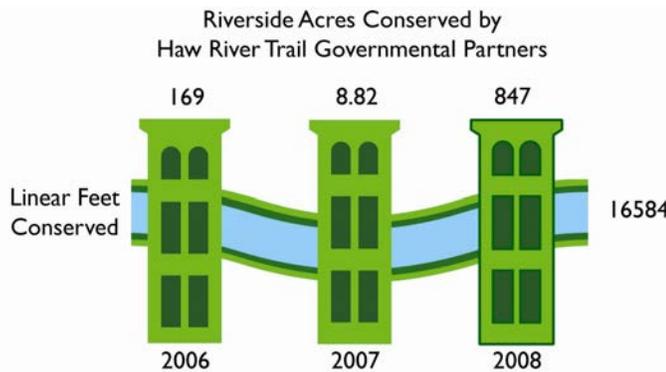


Joe Jacob, of the Haw River Canoe and Kayak Company, parts the Haw River during the Yee-Haw! River Paddle.

1,000 Acres continued

preserved over 16,500 linear feet of river frontage.

The Partnership's conservation efforts have received a boost through the purchase of several large tracts by the State in the past year. These include a 600+ acre tract adjacent to Haw River State Park from the Bluegreen Corp. of Florida. The State also purchased over 130 acres in Chatham County.



HAW RIVER TRAIL PROGRAM WINS STATEWIDE AWARD

Alamance County was honored with the Outstanding County Program Award by the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners in April for its role in developing the Haw River Trail Coordinator Position in Alamance County. The award is given by the NCACC to "recognize and share information with other counties about programs that involve a uniquely innovative process, solution or idea to address a county or multi-jurisdictional issue."

The Haw River Trail Coordinator position was created in May 2006, when Alamance County was one of 10 local governments to sign a Memorandum of Understanding pledging to work jointly towards recreation and conservation goals on the Haw River. The position is hosted by the Elon University Center for Environmental Studies and is jointly funded by the Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation, Alamance County, the City of Burlington and the City of Gra-

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