



Clean Water for North Carolina **Clean Currents**

Summer 2008

a newsletter of clean water and community environmental justice issues

Moving toward more efficient use of water: what's standing in our way?

By Teagan Ward, CWFNC Duke Stanback Intern, 2008

In 2007-2008, North Carolina has been experiencing one of its worst droughts on record. Many communities waited too long to initiate their water conservation programs which, without unexpected rains during the spring, could have led to a major water crisis. The question is: what is stopping ALL of us from conserving and using our water resources more efficiently all the time?

Historically, North Carolina has sold its natural resources as cheaply as possible to boost economic growth and development by encouraging industry migration to the area. Even today, many municipalities charge water rates that don't cover the full cost of the water service in order to attract business and create employment opportunities. However, when we neglect to charge the true cost of water, we encourage excessive use, when we need to conserve all the time.

Many water utilities are run like businesses whose purpose is to sell as much water as possible to increase revenues i.e. the more gallons sold, the more money is in the utility's "wallet" to be used for operation and maintenance costs, a clear conflict with effective conservation. If utilities and municipalities encourage customers to conserve water, they would appear lose precious revenue at a time when funding is desperately needed to replace and repair North Carolina's aging infrastructure.

How can utilities encourage conservation while still meeting their costs? They need to switch over to a more aggressive conservation-based water rate structure, "increasing block rates," which charge consumers more per unit of increased water used. On July 1st, 2008, Durham joined many communities in making the switch to an increasing block rate structure, creating a pricing signal to consumers to encourage conservation. In order for this to be truly effective, metering and billing frequencies must increase, so that pricing information is received to give customers quick feedback on their usage.

Many communities fear downgraded bond ratings as a result of revenue instability from conservation-based rates, potentially impacting a community's ability to qualify for private lending programs. Bond ratings are generally highest for communities able to accommodate growth through supply expansion projects and increased revenue. As a result, we see a general bias towards the implementation of "sexy" prestige- and investment-driven projects such as large pipelines, dams, and reservoirs that may result in higher bond ratings, unnecessarily burdening taxpayers. The truth is that conservation is the most inexpensive way to free up water for growth or other uses.

During the 2002 and the 2007-2008 droughts many neighboring communities responded by adopting varying emergency responses, leading to a lot of confusion. While it is naïve to think that that a "one size fits all" water conservation program will solve all problems, a more comprehensive regionally based approach to water management could significantly reduce confusion and encourage faster adoption of drought-response measures. Efforts are under way to standardize the language and to come up with a set of response stages that could be used state-wide so that Stage 2 Conservation levels in one community would equal Stage 2 Conservation levels in a neighboring community.

Continued on the following page

Water Conservation/ drought bill passes— thanks to your support!

In recent weeks, we've asked you to contact state legislators about the Drought/ Water Management Recommendations bill (H2499) to strengthen NC's ability to respond to drought and reduce water waste.

The water conservation/management bill was offered by Gov. Easley after widespread advocacy to deal with the extended drought. The original bill contained strong proposals to improve state and regional water conservation. After introduction, the bill underwent a series of weakening redrafts and bad amendments in the NC House. H2499 was so gutted for a while it actually threatened to WEAKEN NC water policy, but thankfully much of the damage was reversed in the NC Senate and the bill returned to the House for "concurrence" closer to its original form.

House Bill 2499 passed the state legislature on the final day of the session, but not with everything we need to improve North Carolina's drought and water management policies.

Good provisions in the bill include: Better reporting of agricultural water use; weekly reporting of water use during extreme or exceptional drought; a streamlined process for emergency drought response; conditions on state grant & loan funding to promote conservation and efficiency; promotion of water reuse; a study to strengthen financial health for water suppliers; a study of water efficiency standards; and a prohibition on homeowners' associations requiring watering during droughts. A proposal to enable cities to regulate withdrawals from private wells which could affect their water supply was dropped for weaker language calling for no additional authority.

Water use issues will be back on the legislative agenda in 2009 "long" session starting next January, so watch for updates and action alerts!

Clean Water for North Carolina

Clean Water for North Carolina is a private, non-profit organization based in Asheville, NC. CWFNC works to ensure that all people have a right to live, work, and play in clean and safe communities. Together, we have the power and responsibility to work for a healthy and sustainable environment. Our staff works with an active and diverse board of directors and members to increase grassroots involvement in environmental decisions. CWFNC spearheads action statewide and helps grassroots and environmental groups, individuals, and local governments develop strategies to address threats to the environment.

Our Mission

Clean Water for North Carolina promotes clean, safe water and environments and empowered, just communities for all North Carolinians through organizing, education, advocacy and technical assistance.

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From the executive director. . . .

Population, mobility, and the myth of sustainable biofuels

As the most consumptive people in the world, no one has a greater responsibility to achieve zero net growth and even to do a little downsizing. When immigrants come to a new area with plentiful resources, it's been in the nature of our species to exploit those resources quickly and with little thought for the morrow. It appears to be a hard wired strategy for dealing with boom and bust cycles and we seldom achieve a sense of "sufficiency." We have to do better now, building a positive image of reduced fertility and smaller average family size with each succeeding generation, in addition to the urgent need to use less space, fuels, water, and all services and materials per person. We are living so far beyond a sustainable carrying capacity that one approach without the other just won't suffice.

Secondly, recognizing that one of the most consumptive, dangerous and destructive things we do is move ourselves around a lot, developing an ethic of "low mobility" is also an urgent need. CWFNC realized that even with minimum mileage standards for our staff's personal vehicles, we could reduce our collective carbon footprint and still serve communities with good technical and strategic assistance, while building their self-reliance. And, as we've reduced our travel by about 40%, we've also made more cost-effective use of the resources that our members and foundations so generously give us.

Finally, it's time to dispel the myth that most biofuels represent even a near-term solution to lower the environmental impact and costs of transportation fuels. In our last issue we pointed to the fact that, in addition to insignificant reduction in greenhouse gas emissions, increased deforestation and massive dislocations of food supplies, such fuels aren't even renewable, as they are contribute to long term "mining" of soils and water resources.

Since that commentary, scathing new evidence of biofuels impacts makes it clearer than ever that we need to resist the temptation to use biofuels for all but the most local, on-farm uses. A report from the Food and Agricultural Organization of the UN now estimates that about 70% of the rise in food costs internationally is associated with production of biofuels crops, which are being offered handsome subsidies by Europe, the US and many developed nations. And in recent reports from mainstream sources like the *Progressive Farmer* (magazine of Southern States Cooperative) and the BBC, higher grain prices are causing documented withdrawals of millions of acres of farmland from conservation programs. Iowa State University estimates more than 20 million acres of marginal, highly erodible land will leave the Conservation Reserve Program and go back into annual crop production, with huge increases in soil choking our streams and rivers.

In the end, there's just no alternative carbon-based fuel that will enable us to keep up our highly mobile lifestyles without major social and environmental costs. We all need to stop ourselves each time we get wanderlust, or feel the urge to get to every meeting, and damp it down. Just hang out, get to know the neighbors and enjoy life where you are. . . .

Water Efficiency

Continued from the previous page

It shouldn't take a crisis for us to act! We need to change our perception of water being a cheap and abundant resource and must make conservation a part of our daily lives. This can be done through public education and marketing campaigns, financing mechanisms to promote on-site stormwater capture, replacement and retrofitting of inefficient appliances, water auditing and leak detection, as well as conservation-based water rates, altering building codes, and introducing effective regulations for enforced restrictions on wasteful irrigation practices and managing water re-use. Just because our reservoirs appear to be full does not mean we can ever return to our old, wasteful habits!

How Are NC Counties' Well Programs Coping With New Requirements?

By Evan Bolich, UNC Law Intern, 2008

In 2006, the North Carolina legislature enacted changes to its water protection statutes, mandating that every county create and implement a program that ensures that all new private wells are permitted, inspected, and tested to comply with state water quality and construction standards before they may be used for consumption. After conducting a short survey of various counties throughout the state, we have come away with many new insights regarding the effectiveness and implementation of these programs. The good news: the Department of Environmental Health, and the local health departments, are well-intentioned and have acted quickly to install inexpensive and ambitious new programs to try and keep your drinking water safe. The bad news: good intentions do not always lead to satisfactory results. The shortcomings that have arisen appear to be few, but are of vital importance. Two of the major weaknesses in the new programs include:

Lack of adequate funding – The state has not allocated any funding for counties to modernize their equipment, update their records, or hire additional staff to comply with these new requirements. Local governments have been unable to increase spending on these new programs to provide all necessary support (in fact, one county was denied additional funds to be used for purchasing new water quality test kits). Furthermore, the state only provided seed funds for program implementation to counties who had no pre-existing well protection program in



place, leaving those counties with existing yet non-compliant well programs to bear all costs on their own.

Absence of a centralized electronic database and interactive software – Several counties are still maintaining their well inspection records by hand, unable to afford and utilize a centralized database to track and record the results of their testing. Furthermore, the state has yet to adopt and distribute one unified software program from which all information on water quality and wells in each county may be easily accessed by often over-worked local well inspectors. Until such software is in place in every county, data on water quality throughout each region will remain largely inaccessible and will likely prove problematic in tracking and resolving contamination issues that arise in each county.

Finally, the legislation, while ambitious, falls short of providing full protection for most of the state's well users, as these programs only apply to those owners of new or recently repaired wells. Thousands of North Carolina residents will continue drinking well water that is uninspected, merely because their wells have not been included in these new statutory changes. So, while these programs are valuable, and certainly a step in the right direction, much work remains to be done until we can guarantee safe drinking water for all.

Public water better than bottled; Cities take action to prevent abuses

Much cheaper, transparent reporting, saves energy, toxics, landfill space

London has joined many North American cities in considering adoption of measures to promote the use of their own regulated water supplies to keep billions of plastic bottles from jamming landfill sites.

San Francisco, Los Angeles, Phoenix, Chicago and St. Louis have enacted ordinances making it illegal to spend city tax dollars on bottled water: Austin, Texas, is considering a similar approach after finding it spends about \$40,000 a year on bottled water for city functions. London officials and other public water managers are frustrated, knowing their cities provide safe, clean, affordable drinking water; whose testing meets stringent, regulated health standards that are known, unlike the bottled water industry.

Bottled water typically costs over 1,000 times as much as city water, more than gasoline in most places, even at current elevated prices. The cities are instead promoting service of public water from the tap and use of refillable portable bottles instead of commercially bottled water. You're giving yourself a 99.9-percent discount every time you fill your container at the tap.

Clean Water for NC has observed bottled water available in huge quantities at many state events and even some environmental meetings—a waste of state resources and an implicit insult to readily available, far less wasteful and better tested public water. As pointed out by Cat

Warren writing in the Independent Weekly, commercial water bottlers in NC such as Aqua Fina don't have to report how much water they buy from public water sources to sell for over a thousand times higher price.

In severe drought conditions, while residents are told not to water, car washes are shut down and other businesses are told to reduce their water usage by 10 or 20 percent, we can only assume that bottlers are being left to bottle as much public water as they want for profit.

And the state's emergency plan if a public water supply actually runs out of water? Rather than requiring aggressive conservation as soon as drought conditions reduce supplies, NC simply throws consumers on the mercies of the commercial bottled water market, which should be unacceptable to all of us. Aside from the environmental injustice of unaffordable prices for many, huge waste issues and likely shortages due to hoarding, the public health would probably suffer, as bathing and washing will be extremely difficult.

Want to work on a bottled water ordinance in your city to prevent these abuses? Clean Water for NC and Food and Water Watch will work with you! Contact us today at 919-401-9600 or hope@cwfn.org.

Information from insidethebottle.org, Independent Weekly

Burnsville Sewage plant woes lead to dead wildlife, unsafe conditions

YANCEY COUNTY – The Cane River in Burnsville has problems. Big problems. Yet, in spite of months of study, nobody has been able to find a clear culprit. In April a strange smell and milky-colored discharge was observed near the sewage treatment plant, causing a delay of planned water quality sampling by CWFNC volunteers and concern from residents. In May, biologists found dozens of dead fish and clams, including a few Appalachian elktoe mussels (an endangered species).

Investigations showed a small amount of extremely acidic (pH ~2!) flow coming from local industry Glen Raven, but the town's public works director said he believes that someone dumped a "slug" or a mixture of chemicals into the system. Glen Raven was not participating in the plant's regulated industry "pre-treatment" program, even though they were discharging wastewater to the public treatment plant. The plant continued to experience toxic slugs of unknown origin throughout May and June, and ongoing sampling of the River by residents has shown fecal coliform in test cultures "too numerous to count."

CWFNC has been assisting community group Toe River Valley Watch as they work with state, federal and local agencies to get to the source of the problem. Given the facility's long and colorful history of non-compliance, including multiple violations for lead, cadmium and other heavy metals, we believe this may be a classic case of a weak, unenforced pretreatment program. Such industrial flows, when poorly regulated and treated, allow private industry to transfer liability for their toxic wastewater to publicly owned utilities, letting taxpayers take on unnecessary risk ... and it happens all across the state.

NC Div. of Water Quality STILL Dragging Feet on Canton Paper Mill Permit

HAYWOOD COUNTY – One of the nation's longest running Clean Water Act struggles continues to aggravate residents downstream of the Evergreen Packaging paper mill in Canton. Over 8,000 fish were killed in September, 2007, likely caused by high water temperature from the Evergreen Packaging Paper Mill in Canton. The kill, which included rare species and extended for over 3 miles downstream of the Mill, did not receive any media attention. The NC Div. of Water Quality (DWQ) has defended the Mill, saying it was unlikely they caused the kill because they were "operating within their permit limits" that day. However, the NC Wildlife Resources Commission argued that although the Mill may not have exceeded their average monthly temperature limit (itself relaxed from standard limits), the temperature of their effluent clearly "exceeded the thermal capacity of the fish community."

The Mill, whose wastewater permit expired in Nov. 2006, continues to operate under that weak 2001 permit while grassroots activists await a new draft permit. All technical reports are completed but the NC DWQ has been sitting on a draft permit since February. Activists have no reason to believe the upcoming permit will be much improvement, based on Technical Review Workgroup's weak recommendations.

This spring, activists in the Dead Pigeon River Council, Pigeon River Action Group, TN Conservation Voters and TN Clean Water Network got legislation passed to tighten monitoring downstream of the Mill in TN and a resolution calling for a cleanup of Mill operations. They joined Governor Bredeson for a bill signing in June. We hope this signals the state's determination to work with TN and NC groups to crank down the pollution. Contact us TODAY to find out how you can get involved at info@cwfn.org!

Big steep slope development implodes, leaving damage – the first of many?

RUTHERFORD COUNTY – Until this spring, the widely publicized 5,000 square foot Dream Home offered as a prize by HGTV stood alone in the Grey Rock development near Lake Lure. A West Virginia man won the "McMansion" over a year ago, but sold it back to Orlando-based developer Land Resources, Inc. when he couldn't afford the taxes! The developers have since built only two other houses, and have sold about half the lots. Now the developers have closed shop and left town, leaving an extensive, road system and continuing erosion in their wake.

In 2006, the state agency fined Land Resources nearly \$94,000 for erosion violations at the 900-lot, 4,000 acre development. The steep slope development continued to fail to comply with state orders to fix environmental problems, resulting in a "stop-work" order early last year. Local residents have recently filed a lawsuit in an attempt to recover the costs of repairing the stream damage, estimated at \$300,000 to \$500,000.

CWFNC works with community groups concerned about water quality issues associated with steep slope development. Call us at 828-251-1291 to report a problem or get involved.

Activists Shout NO to Homeland Security Biohazard Lab at July 29 Public Hearing



BUTNER—After months of growing resistance to a proposed Dept. of Homeland Security National Bio- and Agro- Defense Facility (NBAF), hundreds of local and regional residents and officials came out to a public hearing to send a clear message: stay away from our community. Concerns about possible accidents that could release organisms, threats to nearby and downstream water supplies, and the possible use of research by Homeland Security for bioweapons purposes were just some of the issues aired.

Even many officials who initially signed on to the project as an apparent economic development opportunity have backed away in recent weeks due to revelations that Homeland Security had not realistically studied the potential risks of bring highly transmissible Foot and Mouth Disease to a mainland U. S. site from the 50 year old Plum Island, NY laboratory. It also became clear that a state consortium supporting the lab had exaggerated any possible economic benefits, which would be dwarfed by an estimated 50 billion in economic damage if diseases such as Rift Valley Fever escaped and established themselves on the mainland.

Several nearby towns and the City of Raleigh had withdrawn support or resolved to oppose the lab by the end of 2007, but now officials from Butner itself and state officials from Senator Doug Berger to State Auditor Les Merritt are officially opposing the lab. Clean Water for NC has worked with Granville Non-Violent Action Team to oppose the lab since plans first became public last fall, and, in comments by Exec. Director Hope Taylor, called on Homeland Security to withdraw its proposal for the lab at ANY of the five proposed mainland sites (others are in Kansas, Mississippi, Texas and Georgia).

Spending of \$Millions in State Clean Water Funds to service “the Dunes” Investigated

PAMLICO COUNTY—A perennial problems with legislatively established Trust Funds is a chronic temptation to dip into them for carrying out favorite projects of local and state officials, whether or not there's a clear financial conflict of interest. Charges that a \$3 million grant from the NC Rural Center (funded by the legislature) to serve an “unsewered” lower-income community was diverted to build a distant treatment plant have brought in the State Auditor's office to investigate misuse of state funds. Instead of providing sewer service for low income folks around Reelsboro, the stated intent of the grant, the funds have been diverted to constructing a new wastewater plant 25 miles east, engineered through bureaucratic shuffling to create a new sewer district. The new plant in Oriental would serve a development of very high value homes in the River Dunes, while lower income residents near Reelsboro are facing \$12,500 impact fees to hook up to a sewer line.

In a recent issue, CWFNC blasted the use of \$300,000, all of a tiny state Emergency Drinking Water Fund for well users, and another \$600,000 from the Rural Center, to build a two mile water line for a few households of an extended family near Sylva. An investigation of the site made it clear that the new pipeline would be built along a highway corridor ripe for new development, and Jackson County had advocated hard for the funding. CWFNC had worked with key legislators to establish the fund in 2006 and saw this as a clear abuse of funding intended to serve multiple communities across the state cost-effectively. Changes in the Fund language this year will help ensure more equitable use as more funds are added to the Fund.

Cumberland County Gets Water Contamination “Wake Up Call”

FAYETTEVILLE—In a recent powerful series of investigative articles in the Fayetteville Observer, reporters gave a human face to many cases of contamination, mostly of private wells, and often where state groundwater officials had information in their files. Revealingly, state officials told the reporters that they had not notified residents, or offered them any help with testing or replacement water because they weren't required to and didn't want to tell folks unless they had funds to help. Of 169 fuel contaminated sites, only 34 are even being monitored, not cleaned up. It's exactly this kind of situation, where lack of funding and weak state regulations allow the right to safe drinking water to fall by the wayside, that CWFNC's legislative efforts are working to help, by requiring notification of nearby well-users, assistance with testing and establishing a source of funding for replacement water.

Following the Observer series, Cumberland County officials established a Task Force to further investigate the problems of water contamination and recommend urgent steps. A key recommendation is creation of a comprehensive groundwater database for the County, something CWFNC has called for as a critical need statewide since 2004. Part of the Bernard Allen Emergency Drinking Water Fund is finally being used to help low income well users at the long-existing contamination Rim Rd. in Fayetteville. That contamination had been identified in 1988, long before DENR used the entire 2006 Fund appropriation last year to build a water line for 4 households in western NC on a newly contaminated well. We support the Task Force's work, and hope that future meetings will be frequent and publicly announced.

Big Money's Influence on University Public Health Programs

By Steve Wing and Cat Warren

Institutions of higher learning are tax-exempt and supported because they are supposed to serve the public interest. However, a recent wave of books and scholarly articles shows how universities are being harnessed to serve the narrower interests of corporations. Their conclusions are clear: Corporate research is aimed at maximizing profits, not necessarily in ensuring the public good.

This is why the planned renaming of the UNC-Chapel Hill School of Public Health as the Dennis and Joan Gillings School of Global Public Health, in exchange for a gift of \$50 million, raises concerns. Dennis Gillings is CEO of Quintiles Transnational, which bills itself as "the world's leading pharmaceutical services company, with annual revenues of \$2 billion." A School of Public Health news release announcing Gillings' gift noted it would help the school speed approval of new drugs.

PUBLIC HEALTH IS CONCERNED WITH PROMOTING HEALTH AND PREVENTING DISEASE. This means clean air and water, nutritious food, safe working conditions, neighborhoods, housing and transportation. Environments that promote physical, social and mental well-being help people remain healthy and reduce the need for medical treatments.

Mass drug therapy as a public health strategy might be the preferred option for pharmaceutical companies. But it can divert efforts from creating working and living conditions that prevent disease.

Recently, faculty were asked to develop a proposal to study indoor air pollution in the United Arab Emirates. That proposal now exceeds \$6 million. Although 80 percent of the UAE's population consists of disen-

franchised guest workers, UNC would study only homes of mostly wealthier native Emirati. This appears inconsistent with one of the school's stated missions, to "eliminate health disparities across North Carolina and around the world." The school is also developing new associations in closed, off-the-record meetings, with executives of corporations such as Nestle, McDonald's, PepsiCo and Kraft Foods. Why seek partnerships with companies that profit from mass marketing of high-calorie foods?

As Jennifer Washburn noted in her recent book "University, Inc.: Corporate Corruption of Higher Education," state governments increasingly view public universities more as engines of economic development tied to corporate interests than as independent institutions responsible to society as a whole.

How much influence should industries that put profits before public health have on the university? Even as manipulation of science against the public interest receives more attention (think tobacco, global warming, drug risks, environmental health), our universities risk defining corporate interests as the public interest.

—Excerpted from commentary published in *Raleigh News and Observer*, with permission from the authors. Steve Wing is associate professor of epidemiology at the UNC School of Public Health and vice president of the N.C. State Conference of the American Association of University Professors. Cat Warren is a former associate professor in the Department of English at N.C. State University.

CWFNC, NCPIRG, Energy and Justice Groups Call for REAL Energy Efficiency, not Duke's "Save a Watt"

On July 28, at the start of Utilities Commission hearings on Duke's "Save a Watt" proposal, CWFNC and the NC Public Interest Research Group co-hosted a press conference to publicly state our opposition to a misleading, exorbitantly expensive and unfair program. "Costs Too Much and Does Too Little" was the message presented by over a dozen groups who oppose Save a Watt. Under Save a Watt's hugely profitable load-shifting and a little bit of energy efficiency, ALL ratepayers would pay surcharges for each kilowatt hour they use, adding to the energy cost burden that low and modest income families already face.



And there's an even bigger injustice lurking in Save A Watt programs, which are overwhelmingly designed to provide efficiency benefits for the higher income, higher educated Duke customers who can most readily take advantage of them. Save a Watt is a ripoff for even high income ratepayers, since they'd be paying more than the efficiency services would cost on the open market, with less savings on their bills. But Save A Watt is the BIGGEST ripoff of all for those who can least afford to pay its deceptive energy surcharges. The outrageous result is that most low income folks would end up providing a net subsidy to better-off customers who are in a position to achieve reduced power consumption through Save a Watt programs.

If North Carolina REALLY wants to get the environmental, climate and economic benefits of cost-effective efficiency and conservation programs, we need to establish an independent agency or non-profit to manage a "public benefit fund" for REAL savings for all energy customers, programs that are accessible to everyone through transparent financing and widespread public education, and that can actually displace the need for new power plants with ambitious efficiency goals that actually outstrip new energy demand.

Last year, we released a report prepared by Synapse Energy Economics on the nation's six already existing statewide independent energy efficiency programs, in New York, Vermont, Oregon, Wisconsin, Maine, and New Jersey. An updated version of this report very soon, showing even further progress by these programs in 2007!

In 2007, Vermont has documented for the first time that its energy efficiency programs have achieved annual energy reductions that have surpassed the growth in energy use, and there's a very ambitious new program in Delaware.

Rather than tinkering around the edges of a deceptive, expensive and ineffective program, we call on the Public Utilities Commission to decide now to nix Save a Watt, and instead establish a comprehensive statewide independent efficiency program as soon as possible!

Thanks to Our Foundation Partners and Major Donors for their Generous Support!

City of Asheville Weed and Seed Program
The Conservation Fund
Educational Foundation of America
Alan and Marty Finkel
First Congregational United Church of Christ
Greater Harvest FGBC (Rev. Charlene Morton)
Sam Hummel (Humble Pie Foundation)
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Pigeon River Fund of the Comm. Found. Of WNC
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Hope Taylor, Family of Winston and Betty Taylor
Unitarian Universalist Church of Asheville
Rick and Shawney Weisler
Two Anonymous Donors

Thanks to Our New and Renewing Members!

Molly Beacham, Richard and Jane DeMott, Diane and Oscar Morgan, John and Maria-Luise Rager, Jay and Jennifer Mills, Amey Miller and David Kiel, Willem & Ngaire Van Eck, Laura Hirst, Ran Coble and Jane Kendall, Unitarian Universalist Congregation of the Swannanoa Valley, Rev. John Hall and Sharon Miller

Thanks to our new Stream Monitoring volunteers!

Jan Phillips, Ed McNally, Tom Jordan, Jay Palmer, Deborah Palmer, Lauren Pickel, Cathy Landy, Roger Makepeace, Heather Gunn, Mary Horton, Rebekah Craig, Gabrielle Riesner, Greg Yost, Lucy Prim, Paul Weinberg, Lucy Butler and Anthony Brancato



Water and Energy for Justice Youth Team 2008—Asheville

Brandon Williams and Samone Hall pose in the community garden with a 70-gallon rain barrel donated to Pisgah View public housing apartments.

Samone Hall and Brandon Williams don Tyvek suits while insulating the crawl space of a church in the Burton Street community of West Asheville.

Taquita Wadsworth helps maintain native plants in the Shiloh community of South Asheville, originally planted by the 2007 Water and Energy for Justice youth team.





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Don't Miss these Upcoming Events!

August 22-24th
Friday through Sunday
Join us at the
Southern Energy and
Environment Expo!

At the Western N.C. Agricultural Center,
Fletcher (near Asheville Airport)

An annual Western NC event showcasing
energy solutions and protection of our
natural environment. This festival is
fascinating and great fun, the largest of
its kind in the Eastern U.S.

Volunteers needed! Contact Gracia at
828-251-1291 to help out at CWFNC's
information booth. Free tickets to first
comers. No experience necessary.

More information at
<http://www.seeexpo.com/>

September 27th
"Managing North Carolina's
Water for Health and Justice"
a special statewide conference for
CWFNC's 24th Annual Meeting.

Co-sponsored by Dept. of Public Health
Education, UNC-Greensboro.
10:00 AM to 5:00 PM

Health and Human Performance Bldg,
UNC-Greensboro.

\$20 registration includes lunch.

Speakers and work sessions on water/infra-
structure privatization, bottled water
campaign, protecting NC's 2.7 million well
users, water pricing, drought response,
& MORE!

Contact
hope@cwfn.org or 919-401-9600

October 9th
Patagonia presents the
Wild and Scenic
Environmental Film Festival
On Tour Wild & Scenic Film
Festival!

CWFNC is proud to host the Festival
for a second time at the
Asheville Pizza & Brewing Co.
on Thursday, Oct. 9th.

This lively event, featuring award winning
short films and local speakers to highlight
key issues, was SOLD OUT EARLY last year.
Keep your eyes open for ticket sales and
volunteer opportunities!

Contact gracia@cwfn.org.