



# Clean Water for North Carolina Clean Currents

Spring 2007

*A newsletter of clean water and community environmental justice issues*

## The Myth of a Clean Pigeon River

### Blue Ridge Paper: Still Toxic After All These Years

Anna Slagle, Clean Water Expected for East Tennessee  
Tony Murchison, Tennessee Clean Water Network  
Hope Taylor-Guevara, CWFNC

When river pollution flows from one state to another, it creates opportunities for accountability, even if state water quality agencies fail to clean up industrial pollution. A new report by Clean Water Expected for East Tennessee and Clean Water for North Carolina, based on actual regulatory agency data, casts a different light on a glowing January announcement from North Carolina's State Health Director that a long-standing fish consumption advisory on Pigeon River has been lifted.

The report, "Blue Ridge Paper Products and the Myth of a Clean Pigeon River: Still Toxic After all These Years," shows that progress in reducing dark papermill "color," as well as toxins in the River has stalled out during the current wastewater permit for the Canton Mill. The report also highlights air quality concerns due to western North Carolina's largest producer of toxic air emissions, and a major emitter of greenhouse gases.

Dioxin, a dangerous carcinogen produced by most papermills in the past, has been gradually decreasing in river sediments since Champion International, the previous owner of the Canton Mill, made changes to production nearly 20 years ago in response to growing pressure from downstream activists. While dioxin levels in Pigeon River fish have decreased, more than 110,000 pounds of toxic and hazardous chemicals were still being discharged to the Pigeon River by Blue Ridge Paper Products in 2004, the most recently available data from the Toxic Releases Inventory. These toxic and hazardous chemicals can cause health effects including cancer, respiratory, developmental and reproductive problems.

After 90 years of relentless pollution, a 1997 Settlement Agreement for the River, the result of a challenge by TN officials and environmental groups, improved water quality markedly in the late 1990's. The Settlement also called for continued improvement of water quality "at the quickest possible pace." However, during the 7 years since Blue Ridge Paper Products bought the Canton Mill, negligible progress has been made in cleaning up the river (see graph).

"It's time to counter public relations and selective information with the facts about the true condition of the River," says Anna Slagle of Clean Water Expected for East Tennessee. "As a raft guide who spends many hours a day during the summer months in the Pigeon, I can assure you that it holds up to its other name, the Dirty Bird. We feel the pollution in the river has devastated the minds, hearts, and lands surrounding it for long enough."

While Blue Ridge Paper contends that "water quality in the Pigeon River is safe and healthy today," recent reports do not indicate a balanced fish population below the Mill, in part due to a decades old "thermal variance" that allows the mill to discharge hot water to the River.

In 2002, the Tennessee Clean Water Network, based in Knoxville, joined many of the organizations working to hold the mill accountable by calling for EPA to reopen the Blue Ridge Paper wastewater permit, and the organization is greatly concerned with the lack of progress for the river in recent years.

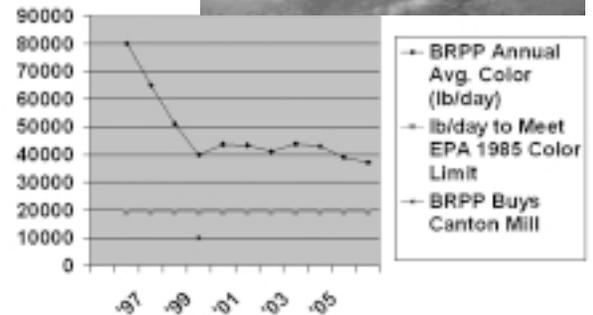
"The Pigeon River runs through 3 counties in Tennessee,

carrying pollution from Blue Ridge Paper in North Carolina. To protect Tennessee's water from pollution coming from Blue Ridge Paper it is necessary for both Tennesseans and North Carolinians to come together and hold the plant accountable to water quality standards," says Renee Hoyos, Executive Director.

"The public has a right to know about the real conditions in the River and the massive environmental impacts of Blue Ridge Paper Products," said Hope Taylor-Guevara of Clean Water for North Carolina, a statewide environmental justice organization with a long history of pushing for swift clean up of the Pigeon. "The Health Director's statement about 'an environmental success story' is inappropriate advocacy, especially as it gives industry all of the credit for improvements, just as the Mill's wastewater discharge permit is coming up for public review," said Taylor-Guevara. A similar lifting of part of the Pigeon River fish consumption advisory occurred shortly before the company's wastewater permit came up for review 5 years ago.

Blue Ridge Paper's "Title 5" air permit has also been up for review, an opportunity to demand accountability for nearly 3 million pounds of toxic releases each year.

If you'd like to get more involved, contact Clean Water for North Carolina or Tennessee Clean Water Network at 865-522-7007.



## 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.

### Board of Directors

Robin Cape • Asheville  
Montie Hamby • Winston-Salem  
Allen Hubbard • Charlotte  
Isaac Coleman • Asheville  
Nathanette Mayo • Shiloh  
Richard McElrath • Charlotte  
Deb Criss • Asheville  
DeWayne Barton • Asheville  
Marshall Tyler • Mocksville  
Joann Almond • Albemarle

### Who to Contact

#### Asheville

828-251-1291 • 800-929-4480

Gracia O'Neill, Outreach Coordinator  
gracia@cwfn.org

#### Durham

919-401-9600

Hope Taylor-Guevara, Executive Director  
hope@cwfn.org

#### Garysburg

252-537-1078

Belinda Joyner, Northeast Organizer

## Water & Energy for Justice Youth Team Comes to Asheville, Too!

Building on the highly successful program we developed in Durham last summer, we are expanding our "Water and Energy for Justice Youth Team" program to the Shiloh community in south Asheville this summer!

Both projects will again focus on educating youth from predominantly African-American and Latino communities on current issues of urban water quality and energy theory, and provide on-the-job training in stream restoration and home energy conservation installations. The youth of these programs will be paid to perform energy efficiency home installations for low-income residents in their own communities, improving their technical and outreach skills. The youth will also engage in the restoration of an urban creek, contributing to a healthier neighborhood environment. New this year will be a cooperative business planning component for the program in Asheville, building the foundation for "environmentally restorative" job opportunities. We expect these programs to produce energized, confident youth with the skills to restore and protect their neighborhood environments.

Thanks to generous support from the "Creating New Economies Fund" of the Conservation Fund, supported by the Ford Foundation, Appalachian Regional Commission and Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation. We'll be working with partners including Clean Energy Durham, Durham Soil and Water, the Durham Public Schools, the Shiloh Community Association, Clean Air Community Trust and Mountain Bizworks. To support this project or offer partnership ideas, please call Hope at 919-401-9600 in Durham, or Gracia at 828-251-1291 in Asheville.

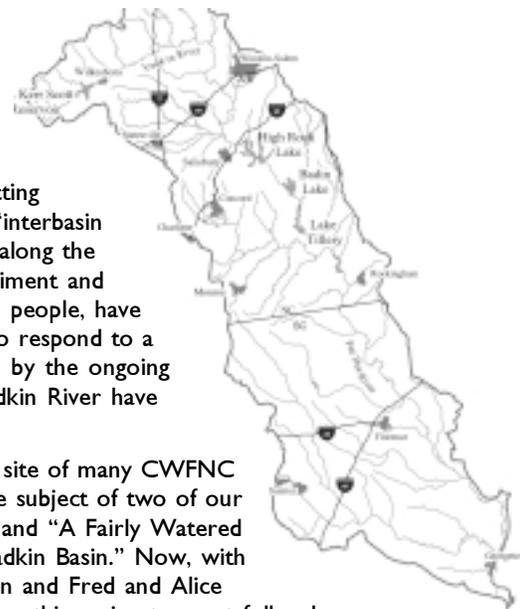
## A RiverKeeper® for the Yadkin?

The strong advocacy of North Carolina's RiverKeepers® and CoastKeepers® has made a difference on many critical water issues, from cleaning up algae blooms, hog pollution and pfiesteria outbreaks on the Neuse River, to challenging huge wetlands destruction and sewage polluters on the Tar-Pamlico, to protecting natural river flows in the Catawba from large "interbasin transfers." Clean Water for NC and our allies along the Yadkin River, which is heavily impacted by sediment and used for drinking water by more than a million people, have taken notice of what a RiverKeeper could do to respond to a range of challenges. Wide-ranging issues raised by the ongoing relicensing of hydroelectric dams along the Yadkin River have only intensified this interest.

The state's second largest River Basin, and the site of many CWFNC meetings and activities, the Yadkin has been the subject of two of our reports in recent years, "A River in Jeopardy" and "A Fairly Watered State: Lessons from the Drought-Vulnerable Yadkin Basin." Now, with support from the Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation and Fred and Alice Stanback, we are planning at least three meetings this spring to meet folks along the basin who are interested in helping to build a regional grassroots organization for river education and protection. We'll be inviting an experienced RiverKeeper to speak at each meeting. If you'd like to be notified of the meetings, or to help with hosting or alerting others in the region, please contact us: Montie Hamby 336-659-0956 or [montie@yadkinrivertrail.org](mailto:montie@yadkinrivertrail.org); or Hope, 919-401-9600 or [hope@cwfn.org](mailto:hope@cwfn.org). THANKS!



The Durham Water and Energy for Youth Team, shown with compact fluorescent lightbulbs before a day of energy efficiency installations in low income Durham homes.



## Renewed Effort to Protect Safe Drinking Water for NC's 2.7 Million Well-Users



In 2006, Clean Water for NC's efforts to protect our state's well users began to pay off—with a small appropriation to create an "Emergency Drinking Water Fund." But \$300,000 won't go very far to meet the statewide needs that we have estimated at over \$10 million, just to test wells and provide replacement water supply if contamination is found.

Also, a bill supported by the Governor and Environmental Health Directors was passed by the NC General Assembly to require inspection and testing of NEW wells starting in 2008 was important, but it will only affect a few thousand wells

each year. Most vulnerable are the hundreds of thousands of wells that are ALREADY in use. Folks depending on those wells are seldom being notified of nearby contamination, even threats that are well-documented in state agency files.

Rep. Bernard Allen, who died suddenly last fall, had passionately sponsored well-user protection bills in 2005 and 2006. His own private well, and those of a dozen of his neighbors in southeast Raleigh, had been contaminated by solvent contamination from an unknown source. State officials had known about nearby contaminated wells for over 15 years, but had never notified nearby residents. As we have worked with communities across the state in the last four years, CWFNC saw stories like this occurring with shameful frequency and knew that we had to take statewide action.

While real estate and homebuilder interests managed to prevent the comprehensive well-protection bills from being heard in legislative committees last year, Rep. Pricey Harrison of Greensboro and other allies successfully fought for a modest appropriation to create an Emergency Drinking Water Fund. That Fund is being used to supply hookups to public water for communities with contaminated wells, but it's just a tiny start and does nothing to increase "right-to-know" for well users.

A bill to be introduced in March will include:

- Required notification of well-users close to known contaminated sites
- Creation of a comprehensive and publicly accessible groundwater database
- Addition of one position in each of DENR's seven regional offices to carry out notification and testing of threatened wells
- Required testing of wells before real estate transfers and periodically for rental properties
- Expansion of the "Bernard Allen Memorial Emergency Drinking Water Fund" to at least \$2 million/year to assist with testing of wells and replacement safe water supply.

We also strongly support a long overdue bill to phase out hog "lagoon/sprayfield" operations, which also includes similar well-user protections. Please watch for future announcements as this legislation is submitted and join us supporting the rights of rural North Carolinians for safe drinking water!

## CWFNC's 2006 "Water Justice Canvass"

### 160 North Carolina households tell us how they view their drinking water

Last summer, Clean Water for NC staff, interns and volunteers knocked on about 170 doors in 8 counties across the state. From west to east, those counties are Buncombe, Henderson, Catawba, Davie, Guilford, Wake, Halifax and Northampton. We aren't making any claims to a random, scientific survey, but we visited with rural and urban folks; homeowners and renters; public water consumers and private well-users; neighborhoods of low, middle and high wealth; as well as neighborhoods that are predominantly African-American, Latino or White English speakers.

Oscar Sanchez joined our staff as Canvass Coordinator for several months, helping to provide a consistent approach to diverse households. Here's a summary of some major findings of our informal "listening" Canvass.

- Income ranges of canvass participating households: High: Approx. 15%; Low: approx. 45%, Middle: Approx. 40% (as indicated by housing type and condition)
- Primary language spoken: English ~70%; Spanish ~30%
- Reported source of water: Publicly owned water system: ~55%; Privately owned community systems: ~15%; Individual well: ~10%; Didn't know: ~20%
- Concerns expressed about water quality: ranged from "none" to "severe, don't use the water for drinking"; Highest level of concern

generally expressed by lower income residents in manufactured home parks or having sediment or taste problems.

- Cost of water bills: ~40% said price was OK, ~60% said it was too high, many of them low income residents living in manufactured home parks with privately-owned water systems (some of whom had not known that their systems were privately owned until our survey)
- Right to participate in decisions about water management and pricing: ~90% of respondents said they should have this right
- At least 75% of respondents said they drank bottled water occasionally or often, but often for taste or convenience; 35% of respondents believed it was safer than public water (canvassers shared information about lack of regulation of bottled water AFTER asking this question).
- Chronic health problems that might be related to their drinking water quality: only two respondents said yes.
- Should well-users be notified about contaminants that could be in their well? All but two well users said they had a right to know about such contaminants that could be in their wells, and also said they had a moral responsibility to notify someone who purchased or rented their home. Only 3 residents knew the contaminants for which their wells had been tested.

Thanks to Jill Rios, who coordinated our Water Justice Campaign and Mary Grant, who researched the impacts of water privatization.

## CWFNC Joins Challenge of Sewage Plant for Luxury Mountaintop Sprawl

Madison County – Clean Water for NC and community group Laurel Valley Watch (LVW) have filed a joint challenge against the NC Div. of Water Quality (DWQ) for issuing a controversial permit to unscrupulous mountain-top developers. The challenge, called a “contested case,” refutes DWQ’s decision to allow up to 300,000gal/day of treated sewage to be discharged to a tiny and pristine mountain trout stream.

In what could become a key case in the ongoing fight against steep slope development, and for protection of rural communities and water quality, CWFNC and LVW contend that DWQ should have denied the permit for numerous reasons, including the developers’ history of failure to comply with environmental laws,

failure to evaluate all reasonable alternatives, improper zoning, and the impact that the sewage plant would have on the trout stream. A hearing is scheduled for the week of May 7<sup>th</sup>, in Asheville.

**BREAKING NEWS:** In an interesting twist, the same developers have recently had environmental permits for a planned airport put on hold after it was discovered that they have sold property that does not belong to them. Portions of as many as 6 lots, and a section in the middle of the jet port runway, are actually on the land of a man from South Carolina who only recently found out about the logging, rezoning and sale of his property!



## Activists Fight New Progress Energy Woodfin Power Plant

**Asheville** – In January, Buncombe County Commissioners approved a long-term lease agreement with Progress Energy allowing them to move ahead with plans to build a new \$72 million “peaking” oil power plant to accommodate “energy demands during extremely hot or cold weather.” The price for leasing 78 acres of county property? One dollar. Yes, you read that right, 78 acres for \$1. The Canary Coalition and other groups are legally challenging the County’s decision.

Although evidence suggests the County has been discussing the project with Progress for over 2 years, the public first heard about the plan in December, giving residents little time to respond to the proposal. Several non-profits and activists groups, including Clean Water for NC, are mounting a campaign to fight the plant (which would create a large source of air pollutants, including greenhouse gases) and call for a new direction in state energy policy. The tiny township of Woodfin is also home to the huge Metropolitan Sewerage District wastewater plant . . . is Woodfin becoming Buncombe County’s favorite dumping ground?

**Report a pollution problem: contact your nearest environmental regulator**

## DENR Regional Offices

**Asheville Regional Office**  
828-296-4500

**Mooresville Regional Office**  
704-663-1699

**Wilmington Regional Office**  
910-796-7215

**Fayetteville Regional Office**  
910-486-1541

**Raleigh Regional Office**  
919-791-4200

**Winston-Salem Regional Office**  
336-771-4600

**Washington Regional Office**  
252-946-6481

*If DENR doesn't take action, contact CWFNC at 800-929-4480*

## Durham Officials Acknowledge Major Mistakes in Handling Lead Contamination in Water

Even after State Public Water Supply officials and the EPA told Durham they were in violation of safe drinking water levels for lead in January, City officials continued to treat the issue as a “paperwork” problem. The City’s failure to take more aggressive action last year to protect public water customers and investigate the full extent of the problem when high lead levels appeared is unconscionable. It’s even more of a scandal because Durham’s Water Management Director, Terry Rolan, is President of the American Water Works Association, and should be setting an example for public water suppliers across the nation. Rolan draws a salary of over \$110,000/year, but was attending out-of-town events for over 150 days last year when the City’s lead problem should have had his full attention.

With increasing pressure from the Raleigh News and Observer, Clean Water for North Carolina and the local People’s Alliance, Durham City officials are finally beginning to acknowledge that they badly mismanaged the problem.



Reportedly, Rolan even recently offered to resign as director of the City Water Dept. While there is some additional information about lead testing on the radio and a planned “Lead Summit” for late March, the City must do much more to reach out to its most vulnerable residents—low income communities, people of color, Latinos—to improve access to information and free lead testing. Most of the testing so far has been done in higher income white neighborhoods. Surprise, surprise. Environmental Justice can “discretionary” to public officials, just like full disclosure of lead problems, unless they are held accountable.

## DuPont: Still Slippery, Avoiding Accountability for C-8 Contamination



DuPont’s Fayetteville facility is the only place where C-8 is made, but it is shipped to factories around the world to be produce Teflon and hundreds of stain-resistant consumer products. Also known as PFOA, C-8 has been identified by an EPA scientific panel as a “likely human carcinogen.” Despite known contamination of groundwater and detections in surface water, DuPont hasn’t even been required to monitor for the chemical in its wastewater discharge to the Cape Fear River.

When DuPont’s permit came up for renewal the end of 2006, the Concerned Citizens of Southern Cumberland County, Clean Water for NC and Cape Fear River Watch submitted comments sharply critical of the facility and of the NC Division of Water Quality for a draft permit that actually *weakens* monitoring requirements. The groups called for a public hearing and for state officials to strengthen the 2 parts per billion standard for C-8 in groundwater (New Jersey just issued a standard that is fifty times tighter!). The permit MUST hold DuPont accountable for C-8 and other toxic chemicals in its wastewater, as well as a large plume of sediment that has flowed into the Cape Fear River for decades.

Strong presentations from the Concerned Citizens and other advocates at last year’s DuPont Shareholder meeting caused increased shareholder support for a stop to C-8 production, and the company announces a voluntary phase-out of production by 2015. Such unenforceable, future commitments are a common strategy of polluters wishing to diffuse opposition. We’ll be back at this year’s shareholder meeting to call for an immediate stop to C-8 production.

## Environmental Justice Advocates Flex Political Muscles on Landfills and Hogs Throughout Eastern Carolina

In a move that left garbage corporations and a legion of contract lobbyists stunned, the NC General Assembly voted last summer with the people of North Carolina to approve a 12-month stop to mega-landfills that threatened eastern counties. Even major campaign donations from Waste Management PAC weren’t enough to stop the tide of legislators being accountable to vocal and visible constituents. An effective coalition of NC Environmental Justice Network, Conservation Council of NC, Blue Ridge Environmental Justice Network and NC Conservation Network with local residents fighting specific facilities gave state legislators little choice in the matter. Now those groups are shepherding a bill with strong landfill regulations into the legislature to protect their communities’ health, quality of life and environment from mega-dumps before the moratorium ends.

The Environmental Justice Network is also taking on “industrial oink” and the pervasive stench from hog waste lagoons which has saturated rural eastern NC communities for decades without relief. Ever since the “Smithfield Settlement,” which allowed years for development of technologies to replace the “lagoon/sprayfield” system (but allowed the industry to judge whether they were economically feasible), many of us knew there would be endless excuses but no end to the horrors of hog operations. A three year extension of the moratorium on construction of new hog lagoons would only extend the agony for communities, without stopping new operations that got permits before the start of the moratorium. New legislation requiring strong standards for environmental performance of livestock operations, as well as well-testing and replacement of contaminated well water, is supported by a coalition of EJ activists, farmers and water and air protection groups. Tell your legislator to vote for this bill to help rural communities across the state!

### James Wood: CWFNC's Polluter Accountability "Thorn-in-the-Side" Award Winner for 2006!

Western NC could use a whole lot more folks like James Woods out there! Having been concerned for nearly a year about the City of Asheville's plans to clearcut and build on a piece of wooded property in his neighborhood that he had come to love, James recruited university professors to help conduct an ecological assessment of the property. They concluded that the park contained significant natural communities of rare plants and animals and informed the city that its plans would damage wetlands, degrade habitat and reduce species diversity in the park. James' efforts had unfortunately borne little fruit prior to the start of the land disturbance. He set out one drizzly Sunday morning in late August, 2006, armed with a friend's camera, to investigate the site after an "average" rain the day before. What he found, and documented, soon became front page news.

After thoroughly documenting violations of both the NC Sediment Pollution Control Act and the federal Clean Water Act, James sent his photos to local and state regulators, Asheville officials and the press. The City received very swift notification from state regulators of erosion control violations related to the clearing and grading work at the

Richmond Hill Park site, which was being performed by the National Guard. According to the City, "The clearing and grading portion of the project proved to be too large and complex, and required more significant resources, expertise and quality control than had been allocated to complete the work in a timely manner." Although no fines were ever assessed, the City has scaled back its plan for development of the site thanks to James' work. James continues to monitor this and other sites around the city for sediment violations. Great work James!



James, "Thorn-in-the-Side" for 2006, sunk calf-deep into mud deposited down hill from the construction site after a day of steady rain.

### Rev. John Hall: CWFNC's "Conscience of the Community Award" Winner for 2006

#### Providing a Moral Compass to Coalition Fighting Sewage Pollution

Working on many levels to get action to end the impacts of Oxford's sewage plant overflows on downstream residents, Rev. John Hall deserves accolades for many years of persistence and empowering efforts for his community. Providing moral leadership and a loving, good humored approach to more than twenty years of failure by state agencies to hold the City and its wastewater plant accountable, Rev. Hall has collaborated with many partners to correct long-neglected problems. The Antioch Community Club and residents downstream along Fishing Creek, fellow religious leaders in Granville County, and Clean Water for North Carolina all worked to get well-testing for residents near impacted creeks, meeting with Oxford officials and finally challenging a weak state "Special Order" that failed to hold the City accountable. But Rev. Hall always

provided quiet, steady leadership and kept our spirits high, clear in the conviction that his community deserved better and that there was no excuse for failing to fix the sewage spills to protect folks downstream. After an April, 2006 Settlement of our case was achieved, Rev. Hall gave a very moving presentation to Division of Water Quality officials about his community's experiences with the decades of pollution the agency could have prevented. He left no doubt that communities impacted by pollution lawbreakers will always be a principled force to demand their rights.



### Duke Energy Coal Plant Stopped by Grassroots Efforts! Saving Energy is Crucial for Saving Water, Too....

Despite Duke Energy's claims to be concerned about global warming and supportive of regulations to reduce greenhouse gases, the corporation is still aggressively seeking to use cheap coal to generate more electricity. Duke was seeking approval from the NC Public Utilities Commission to build two huge new coal-fired electric plants at its Rutherford County Cliffside facility, intending to shut down smaller, older units on the same site. The project was first estimated to cost \$2 billion to construct, but the costs skyrocket to about \$4 billion in the months before the Utility Commission hearings. But Duke claimed the expense was justified in order to meet the growing energy needs of North Carolina.

Clean energy advocates from across the region had argued that a far cheaper and safer way to meet the state's energy needs was implementing aggressive efficiency and conservation programs as well as creating new renewable generating facilities. They argued that building the new coal-fired plants would trap rate-payers into decades of expensive rates that

would only increase the company's threat to global climate stability.

On February 28<sup>th</sup>, in an almost unprecedented action, the Utilities Commission DID NOT give one of our powerful utilities everything they asked for! Duke Energy will only be allowed to build one new plant at the Cliffside site, and also will be required to spend millions on energy efficiency programs. It's a real victory—if incomplete—for clean energy in North Carolina, especially as Duke has doubts about the profitability of building only one new plant.

A recent NC Water Resources Research Institute study shows that more than EIGHTY PERCENT of the state's water withdrawals are use for big electrical production facilities—coal and nuclear plants. Every bit of electricity saved is also reducing the vulnerability of our water resources. It's time to completely change our energy strategy to conserve the state's water, too!

# Thanks to Our 2006 Foundation Partners and Major Donors for their Generous Support!

Doug Beatty  
Creating New Economies Fund of The Conservation Fund  
Alan and Marty Finkel  
Appalachian Regional Commission  
First Congregational Church, Asheville  
Ford Foundation  
Sam Hummel  
Allen and Rosemary Hubbard  
Laurel Valley Watch  
Oak Tree Fund of the Community Foundation of WNC  
Patagonia, Inc.

Julian Price Family Foundation  
Rob Pulleyn  
Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation  
Stu and Nancy Ryman  
Fred and Alice Stanback  
Shaler and Carolyn Stidham Family Fund  
River Network  
Hope Taylor-Guevara & Family of Winston H. Taylor  
Weisler Family Fund  
Anonymous

## Special Thanks for a year of record giving by our members. Here are our recent New and Renewing Members

Mary Ellen Brown, Bill Janes, Peter Roda, Ellen Davis, Michael McCue, Melissa Malkin-Weber, Alice Lloyd, Adam Shestack, Bob and Molly Mitchell, Pam Westmoreland Sholar, John Hall, Doug and Jean Burnett, Janice Pearsall, Wallace Paterson, Doug and Carol Wingeier, Cori Maas, Stephen Schewel, Sr. Jay McCann, Rick and Ginny Lindsey, Jean and Joseph Karpen, Sheila Jones, William Manning, Speed Rogers, Tom Davis, Martha Lamb, DeWayne Barton, John Rager, Susan Luster, Stuart Cohn, Deck Stapleton, John Runkle, Mary Criddlebaugh, Walter and Sheneen Daniels, Steve Patch, Peter Pickens, Wayne Williams, Peter Lloyd, Barbara Merrill, Suzi Berl, Glen Blackburn, Lew Patrie, Ann Batchelder and

Henri Kieffer, Rev. Jerry Price, Judith and Marbry Hopkins, Lewis Bissell, Clay Ballantine, Jane Srail, Margaret McQueen Averyt, Robert and Jeannette Cannon, Lisa Finaldi, Elaine Stover, Lawrence Sorkin, Amy Gray, Ran Coble and Jane Kendall, Martha McMullen, Meredith Jackson, Millie Buchanan, Rob Gelblum, Andy Hecht, Michael Justice, Mazie Levinson, Kirsten Reberg-Horton, John and Margaret Sticpewich, Kenneth Larowe, Tom and Barbara Coulson, Richard Bierly, Willem Van Eck, Bruce Smith, Ann Davant, Louise Romanow, Unitarian Universalist Church of Asheville, Jim Carroll, Jean Hinson, Rebecca Millsaps, Jennifer Taylor, and Diane Van Helden

### Thanks to our new stream monitoring volunteers:

Gabrielle Graeter, Kathryn Graeter, Lynn Johnson, Liam Schenk, Fran Stroud, Beth Gurnack, Nancy Ryman, Annie Hasz, Margaret Lambert, Lauren Sicher, Brandi Honeycutt, Chris Gilbert, Hallie Richards, Roger Clapp, Nancy and Tim Snyder, and Philip Kleisler

### Thanks to our fabulous stream monitoring leaders:

James Wood, Lindsay Major and Tim Forest



**Stream Monitoring Information  
Exchange training participants**

## Join Clean Water for North Carolina

(or renew your membership)!

Here's my donation to join or renew my CWFNC membership:

- \$20       \$35       \$50       \$100  
 Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to volunteer, contact me.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

(Email is a faster and cheaper way for us to reach you.)

### Make your check payable to:

Clean Water for North Carolina  
and send to: 29½ Page Avenue  
Asheville, NC 28801



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## IN THIS ISSUE

- Cover Clean Pigeon River?
- Page 2 Youth Team comes to Asheville, Yadkin RiverKeeper?
- Page 3 Protecting Well Users Water Justice Campaign
- Page 4-5 Community Updates
- Page 6 Grassroots Awards, Coal Plant Stopped!

This newsletter is printed on 80% post-consumer, processed chlorine free paper.

## Important Grassroots Lobby Dates at the NC Legislature

### Environmental Justice Lobby Day • Wednesday, April 18

An important opportunity to advocate for strong landfill regulations and a phase-out of hog industry "lagoon and sprayfield" operations (see page 5 for background). Contact the NC Environmental Justice Network at 252-826-3017 or watch your email for further details!

### Clean Water Lobby Day • Wednesday, May 2

Join us in telling our elected officials that we need stronger protections for clean water in North Carolina. Last year, over 150 citizens (many with little or no experience lobbying) from across North Carolina came out to speak up for clean water. This is a fun, educational experience where real people can make a difference. Clean Water for NC will help coordinate transportation across the state so contact us today to tell us you're interested. This year's Lobby Day will focus on sediment issues, and phasing out of hog lagoons and sprayfields. And remember, no experience is necessary!

## Fair Elections are Critical for Every Issue You Care About!

Even though the 2006 election season is past, North Carolinians have an opportunity to "vote" for fair, ethical elections when paying their state income taxes this year. Campaign finance scandals, both at the national and state levels, have been very much in the news, and the biggest scandal is the day-to-day destructive impact of "pay to play" influence on social justice, environment, health, education and other needs of our people.

The North Carolina Public Campaign Fund provides an alternative "clean" source of funds

for state level judicial candidates who agree to limit private fundraising and campaign spending. You can support the fund by saying "YES" to a \$3.00 check-off on the state income tax form. Saying "YES" DOES NOT increase your taxes, but directs \$3.00 of the taxes you are ALREADY paying to fair elections. Advise your tax preparer that you wish to support the Public Campaign Fund. Please say "YES" for fair elections this year on your tax form. Reduce the influence of big money so our elected officials are free of ties to special interests when making decisions that affect our water, energy, health, roads, homes, schools and more.

### N.C. Public Campaign Fund

Mark "Yes" if you want to designate \$3 of taxes to this special Fund for voter education materials and for candidates who accept strict spending limits. Marking "Yes" does not change your tax or refund.

**You**                      **Your Spouse**  
 Yes    No             Yes    No