



# HAYWOOD WATERWAYS ASSOCIATION INC

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[Haywoodwaterways.org](http://Haywoodwaterways.org)

Information about the NC Watershed Stewardship Network was presented by Eric Romaniszyn, Executive Director of Haywood Waterways Association during the 2017 NC Wildlife Action Plan regional workshop held in Waynesville, NC.

Notes in these slides are excerpts from the HWA website [haywoodwaterways.org](http://haywoodwaterways.org).

**[Haywoodwaterways.org](http://Haywoodwaterways.org)**



## About Us

HWA became a non-profit corporation on September 1998 and received 501(c)(3) tax-exempt status from the Internal Revenue Service in January 1999.

We are guided by a governing Board of Directors, highly qualified staff, a Strategic Plan, and the Pigeon River Watershed Action Plan.

EPA published a case study and cited HWA as a “model watershed organization.” EPA also requested permission to use our Watershed Action Plan as a “model plan” for other organizations to use nationwide.

HWA has won numerous awards, including:

- NC Water Conservationist of the Year – Governor’s Conservation Achievement Awards program
- Partner of the Year – Tennessee Valley Authority
- Natural Resource Enhancement Award – Hugh Hammond Bennett Chapter of the Soil & Water Conservation Society
- 1st Place, Community Pride Awards – Haywood County Commission for a Clean County (2 years in a row)



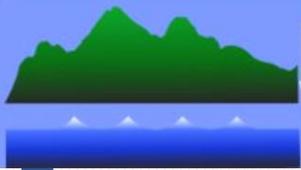
## Mission

To maintain and improve surface water quality in the Pigeon River Watershed of Haywood County, North Carolina.

We accomplish this through two objectives directed at reducing nonpoint source pollution:

- Educating and focusing attention on the watershed as a natural, economic and recreational resource to be conserved and enhanced for this and future generations; and
- Working with public agencies, conservation interests, businesses, community groups, and public and private land owners to implement water quality improvement strategies.

Our focus is on wise use of our natural resources by serving as a non-governmental catalyst for beneficial change.

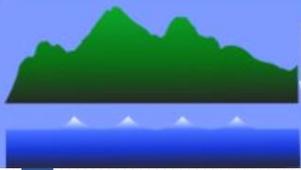


## Partnerships

We recognize the importance of partnerships between science, economy, government and the community to protect and improve water quality.

Partnerships are critical for our success. Each partnership brings a certain set of skills necessary to improve water quality.

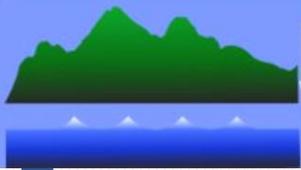
Many partners serve on our Technical Advisory Committee, which is a professional coordinating committee consisting of individuals with hundreds of years of professional conservation expertise in a wide variety of fields and disciplines. The members represent public agencies, educational institutions, nonprofit and for-profit corporations, and individual citizens.



## Public Service

Haywood Waterways is focused on the waterways of Haywood County, NC. However, we frequently assist with regional, state and even national efforts. We are currently partners in several efforts:

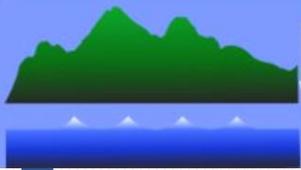
- Haywood Environmental Initiative
- Haywood Greenways Advisory Council
- Mountain Resources Commission Technical Advisory Committee
- Pigeon River Recovery Project
- WNC Stormwater Partnership
- Regional Erosion & Sediment Control Initiative
- NCSU Water Resources Research Institute Advisory Board
- NCDENR Water Quality Collaborative



## Our Impact

Haywood Waterways works to educate citizens, provide opportunities for public involvement, helps coordinate water quality improvement projects, and monitors streams to identify issues. We are known by local government and community leaders as a valuable resource and credible advisor on resolving water resource issues. Our work has had tremendous impact on water quality and for the community.

- Hyatt Creek was removed from the NC list of impaired waterways.
- *Kids in the Creek* has reached nearly 11,000 students in its 16 year history.
- Since 2009, the *Adopt-A-Stream Program* has removed 15 tons of trash from local streams.
- Annually, the 159 rain barrels we've sold to date have captured 103,350 gallons of stormwater, remove 206 pounds of atmospheric nitrogen, and prevents rooftop heated water from reaching cold-water trout streams.



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## Contact Us

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