

**Pigeon River Fund
Fall 2018 Awards**

Ten Grant Awards totaling \$284,710

Since 1996, the Pigeon River Fund has invested \$7,137,262 in projects addressing water quality in Haywood, Buncombe, and Madison counties. The members of the fund advisory committee (the "PRF Advisory Board") are appointed by the Secretary of the NC Department of Environmental Quality (NCDEQ), with representation from Duke Energy, NCDEQ and the three counties. CFWNC administers the grant program under a contract with NCDEQ as required by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission license that established the Fund in 1995 as settlement for the utility's continued diversion of water from the Pigeon River to power the Walters Power Plant in Haywood County.

Asheville GreenWorks - \$30,000 to decrease the amount of litter, pollution and erosive material that flows into our waterways and to increase awareness about protecting these resources, mainly through support to the Youth Environmental Leadership Program.

Center for Cultural Preservation, Inc. - \$5,000 to complete *River Heroes of WNC*, a documentary film focusing on the history of waterway stewardship in Western North Carolina.

The Environmental Quality Institute - \$18,700 for the Volunteer Water Information Network and Stream Monitoring Information Exchange biomonitoring projects that engage volunteers in monitoring water quality and providing data that assist partner organizations working on water quality in Buncombe, Madison and Haywood counties.

Haywood Waterways Association, Inc. - \$39,300 for repairing failing septic systems for low-income homeowners. Projects are identified by the Haywood County Environmental Health Department.

Haywood Waterways Association, Inc. - \$65,000 to continue coordinated community efforts to address water quality issues, implement the Haywood Watershed Action Plan and increase public appreciation of water resources through educational programs and publications.

Madison County Soil & Water Conservation District - \$12,060 to continue monitoring the health of the Ivy River Watershed in cooperation with the Ivy River Partners and Environmental Quality Institute.

Maggie Valley Sanitary District - \$10,000 to protect the Singleton property. Development pressures surrounding Maggie Valley have made land and water conservation opportunities critically important.

Mountain Valleys Resource Conservation & Development Council, Inc. - \$44,650 for various projects, including continued work with the Ivy River Partnership, septic repair and youth education programs.

Southwestern NC Resource Conservation & Development Council - \$25,000 for the Envirothon and Youth Environmental Stewardship (YES!) Camp programs that engage middle and high school youth from Haywood, Madison and Buncombe counties in hands-on learning about water quality issues.

Town of Woodfin - \$35,000 to support riverbank stabilization and restoration, wetland restoration, and river access for Silver-Line Park, a new 5.5-acre park and the centerpiece of the Woodfin Greenway and Blueway.