

Pigeon River Fund Grants

*Since 1996, the Pigeon River Fund has invested more than **\$6.3 million** 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.*

SPRING 2017

Blue Ridge Parkway Foundation - \$16,000 to involve regional stakeholders and professional planners in developing an integrated, comprehensive plan for the recent 5,329 acre addition to the Blue Ridge Parkway at Waterrock Knob.

French Broad River Academy - \$14,960 to develop wetland areas on the school's campus, which is adjacent to the French Broad River, to reestablish a natural area that will help filter rainwater and runoff before it makes its way into the French Broad River.

Haywood County Schools - \$2,000 to install a water collection system in the Pisgah High School Pulp and Paper Technology Lab, reducing the wastewater that must be treated by Evergreen Packaging and making students aware of water conservation and recycling practices in the paper industry.

Haywood Waterways Association - \$13,950 toward the Shelton Branch Stream Relocation Project at Vance Street Park in Waynesville, NC. The project includes relocating the stream, stabilizing the stream bank, and educational signage.

Haywood Waterways Association - \$10,530 to install river access steps and riparian vegetation near BearWaters Brewing facility as a part of the greenway extension through Canton.

Maggie Valley Sanitary District - \$30,000 contingent upon other needed funds toward the purchase of an 88-acre tract known as the Bradley property, a crucial tract protecting the drinking water source of Johnson Branch in Maggie Valley, NC.

Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation - \$30,000 contingent upon other needed funds to acquire the 273-acre Boyd Parcel located near the Great Smoky Mountains National Park in Maggie Valley, NC. These lands will be added to the Silvers Game Lands managed by the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission.

The Conservation Fund - \$30,000 contingent upon other needed funds toward the acquisition of 93 acres known as the Urban Property in Haywood County. Located on the north side of

Maggie Valley, NC, this property helps protect a vital portion of the watershed that services Maggie Valley's drinking water.

Town of Black Mountain - \$5,000 to install stormwater control measures in the Black Mountain Municipal Golf Course parking lot, which will directly impact the amount of runoff flowing into the adjoining stream.

Town of Canton - \$30,000 for engineering and design costs related to an ADA accessible boat launch to the Pigeon River, increasing public access for recreational and educational purposes. This, along with the Haywood Waterways Association project, will establish a "river run" between Recreation Park and BearWaters Brewery.

FALL 2016

Asheville GreenWorks - \$27,000 to continue the Youth Environmental Leadership Program (YELP). YELP engages youth from low-income communities in water-quality testing, riparian zone restoration, educational programs and environmental clean-ups, including the Trash-Boom project and establishing a live-stake nursery along Hominy Creek in cooperation with the Franklin School of Innovation.

Environmental Quality Institute - \$17,800 to support the Volunteer Water Information Network (VWIN) and SMIE biomonitoring projects that engage volunteers in monitoring water quality and provide data that assist partner organizations working on water quality in Buncombe, Madison and Haywood counties.

Haywood Waterways Association:

- \$60,000 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.
- \$39,600 toward the costs of repairing failing septic systems for low-income homeowners. Projects are identified by the Haywood County Environmental Health Department.

Madison County - \$25,000 to install stormwater best management practices on three school campuses. Each project will involve student participation in the classroom and onsite and will end with a community celebration.

Maggie Valley Sanitary District - \$25,000 toward transactional costs associated with the purchase and conveyance of the 558-acre Wilder Tract which protects the Jonathan Creek watershed.

MountainTrue - \$7,700 toward the purchase of live-stakes, a raft, and other equipment needed for stream bank planting along the Hominy and Cane creeks.

Mountain Valley Resource Conversation and Development Council (MVRC&D) - \$45,000 to support various programs, such as water monitoring in the Ivy River watershed, septic repair, and youth education programs. MVRC&D will also introduce an electronics amnesty day in partnership with the landfill.

ReCreation Experiences Missions and Ministries - \$25,000 toward material costs for septic system repairs for low-income homeowners in Madison County.

Southwestern NC Resource Conservation and Development Council:

- \$24,815 toward the 2017 *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.
- \$12,720 toward the development of the Beaverdam Creek Watershed Action Plan.

SPRING 2016

Haywood Waterways Association - \$11,000 to assess stormwater run-off problems and design improvements to reduce excess sedimentation in a stream that flows into Lake Junaluska.

Southwestern NC Resource Conservation and Development Council:

- \$21,500 to complete engineering and permitting tasks for removal of the Beaverdam Creek dam near the confluence with the Pigeon River in Canton.
- \$22,500 to complete design and engineering plans for stream bank improvements on Shingle Cove Branch as part of the renovation of Chestnut Park by the Town of Waynesville.

Maggie Valley Sanitary District – \$20,000 toward transactional costs associated with the purchase and conveyance of 710 acres, comprised of two “Queen” tracts, which protect the headwaters of Jonathan and Campbell creeks in Maggie Valley.

The Conservation Fund – \$40,000 toward transactional costs associated with the purchase and conveyance of the 172-acre “Gowing” tract and the 783-acre “Williams” tract that protect tributaries of Jonathan Creek in Maggie Valley.

Asheville GreenWorks – \$21,380 to continue the Trash Boom Project in Buncombe and Haywood counties and to design and construct a “trash trap” on Hominy Creek to address the litter problem in our creeks and streams.

Madison County – \$25,000 to upgrade the Town of Hot Springs’ wastewater infrastructure by installing a dual pump station at the red bridge across the French Broad River.

North Carolina Arboretum Society – \$6,700 for native plants and interpretive materials as part of the renovation of the Stream Garden at the Arboretum in Asheville.