



www.thehaw.org

What is the Haw River Trail Partnership?

In 2006, 10 governmental agencies signed a Memorandum of Understanding agreeing to work together for the development of the Haw River Trail and the conservation of its land and waters.

In this spirit, the cities of Burlington and Graham have partnered with Alamance County, to fund a full-time position to coordinate conservation and trail efforts on the Upper Haw River. This newsletter, and our website: www.thehaw.org, are an effort to inform the public about the ongoing work stemming from the 2006 Memorandum of Understanding.

THE MOUTH OF THE HAW

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE HAW RIVER TRAIL PARTNERSHIP

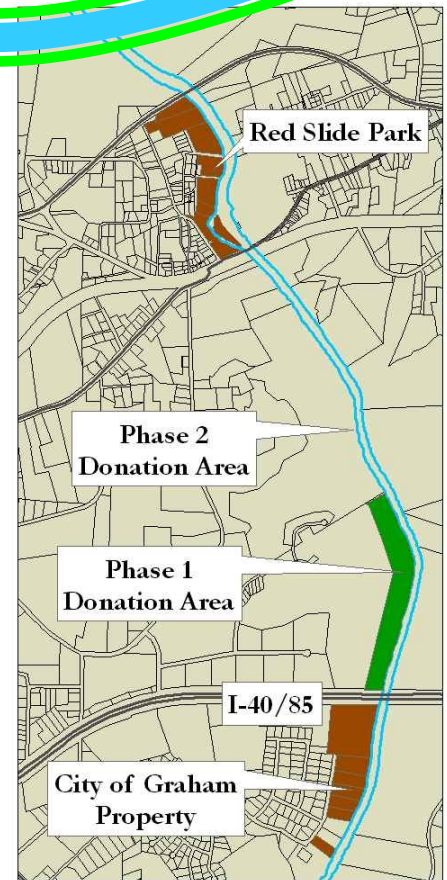
Spring 2010

DONATION EXPANDS HRT NEAR CHALLENGE GOLF COURSE

The Haw River Trail received an early Christmas present last December, when the Tar Heel Land Group donated 12.5 acres of riparian property to the HRT Partnership. The property runs between the Haw River and the Challenge Golf Course, extending approximately 2/3rds of a mile north of I-40. The land is an important piece for connecting existing sections of Haw River Trail. The donated area is situated between Red Slide Park in Haw River and a number of parcels owned by the city of Graham on the southern side of I-40/85.

The donation will also help match a grant received from the North Carolina Parks and Recreation Trust Fund. Development of the new section of trail is underway, although an opening date has not been set. Check www.thehaw.org for updates on the new trail section.

Thanks to the Tar Heel Land Group for their generous donation and support of the Haw River Trail.



3RD ANNUAL YEE-HAW! RIVER PADDLE COMING APRIL 10

We are preparing again for the Yee-Haw! River Paddle, slated this year for April 10th. Over the past two years, over 300 people have joined us for the community-wide paddle to benefit the Haw River Trail. This year's event will still include paddles for beginners, families and experienced paddlers and will again take place between Glencoe Paddle Access and Swepsonville River Park. Slight adjustments have been made to improve parking and shuttle service, so make sure to check www.thehaw.org for the details.

Sponsorships of \$250 and \$500 are available and include recognition on all printed materials, on our website, and in the media coverage of the event. Booths at the post-paddle party, are also available to sponsors. If you are willing to serve as a sponsor for this year's event, please email info@thehaw.org or call (336)-229-2229.



**Beginner Paddlers at the
2009 Yee-Haw River Paddle**

For questions, comments, or to remove your name from the mailing list, email info@thehaw.org or call 336/229-2229



THE MOUTH OF THE HAW

Page 2

www.thehaw.org

**Help Us Grow!
Buy Some Stuff!**

Help us meet our goals and show off your trail-cred at the same time by giving the gift of Haw River Trail merchandise. These items are available online at shop.thehaw.org



**YEEEE-HAW!
T-Shirt
\$18.00**



**HRT Hiking
Stick Medallion
\$5.00**



**HRT Bumper
Sticker
\$1.00**

2009 YEAR IN REVIEW

The economic conditions around the country made 2009 a difficult year for conservation and recreation efforts nationwide. The Clean Water Management Trust Fund did not award any grants in 2009, and budget cuts for nearly every organization involved in the HRT Partnership made expansion a difficult proposition. Despite these difficulties, the Partnership had a fantastic year on several fronts.

In Alamance County, partners added almost two miles of Haw River Trail and conserved over 200 acres of riparian property, comprising over 8500 linear feet of frontage on the Haw River and 14,000 feet of perennial streams. The largest gains were the result of the acquisition of 190 acres near Gerringer Mill Road in northwest Alamance County. This property, slated to open in 2010, will provide over 5 miles of hiking trails around Haw River, McClure-Hicks Creek and Plum Creek.

2009 also saw the opening of several parks and paddle accesses acquired in 2008. The Town of Haw River opened Red Slide Park in July, adding nearly a mile of Haw River Trail and a new access to the Haw River Paddle Trail. Altamahaw Paddle Access also opened last summer, extending the paddle trail northward to Guilford County. Finally, the future of the Haw River Trail was bolstered in 2009 with the creation of a permanent Haw River Trail coordinator position by Alamance County, Burlington and Graham. Thanks for all the support that helped make these successes possible in 2009. We look forward to a successful 2010.

CLEAN-UP-A-THON PLANNED FOR MARCH 20TH

Haw River Assembly will hold the 20th Annual Haw River Clean-Up-A-Thon on the 20th of March. Each year, volunteers clean trash from the Haw River and Jordan Lake on foot and on water. This year, two sites in Alamance County are planned for clean up, the new natural area on Gerringer Mill Road near Western High School and a soon to be completed section of Haw River Trail between Stoney Creek Marina and Carolina Mill in the village of Carolina.

HRA will provide the bags, gloves, and tally sheets- all you need to do is show up. Canoe clubs, youth groups, scouts, neighborhood and community organizations are all welcome. For more information or to sign up, contact the Haw River Assembly's Germane James at (919) 542-5790 or [germane\[at\]hawriver.org](mailto:germane[at]hawriver.org).



200

Riparian Acres Conserved

8,500

Linear Feet Conserved on the
Haw River

14,000

Linear Feet Conserved on
Perennial Streams

2

Miles Added to Haw River
Trail

9

Miles Added to Haw River
Paddle Trail