

# HRT News Summer and Fall 2007

October 28, 2007

## **Alamance County Recreation and Parks Department and Haw River Trail Partnership** **Awarded "Kodak American Greenways" Grant**

The Alamance County Recreation and Parks Department, a Haw River Trail Governmental Partner, was named as a recipient of the 2007 Kodak American Greenways Grant this month. The Kodak American Greenways Program is a joint effort of Eastman Kodak, The Conservation Fund and the National Geographic Society. These grants stimulate the planning and design of greenways in communities throughout America. The ACRPD and the Haw River Trail Partnership were among 31 award winners selected from a pool of 131 applicants. In addition to receiving the grant award, the ACRPD and the Haw River Trail Partnership will be showcased as a national model for innovative efforts to develop a greenway on the Haw River.

The Kodak American Greenways award will be used to develop and implement a series of mile markers on the Haw River Paddle Trail to help paddlers identify their location on the river. The mile markers will help emergency responders to locate paddlers in need of assistance. In addition, the markers will be integrated into a series of Haw River guide booklets, highlighting historical and natural sites of significance on the Haw. To learn more about the Kodak American Greenways Awards Program, visit: <http://www.conservationfund.org/node/245>

October 18, 2007

## **Haw River Trail Featured in State Publication**

The 2006-2007 North Carolina Department of Parks and Recreation Annual Report was released recently and contains a feature on the conservation through recreation efforts of the Haw River Trail. The article praises the 10 member government Memorandum of Understanding and includes words from Bill Ross, Secretary of DENR, on the bright future of the Haw River Trail. Thanks to all those whose hard work in this effort has made the Haw River Trail such big news. To view the entire article, follow this link: [DPRAnnualReport](#).

October 9, 2007

## **Glencoe Paddle Access Grand Opening A Success**

The grand opening and dedication of the new Glencoe paddle access was held last weekend and was attended by a great crowd of paddlers and residents. The focus of the event was honoring George and Jerrie Nall who donated the property for the access in memory of their son Dr. Steven Nall. George Nall spoke about Steven's love of nature and exploring spirit and unveiled a large stone, native to the site, with the site dedication carved upon it. The event was attended by State House Representative Cary Allred, a representative for Rep. Alice Bordsen as well as North Carolina State Trails Coordinator Darrell McBane. The Glencoe access is the seventh access on the Haw River Paddle Trail.

September 30, 2007

**First Haw River Land Stewards Meeting Held at Troxler Farm**

The Haw River Land Stewards Program kick-off meeting was held last weekend at the home of Rudy and Millie Langley in Altamahaw. The Haw River Land Stewards Program is a new grassroots effort to connect individuals who own land on the Haw River. The program allows landowners to connect with each other, stay up to date on current happenings on the River and learn about conservation options on their property. The meeting was attended by representatives from the North Carolina Forest Service, the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program the Alamance County Soil and Water District and several other conservation and agriculture organizations.

Look for more meetings on other sections of the River in the coming weeks. For more information on the Haw River Land Stewards Program, look in the "Conservation Efforts" part of our website. If you would like to become a Haw River Land Steward, contact Rudy Langley at (336) 584-4737 or Brian Baker at (336) 229-2229.

September 18, 2007

**Haw River Trail Featured at Clean Water  
Management Trust Fund Board of Trustees Meeting**

Haw River Trail Coordinators were invited to make a presentation to the Clean Water Management Board of Trustees last week about the progress being made on the Haw River Trail Governmental Partnership's "Recreation through Conservation" efforts. Trustees learned how CWMTF grants are helping to create a network of conservation sites throughout the region and how these funds are being combined with other grant funds to maximize their potential. Others present at the meeting, held at The Summit at Haw River State Park, included Commissioner of Agriculture Steve Troxler, Director of North Carolina Division of Parks and Recreation Lewis Ledford and Lisa Riegel, Executive Director of the Natural Heritage Trust Fund. CWMTF grants have made significant contributions to the Haw River Trail in the past few years including the purchase of riverfront property for a new park at Glencoe, funding for the purchase several parcels in Graham and funding for conservation studies on the Upper and Lower sections of the Haw River. The presentation provided an excellent opportunity to thank the Board of Trustees for their support as well as allow them to see how their funds are being put to work.

September 8, 2007

#### **Haw River Trail MOU Partners Meet**

Representatives of the signatories of the Haw River Trail Memorandum of Understanding met in Haw River on Friday to discuss the past year's progress and plan for the future. Representatives from several other groups including Haw River Assembly and CERES also attended to lend suggestions on the future of the HRT governmental partnership. At the conclusion of the meeting, several members gathered for a paddle to Swepsonville River Park.

August 28, 2007

**Portage Now Open Around Glencoe Dam**

Safe passage around Glencoe Dam is now open on property owned by Alamance County. The portage is the first step in renovating twenty acres on the north side of the river that will soon be a new park operated by the Alamance County Recreation and Parks Department. The property was purchased earlier this year with funds from a grant awarded to the County from the North Carolina Clean Water Management Trust Fund. The portage take out is on river left, approximately 200 feet above the dam, and is marked by a bouy in the river. Portage re-entry is located on the island below the dam. The new portage allows safe passage for paddlers entering the Haw River at Indian Valley Paddle Access, approximately a mile upriver.

August 21, 2007

**Canoe and Kayak Rentals Now Available at Cedarrock Park**

The Alamance County Recreation and Parks Department has begun offering canoe and kayak rentals for use in Rock Creek in Cedarrock Park. Rock Creek is a wide, slow-moving creek and provides a great opportunity for beginning paddlers to practice the basics of paddling before venturing out to the Haw. Canoes and kayaks are available for \$5 for two hours, and all proceeds are given to the Elon University Center for Environmental Studies Haw River Trail Fund. Lifevests and paddles are also provided. This is a great way to get comfortable in a boat and an exciting way to explore Cedarrock. For directions to Cedarrock Park, please visit [Alamance County Recreation and Parks](#).

August 14, 2007

### **New Improvements to Swepsonville River Park**

The Town of Swepsonville, an HRT governmental partner, has recently completed a number of improvements to Swepsonville River Park, spearheaded by Mayor Raymond Herring. A major change is the newly renovated paddle take-out for canoers and kayakers arriving from upstream. The access has been recontoured to reduce the steepness of the grade and allow easier access from the river.

Another welcome improvement is the addition of campsites to the park. There are now three primitive campsites throughout the park, available on a first-come, first served basis. The sites have tent-pads, fire-rings and trash cans. Port-a-jons are still available at the parking areas. Thanks to Mayor Herring and Swepsonville for constantly working to improve their park and the HRT experience.

August 2, 2007

### **State Approves Increased Funding for Conservation and Recreation**

The State Legislature and the Governor approved a new budget for the 2007-2008 fiscal year last week which provides an additional \$128 million for land and water conservation. The budget includes:

- \$100 million in COPs bonds (Certificates of Participation) to be distributed to the Natural Heritage Trust Fund and the Parks and Recreation Trust Fund

- \$20 million in COPs bonds to Division of Marine Fisheries for beach access projects
- \$8 million of appropriations to the Agricultural Development and Farmland Preservation Trust Fund

This increase represents a great victory for the conservation community. These are a large part of the funds that make our conservation through recreation work on the Haw River possible. Hopefully these funds will turn into on the ground projects in the near future.

July 13, 2007

**Haw River Trail Featured on WFMY News 2**

The Haw River Trail was the focus on WFMY News 2's Good Morning Show today as a part of their week-long "Vacation-at-Home" series. Erica Taylor of WFMY anchored four segments highlighting the Haw River Trail, Haw River Paddle Trail, the new park at Glencoe and the Glencoe Mill Village. Thanks to WFMY for helping to spread the word about the Haw River Trail.