



# THE MOUTH OF THE HAW

## THE NEWSLETTER OF THE HAW RIVER TRAIL PARTNERSHIP

Fall 2013

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](http://www.thehaw.org), are an effort to inform the public about the ongoing work stemming from the 2006 Memorandum of Understanding.

### BROOKS BRIDGE OPENING EXTENDS PADDLE TRAIL

The Haw River Paddle Trail got a few miles longer this month thanks to a new paddle access in Guilford County. The new Brooks Bridge Paddle Access, just west of the Guilford/Alamance line, is now the northernmost on the river, approximately four miles upstream from Altamahaw Paddle Access.

The project is a joint effort between Guilford County and the City of Greensboro, utilizing existing City property to provide public access to the river. The bridge has long been used to access the river, but the new construction will provide safe, legal access to a beautiful stretch of river for the first time. The access will also create an exciting connection with the Haw River Wine Trail. Nearby Grove Winery has partnered with Haw River Canoe and Kayak to provide guided trips such as the "Paddle and Patio Party".

If you are unfamiliar with this stretch of river, it is well worth the trip. Far narrower than in most parts of Alamance County, the Haw River below Brooks Bridge provides an intimate paddling experience. The first two miles of river provide rocky ledges that require skilled navigation, before giving way to flat water backed up by Altamahaw Dam. Directions, water levels and details are available on [thehaw.org](http://thehaw.org).



Low Dam at Brooks Bridge Paddle Access



www.thehaw.org

Quarterly Attendance at Haw River Trail Sites

June 1, 2013 through August 31, 2013

Altamahaw Paddle Access:

6,490

Shallow Ford Natural Area:

4,773

Great Bend Park:

3,907

Glencoe Paddle Access:

3,764

Town & Country Paddle Access:

1,314

Red Slide Park:

12,269

Graham Paddle Access:

4,470

Sweepsonville River Park-Upper:

10,638

Sweepsonville River Park-Lower:

10,024

Sax. Lake Paddle Access:

11,798

Sax. Mill Race Paddle Access:

3,862

Total Attendance For Period: 74,535

## NEW SURVEY SEEKS PUBLIC INPUT ON ALAMANCE COUNTY RECREATIONAL BIKE TRAILS

Are you a mountain biker or cyclist interested in additional places to ride in Alamance County? Alamance County is currently seeking input from the public to gauge interest in bicycle trail and cycling routes. If you have an interest in bike trails, please take the short ten question online survey to help guide the Recreation and Parks staff on the needs of the community.

The survey can be found at <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/GR2ZL57>

### 5280 CLUB SPONSORS

Thanks to all the supporters who participated in our "5280 Club" Adopt-a-Mile Fundraiser this Spring. We raised almost \$1,500 this year- a great result for the first year of our program.

#### 5280 Club Sponsors

- Mile 4 - Howard and Diane Baker
- Mile 5 - Innovative Signs and Graphics
- Mile 8 - The Fat Frogg
- Mile 11 - Carolina and Ben Ansbacher
- Mile 17 - First United Methodist Church of Graham
- Mile 20 - Mebane Women's Club
- Mile 21- Browns Marine Sales and Service
- Mile 27 - Leadership Alamance Class of '13
- Mile 27 - Hayes Homebuilders
- Mile 28 - Haw River Canoe and Kayak

### NEW TRAIL ACQUIRED NEAR SAXAPAHAW

Another piece of the puzzle was added this Summer with a with the acquisition of a trail easement near Saxapahaw. The new acquisition is an important link between the existing trail behind Saxapahaw Mill and the newly acquired trail easements south of Sweepsonville. The new easement is just downstream of the Saxapahaw Dam and provides a beautiful vantage point for the dam and rocks below. The acquisition of trail on this parcel is part of a long-term acquisition effort in the area that will continue through 2014.

### UPCOMING HRT PROGRAMS

Fall into Fall Hike and Craft Day  
Oct 26th 2013

#### Shallow Ford Natural Area

A guided hike around the 2.2 mile Homestead Trail will begin at 8am and take approximately 1.5 hours. Kids craft activities for kids age 5-12 will begin immediately after the hike at 10am. Space is limited for the crafts, so please let us know you are coming by calling 229-2410 or sending an email to [kim.brown@alamance-nc.com](mailto:kim.brown@alamance-nc.com).

