



News
from
the

Eno River ASSOCIATION

2003 Festival
July 4, 5, 6
See Inside!

4419 Guess Road, Durham, NC 27712

Summer, 2003

Upcoming Land Acquisitions to Add Nearly 1,000 Acres to Eno River State Park

By Lori Olson, Executive Director



Eno River flowing through the Eno Wilderness

Photo by Lori Olson



Bunting Lands

Photo by Rich Shaw

2003 is becoming a banner year for land conservation along the Eno River. This year's Festival for the Eno will help raise funds for continued efforts to protect Eno Basin lands and waters. Specifically, the ERA is working on two large-scale projects that together would add almost 1,000 new acres to the Eno River State Park.

The 820-acre Eno Wilderness is the most exciting land acquisition project the Eno River State Park has seen in recent decades. With this one purchase, the State Park will see a one-third increase in its current size!

Over two miles of Eno River frontage, three miles of streams, five miles of existing trails, and hundreds of acres of beautiful hardwoods--primarily chestnut oak forest--will be protected when this historic acquisition is complete. The conservation value of protecting such a high quality and large-scale wildlife habitat area is significant. In addition, this acquisition will provide much needed width to the Eno's mostly linear park system and significantly increase the protected habitat area, which is required for the successful protection of larger mammal species like the bobcat.

The Wilderness also contains the sec-

ond highest point of elevation near Eno River State Park, at 732 feet above sea level, or about 285 feet above the river.

The State of North Carolina plans to close on the \$6.5 million property later this year, with help from the Eno River



Adapted from a map by Perry Sugg

Association, the Natural Heritage Trust Fund, the Parks and Recreation Trust Fund, the Clean Water Management Trust Fund, the Environmental Enhancement Program

and the Federal Land and Water Conservation Fund.

The second large-scale project the Association is working on is the acquisition of the 137-acre Bunting Tract, located on the Eno River near Hillsborough. This magnificent property is now under contract for purchase by the Association. Eventually, the tract will be incorporated into the Eno River State Park, so that the lands can be protected in perpetuity.

This gorgeous tract contains over one mile of Eno River frontage as well as several Orange County Natural Inventory Sites. It is one of the largest tracts along the river in this area that remains undeveloped, and it will serve as an anchor for the Eno River State Park at its western terminus. This property has some of the oldest and most beautiful forest on the river, and the bluffs overlooking the Eno are some of the nicest, said Don Moffitt, President of the Association.

This year, the Association's 24th annual Festival for the Eno will raise money to help protect these and other lands on the Eno.

(Continued on page 6)

Visit us on the Web at www.enoriver.org

Letter to Our Members

Friends,

Summer is upon us and once again the ERA is gearing up for its annual Festival for the Eno. The Festival has become somewhat of a time-honored tradition for many Association members: three days of fun in the sun, great music and great people to share it with.

But the Festival for the Eno is really much more. It is the single most important way that the Association communicates its message of conservation to the broader public and builds support for its land protection activities. With over 30,000 attendees every year, the Festival presents an unparalleled opportunity for the ERA to reach out and educate citizens on environmental issues.

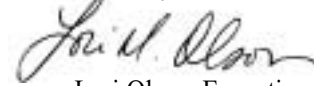
Our Eno Environmental Education committee works hard to bring fabulous educational displays to the Festival. These include a living river display, which showcases many of the wild critters that make the Eno their home. Thousands of folks visit this display each day, learning about crayfish and water striders, stone fly and dragonfly nymphs. They learn about the ecology of these amazing creatures, about what each species has to tell us about river pollution, and about which species are good indicators of healthy water quality.

Throughout the Festival grounds, over 25 environmental organizations present information on their current projects and activities. By providing a venue for these organizations to get the word out to the greater public, the Association helps to strengthen and build awareness of the broader environmental movement within North Carolina.

Most importantly, the Festival raises dollars for land conservation. The hard earned dollars from the Festival help the Association protect lands in perpetuity throughout the Eno River basin. Now in its 24th year, the Festival continues its wonderful tradition of bringing communities together along the banks of the Eno to celebrate the environment, and to be a part of a greater effort to protect it.

I hope to see you all on July 4, 5, and 6 at Durham's West Point on the Eno City Park for the 24th annual Festival for the Eno. It is sure to be a great time for an even greater cause.

Naturally Yours,



Lori Olson, Executive Director

Wayne Cash Wins Stanback Conservation Award

If you had visited Penny's Bend Nature Preserve in early April you would have found Wayne Cash working the fire line during a controlled burn of one of the meadows there. The ERA is proud that Wayne Cash, 78, a long-time member of the board of directors and a former president, was recently honored as the Stanback Volunteer Conservationist of 2002 for North Carolina.

The award is presented by the Conservation Trust for North Carolina to honor the individual who has best exemplified service to the State and her citizens for conservation efforts during the past year.

Wayne serves on numerous boards and commissions, including the Board of Directors of the Eno River Association, the Durham Farmland Protection Board, and the Durham Open Space and Trails Commission. He has served a total of nearly 40 years on those three boards, and has served as chair of each of them. He currently presides over the Farmland Protection Board.

Wayne, upon receiving the award, expressed amazement. I'm the most accidental conservationist you ever heard of. It was never a wild ambition of mine - it just

happened. I just grew into it a step at a time. It's been the best 18 years of my life.

He got his start in conservation issues in 1982, when the US Army Corps of Engineers condemned his land at Penny's Bend on the Eno River. Wayne and his wife, Hazel Cash, spent several years working with the Association and others to save the area. Through Margaret Nygard's and Wayne's efforts, the Corps leased the land to the State of North Carolina; the State then leased the land to the NC Botanical Gardens and the Botanical Gardens created the 84-acre Penny's Bend Nature Preserve, where Wayne serves today as the resident caretaker.

Upon presenting the award on behalf of the Conservation Trust for North Carolina, Don Moffitt, president of the Eno River Association, said: In addition to his board and committee responsibilities, Wayne is willing to do hard work on behalf of the environment. We hold workdays, and Wayne is always there to make sure it goes smoothly. He's the first to arrive and the last to leave. No one better exemplifies volunteer conservationist than Wayne Cash. He's been a great mentor and an even better friend.



MISSION: To conserve and protect the natural, historical and cultural resources of the Eno River Basin.

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www.enoriver.org

The Great Human Race 2003 Nets \$6,500 for Eno River Association



Some of the ERA runners gather before the race. Photo courtesy of The Great Human Race.

On a bright March morning, a crowd of volunteer fundraisers gathered under the Eno River Association sign to start the 2003 Great Human Race put on by the Volunteer Center of Greater Durham. With a bang, the runners were off, racing along the 5K course through downtown Durham. Following behind them were racers young and old, running, walking, rolling, and strolling to raise money for their favorite non-profit organization.

This year, our 17 volunteers raised over \$3,500 for the ERA in pledges from

their friends, family and co-workers. In addition, the Association was selected once again to receive a challenge grant from the BIN Charitable Foundation, which matched the first \$3,000 in pledges. Due to the efforts of our volunteers, and the generosity of many contributors, the Eno River Association's total pledges were among the top 3 participating organizations in this year's Great Human Race! These funds will help us further our work of protecting the Eno River for future generations to enjoy.

Land Trust Community Geared Up for 2003 Legislative Session

The 2003 General Assembly returned to Raleigh facing a projected \$2 billion budget deficit, which threatens funding for land protection in North Carolina. The Conservation Trust for North Carolina (CTNC) is working in partnership with the North Carolina Land Trust Council (see box) to address the state's land and water conservation needs amidst this fiscal crisis. The land trust community hopes to protect and expand the state's resources and incentives for land conservation by pursuing the following initiatives:

-Securing full funding for the Clean Water Management Trust Fund and increasing funding for the Farmland Preservation Trust Fund. Funding of the state's natural resource trust funds enables land trusts and other conservation organizations to leverage additional private and public dollars for land protection.

-Establishing a dedicated revenue source for the Clean Water Management Trust Fund and Farmland Preservation Trust Fund while expanding existing dedicated funding for the Natural Heritage Trust Fund and Parks and Recreation Trust Fund.

-Increasing North Carolina's economic incentives for land conservation. This includes maintaining and expanding North Carolina's state conservation tax credit program and promoting changes in property tax laws, such as present use value, to provide greater incentives for land conservation.

-Supporting perpetual conservation easements on private property.

-Supporting the North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources land protection initiative, One North Carolina Naturally.

Whole Foods Market 5% Day—Tuesday, July 8th

We are very grateful for the many contributions that Wellspring/Whole Foods Market has made as a major sponsor of the Festival for the Eno. For many years they have given labor, goods, and money to aid our efforts. This year is no exception.

Please shop at the Wellspring/Whole Foods Markets in Durham and Chapel Hill on Tuesday, July 8th as they will donate five percent of the total sales that day to the Eno River Association to further the mission of protecting lands along the Eno River. While you are there, be sure to thank the nice folks for all their help!

In addition to the 5% Day contributions, Whole Foods Markets annually donates their time and product at the Festival by organizing and running the Watermelon and Apple Juice booths, and donating all proceeds to the Festival.



—Redbud
by Sue Monahan

CTNC encourages all land conservationists to contact your state legislators and educate them about the importance of the state's natural resource trust funds and tax incentives for land conservation. If you want more information about the land trust community's legislative agenda, please contact Edgar Miller, CTNC's Director of Development, at edgar@ctnc.org or 336-238-5319.

The NC Land Trust Council is a deliberative body consisting of representatives from the Conservation Trust and 22 local land trusts, including the Eno River Association. The Land Trust Council meets regularly to discuss issues affecting all land trusts. The Land Trust Council's steering committee currently consists of the following land trust executive directors: Jason Walser, Land Trust for Central North Carolina; Ron Altmann, Catawba Lands Conservancy; Kieran Roe, Carolina Mountain Land Conservancy; and is chaired by Jeff Fisher, Tar River Land Conservancy.

The Eastern Red Bat

By Dave Owen

Resident Field Naturalist, West Point on the Eno Park

Bats are the most numerous group of mammals present along the Eno River. Of the several species of bats that occur here, the eastern red bat is probably the most common and definitely the easiest to identify. Seen in flight over the river after sundown in the warm season, this four inch bat with a mottled, rusty red to orange color is easily discernible in the evening afterglow. It zigzags and swoops overhead feeding on moths and other airborne insects.

The red bat is a tree roosting bat in contrast to cave roosters which compose the majority of bat species in our region. When roosting, they hang upside down on a twig, cryptically disguised as dead leaves, dried fruit or cones. In winter they hibernate in the same position on the south facing side of a tree and reduce their metabolism to a fraction of normal. The red bat has a heavy furry tail that it wraps along the underside of its body to maintain its warmth.

I had my first up close experience with this bat on a local winter hike. I came to rest leaning on the trunk of a large beech tree, whose lower branches retained their light brown, dead leaves throughout the winter. I noticed a fuzzy red patch dangling on the back side of one leaf in front of me. A closer examination revealed a red bat curled up and motionless. It was well camouflaged against the back drop of the beech leaves. Only by my chance close proximity did I detect its presence.

Red bats live a solitary life except

Hazel s Hospitality Help

By Hazel Cash

Since this is the last newsletter before the Festival, I would like to remind everyone that we had a wonderful hospitality table for the performers last year because so many of you brought delicious bowls of food. (You should hear the raves you get!)

We hope you ll be willing to donate something good to eat again this year. Salads or picnic type foods are great, but no jello please. If you can help, please give me a call at 477-8936 or email me at way-cash@earthlink.net.

Thank you for being so generous!



Eastern Red Bat.

2003 Festival for the Eno logo by Emma Skurnick

when mating or migrating. In the cold season they do head south along the eastern seaboard of the United States, but their patterns of movement are not yet understood. Up until the late 1800s, sightings of large migratory flocks passing over areas of the southeastern US were reported. No such occurrence has been confirmed since then, but numerous individuals continue to make the Eno River Valley their home.

One evening I was attending a football game at Jordan High School where my daughters were cheerleaders. Seemingly out of nowhere, dark winged creatures came careening down from the night sky, passing and squeaking just above the heads of students and parents sitting in the rows of bleachers. Everyone seemed to shudder at the ominous sight and the crowd emitted a

Festival Packhouse Exhibits: Be There!

Two Packhouse exhibits will be featured during the 2003 Festival for the Eno.

The first is a photographic retrospective by David Page, a long-time ERA member and former board member.

Among other efforts, David designed four award-winning Eno River Calendars and spearheaded efforts to re-build the venue for this exhibit. The Hugh Mangum Photographic Center came to be through David s hard work raising funds and even helping to rebuild the building s piers. To Dave, the Packhouse was an historical

huge gasp in unison. Several frightened teenagers, shielding their faces with raised forearms, shouted "Bats, bats!" I smiled to myself, in awe at the consternation a flock of harmless chimney swifts could cause among the fearful.

Because bats are creatures of the ensuing twilight, we often transfer our own fear of the dark onto these most innocent and beneficent creatures. And of course, our discomfort with darkness is none other than a fear of facing our own musty inner closets and shortcomings. If our lives are closely interwoven with the fabric of nature, animal encounters on our path can both challenge and shape our personal growth.

In 1990, I took my first group of ecotourists to a jungle lodge in the upper Amazon River in eastern Peru. On the very first evening, I woke up after midnight hearing a scraping sound on my wooden bed frame next to the floor. I pulled out a flashlight from my sleeping bag and shined it down on a vampire bat that was apparently trying to force its way under the mosquito netting that was draped over my bed! But that wildlife encounter turned out to be just the beginning of a long series of opportunities that the Amazon provided, in order for me to face my own inner fears that were far removed from the threat of that particular sanguivore. Likewise, our heartfelt thanks go out to the red bat this year for being willing to fly high on our Eno banner, and for all the insight it offers to inspire in each of us.

building that could not be lost. Soldiers of the Civil War were once housed there.

In addition, there will be a slide show presented inside the Packhouse daily entitled The Eno Experience , created by Duncan Heron. Duncan is also a long-time Eno River Association board member with fabulous photographic talents.

Be sure to check out these special Festival presentations at the Packhouse. David s exhibit will also be open on weekends during July.

Get Ready for the 2003 Festival for the Eno!

At West Point on the Eno, the stages are still stacked and stored, the temperature is a comfortable 65 degrees and there are no lines on toilet row. But soon this scene will be remarkably different. Thirty-five thousand folks will join us as the Eno River Association presents the 24th annual Festival for the Eno -- North Carolina's pre-eminent Independence Day celebration.

During the three days of the Festival for the Eno (Friday, Saturday, Sunday ; July 4th, 5th and 6th), over 80 of the best crafters North Carolina has to offer will line the glens and glades with tents and booths displaying their works. The delicious aromas of funnel cakes, barbecue, stir fries and curries will fill the air. Jugglers, magicians and giant puppets will roam the park, and the five performance stages will be islands in a sea of blankets, lawn chairs and dancers.

Activities abound as well. Grown-ups and kids alike can try the Top-of the Rock Climbing Wall, or mold and sculpt the 800 pounds of clay at the Hands-On Clay booth. John Blackfeather Jeffries will give demonstrations of Native American life. The West Point Mill, sand sculpture by Sandy Feat, juggling workshops, giant chess and Eno river activities will give Festival-goers plenty to do when not enjoying our wonderful performers.

Once again, the Association will continue to work toward the goal of being a "Trash Free" Festival and to show that recycling is easy and practical. Because of these model recycling efforts, and the work of volunteers like you, the West Point on the Eno City Park will be litter-free by Monday, July 7th.

Advance tickets for the Festival will be available starting mid-June at outlets throughout the Piedmont. See the special pull-out schedule in this newsletter for a complete list of advance ticket outlets, and be sure to thank them when you visit!

The complete program will be carried in the *Herald-Sun* and the *Chapel Hill Herald* on Tuesday, July 1st. Be sure to visit www.enoriver.org for schedule and other updates.

Want to Help with the Festival? Volunteer @ EnoRiver.org

The Festival for the Eno would not be possible without those who give their time, talent and effort each year to create a fun, safe, entertaining and educational celebration which enriches the community and serves the greater purpose of preserving precious watershed for posterity. The Festival for the Eno has become a model for other grass roots community based events throughout the country, and continues to grow, as does the Park.

Last year over 30,000 people attended the Festival. We need help (before, during and after!!) to ensure another successful event, and to show all those people a good time!

Ever Want to Be in a Circus?

Big Top day is big time fun. On Saturday June 28th, we put up the BigTop in the Meadow and we need at least 30 people to help out.

Trash-Free For Me!

Our Trash-Free program diverts 90% of the Festival waste away from landfills. Help with this vital award-winning waste reduction program by volunteering as a steward, at the Festival or at the really cool organic compost site. Call Judy at 919-383-7172 or email trash.free@enoriver.org to sign on to the Trash-Free team. Pick up

trucks and drivers are especially needed.

Performer Hospitality

Our performers always mention the hospitality area at the Festival and it s delicious food and drink. Hazel Cash needs folks to help supply the victuals to feed all our hungry entertainers. Call her at 919 477-8936 or send an email to: volunteer@enoriver.org.

Cleaning Up After the Festival

Once the weekend is over and the crowds have left the park, there is still much work to do. Help is especially needed in the week following the Festival All the tents, drink booths, stages and recycling centers must be disassembled and removed from the park, errands still need to be run, and paperwork needs to be organized.

Volunteers Get In Free

Each volunteer receives a free pass into the Festival for each day worked. To volunteer, or for info about these or other volunteer opportunities, please call Volunteer Coordinator Judy Allen at 471-5008 or email volunteer@enoriver.org. For a complete list of volunteer opportunities and a convenient on-line form, go to: www.enoriver.org/festival.



Splashing in the Waters

Photo by James Hill

Upcoming Land Acquisitions

(continued from page1)

The ERA's efforts to date have helped protect over 3,900 acres of open space and parklands in the Eno River basin. Twenty-five years of hosting the Festival for the Eno has certainly played a large role in that success.

The Association looks forward to adding both the Bunting Tract and the Eno Wilderness to the Eno River State Park in 2003, and to continuing to lead efforts to increase the system of parklands and open space along the Eno that we have all come to treasure.



—American Hornbeam (Ironwood),
by Sue Monahan

Welcome to New Members

Greta A. Crayton
Chris Dreps and
Sylvia Becker-Dreps
Dorothy Gerard
Roxanne Gillespie and
David Kingdon
Paul S. Homison
Elizabeth B. and
James W. Davis
Chip Joyner
Daniel S. Kadis
Jim Mathews
Mary E. Preslar
Mary Ann Rood
Melissa Taylor

Thanks to These Volunteers

Barb Blackman	Stabenow	Jerry Silverbush	Noland Martin
Boykin, Jones, & Zan Bell	Frank Baker	John Barrow	Paul Killough
Brandi Burke	George Kolasa	John Lestina	Rebecca Curry
Brian Luter	Gina & Norma Longo	Josie McNeill	Rebecca Gray
Chip Gentry	Hamilton Darrel	Judy Allen	Ron Rudin
Chris Bennett & Lakia	Heidi Paulsen	June Johnson	Ross Curry
Clare Reece-Gore	Helen Alexander	Lynn Wilson	Sonia West
David Haring	Helen Drivas	Margaret Moore	Susan Sewell
Dorothy Gerard	Holly Reid/Rich Shaw, Indy & Lionel	Margaret Wainwright	Thomas Humphrey
Ella & Jennie	James Parker	Marion Sands	Tony Baragona
	Joanne Abel	Melissa McCullough	Valeris Yow
		Neil Smith	Vic Minton

Recent ERA Contributors

Allen and Judith Barton	Barbara and Tom Driscoll	Jane Kalamanga	New Dragon Inn
Barbara L. Buschman	Bercedis Peterson	Jeff East	Chinese Restaurant
Bob and Ann Aitchison	Bill Nealis	Jennie Stabenow	Norma & Gina Longo
Central Carolina Bank and Trust Company	Brad and Adrienne Wallace	Jennifer Barrow	P. V. Perryman
Chris C. Hamlet	Bridget Booker	Jennifer Mewshaw	Pam King
David and Nancy Bamberger	Carl Ellis, Jr.	Jennifer Miller	Pam Smith
Dick Dunagan	Carol Brooks	Jerry Davis	Pam Upadhaya
Friends of State Parks	Carver Street Animal Hospital	Jesse Beverly	Pat and Herman Whitman
Glaxo Smith Kline	Cathy Williams	Jim Holmes	Paul Shepard
Larry Holt	Chantelle Wolpert	Joe Deppe	Rebecca Gray
Nash O. Gerald	Cherie Rosemond	John and Betsy Barrow	Robert and Teresa Mitchell
Pearson Stewart	Chris Quinn	John Lohnes	Sara Brewer
Peggy W. Gregory	Christina Carro	John Morris	Scott Randell and Barbara Buckley
Rebecca and Bruce Vinson	Christine Della Maggiara	Karen Blanchard	Sharon Snider
Rob Gluck	Crystal Duchow	Karen Ferguson	Shawnta Wright
Robert Freese	Dave Cook	Kate Joyce	Shellent Kosaligam
Robert P. Womack	Dave Sutherland	Kathy Kaufman	Stacie McEntyre
Ron Shehee and Carolyn Christman	David Matcher	Kathy Lewis	Stephanie & Cary Cornette
Margaret Nygard Fund	David Stabenow	Kris Arges	Sue Monahan
David S. Holloway	Deb Adkins	Larry Bohs	Suzanne Edwards
Esther Krigbaum	Debbie Kilpatrick	Laura Cox	Tim Smith
Gautam Mohapatra	Don Cecilios	Libby Webb & Gary Anders	Tracey Chipps
Kathleen and Gary Palmer	Dr. Danny K. Lloyd, DDS	Lil Fenn	Trish Harn
Rebecca and Bruce Vinson	Elizabeth Forshay	Linda Gordon	Tuck McGeehan
Great Human Race	Evelyn Sledge	Linda Magach	Wallace Burke
Alan Archibald	Gail and Tom Zavelson	Lorraine Stefanides	Wallace Burke II
Alice Lane	George and Anita Burke	Lou Ann Taylor	Wayne Hart
Amy Milswagle	George and Linda Olson	Margaret Donnelly	Wendy Olson
Andy Bingham	Gloria Pittella	Marie Burke	Yvonne Martin
Angela Campbell	Gracelyn Cromwell	Mark Sendzik	In honor of Jessica Friedman
Angie Riffle	Gregory Hicks	Meenal Patwarden	Frances B. Ryder
Angie King	Gwen Lloyd	Melissa McCullough	In honor of Sue Gidwitz and Gail Freeman
Anne Pennington	Hildegard Ryals	Michael Glenn	Sherry Samuels
	Italian Cafè	Michael Malone	In memory of Skeeter Harris
	J & J Frame Studio	Michele Dubow	Marcia Blake
	Jamie and Rob Brady	Michele Hughes	
		Michelle Burke	
		Michelle Lewis	
		Monica Miller	
		Nancy Baker	
		Nancy Pate	
		Nancy Sokal	

Kids' Korner Red Bats

By Sue Monahan

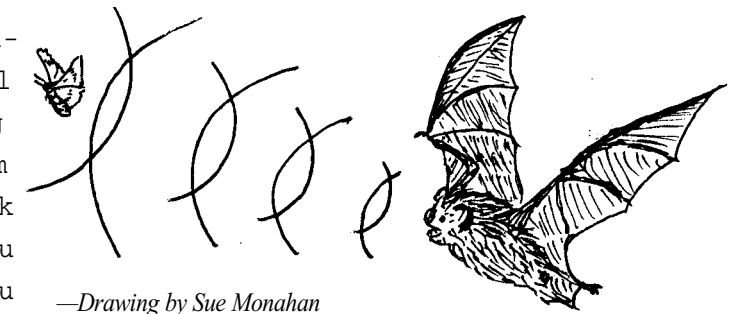
It's dusk. The sun set a little while ago. The active animals of the day are settling down to sleep. The Cardinal and Carolina wren are singing a few last songs. A hummingbird takes a sip at your feeder for energy to get him through the night. The shadows deepen. Suddenly, a dark object swoops down past a porch light and is gone!!! As you stare into the darkness, it darts by again. This time you glimpse a flash of deep orange color and long pointed wings about 11 inches wide.

You have just spotted one of our most common and beautiful bats - the fast flying, Eastern Red Bat, out on its evening hunt for insects.

Bats, like all mammals, have fur, give birth to live babies and nurse them with milk. BUT, they are the only mammals that can fly! Their scientific name is Chiroptera which means hand-wing. If you look at the bones in the wing of a bat you will see they look much like those of your own arm and hand. There is one big difference, though. A bat's fingers are almost as long as its body and have thin but tough skin, called a membrane, stretched between the bones and down the sides of the body, often including the tail. Bats can move each finger separately to change the shape of their wings. This allows them to dart, bank and zig-zag with incredible speed as they chase their insect prey.

When hunting, our bats have a special way of seeing in the night called echolocation. As they fly they send out many high-pitched beeping sounds which bounce off objects and back to their ears as echoes. These echoes tell bats the size and shape of insects and other objects, and exactly where they are. They can catch moths and flies right out of the air, all the while swooping and diving to avoid tree branches. Scientists believe that red bats even hunt on the ground for some of their food like crickets and beetles.

Many bats hang out together during the day on their roosts under tree bark or in hollow trees and caves, or even your attic, but red bats are unusual and roost alone in trees or shrubs. Mother red bats have more babies than most bats, too. They usually give birth to 2-4 hairless babies called pups in the spring and even have four nipples to nurse them all. The pups snuggle next to their mother



—Drawing by Sue Monahan

during the day with one foot on her and the other tightly holding onto the roost. When the mother goes foraging for food at night, she leaves them hanging from twigs or branches looking like dead leaves or little pine cones. They grow quickly and can fly when they are about a month old. Then they can go on hunting trips with their mother.

We don't always know what bats do in the winter. Some migrate to warmer climates, others move to caves and hibernate together. Red bats have been found hibernating in brush piles and are known to overwinter in hollow trees. They use their large, furry tail membranes like blankets and wrap themselves up almost completely. Sometimes they rouse from their deep sleep on warm winter afternoons to capture a few insects.

Bats are clean animals, washing their soft, silky fur like cats using their tongues and claws. They are very beneficial to people. Each night as they forage they eat thousands of insects. This helps keep the numbers of harmful species down, which benefits farmers' crops and helps get rid of insects, like mosquitoes, that bite people. They are indeed our friends and allies.

Scientists right here in North Carolina are studying bats in some of our state parks trying to learn more about what kinds of bats live here and how we can protect the habitat they need to hunt and find food, raise their pups and find shelter in the winter.

Like all wild animals, bats will bite to protect themselves and they sometimes carry rabies so, to be safe, never touch a bat or any other wild animal you may find.

If you want to learn more about bats, bat houses, and ways to tell people about the value of bats, go to www.batcon.org or www.natural-sciences.org/fun-stuff/faqs/bats.html

Calendar of Events

- June 7** National Trails Day. Call Adrienne at Eno River State Park at 383-1686 to volunteer.
- June 21** Hog Day, downtown Hillsborough
- mid-June** Eno River Watch monitoring. Contact Kathy Lee at 309-4830 or katgirl@employees.org for more information.
- June 28** Big Top Day. Help raise the Eno Big Top tent. Call Judy Allen at 471-5008 for more information.
- July 4, 5, 6** 24th Annual Festival for the Eno at West Point on the Eno
- Sept. 20-21** Centerfest, downtown Durham. Call 620-9099 to volunteer at the Eno exhibit.



This Eno River Association newsletter is printed on 60% recycled paper with 30% post-consumer content.

The Eno River Association is a member of Earth Share of NC. Please look for us in your workplace giving campaign.



Earth Share
OF NORTH CAROLINA

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News from the
Eno River
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