



2012 ANNUAL REPORT The Year in Review

Land Protection and Stewardship

For over 45 years, the Eno River Association has worked tirelessly to help protect the natural, cultural, and historical resources throughout the Eno River Basin. In the spirit of that tradition, we have been extremely busy over the past year as we continue to pursue land protection opportunities, develop our conservation partnerships, and work to responsibly steward the conservation lands that we already own.

Land Protection

With nearly 2,000 acres remaining to be acquired for the Eno River State Park, working to add land to the park remains our passion. At the same time we continue to work on protecting the miles of river corridor and tributary streams found upstream and downstream of the park. An example of this work was completed in March when the Association partnered with Orange County's Lands Legacy Program and the NC Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) to secure the purchase of two conservation easements on a 114-acre farm owned by Dennis and Linda Brooks of Hillsborough.

The Brooks family's easements serve the dual purpose of conserving prime farmland and protecting the quality of water in Sevenmile Creek and Rocky Run, the streams that flow through the property and into the Eno River. The farm is also located immediately upstream of Lake Ben Johnston, the Town of Hillsborough's drinking water reservoir on the Eno River. As part of the project, Mr. and Mrs. Brooks worked with NC CREP to fence cattle out of the nearly 8,000 feet of streams on the property. NC CREP and the Town of Hillsborough provided funds to reforest this buffer, along with a steep 7.5-acre field located adjacent to it. In all, approximately 17 acres have been restored to forest.

In addition to Orange County, The Town of Hillsborough, and NC CREP, the Brooks Farm project would not have been possible without the support and expertise of the Orange County Soil & Water Conservation District, the City of Raleigh, through the Upper Neuse Clean Water Initiative, the USDA Farm Service Agency, the Natural Resource Conservation Service, the NC Forest Service, the US Endowment for Forestry and Communities, and, most importantly, Mr. and Mrs. Brooks.

Stewardship

The Eno River Association's stewardship program completed its most successful year ever in 2012. A dedicated crew of volunteers helped accomplish a variety of projects, some of which broke new ground for the organization. These projects included:

- Planting of 700 native trees at the Confluence Natural Area to buffer the property’s frontage along the Eno River.
- Protection of 1100 hardwood seedlings at the Brooks conservation easement to establish forested stream buffers along Sevenmile Creek and Rocky Run, primary tributaries of the Eno River.
- Preparation and execution of the Association’s first prescribed burn, helping to promote the rare grassland plant species found at Blue Indigo Slopes Nature Preserve.
- On-going monitoring and maintenance of Eno River State Park trails through the Association’s Trail Steward Program.
- Removal of over 20,000 lbs of trash through various property clean-ups.
- Substantially reduced invasive plant cover on various ERA/partner conservation lands, allowing native flora species to reestablish in areas that have been overwhelmed by exotic species for the past 20 years.

A total of 22 stewardship workdays were held over the past year, involving 255 volunteers and approximately 800 volunteer hours. Thank you to the volunteers for doing all the dirty work and to our various conservation partners (including North Carolina State Parks, the North Carolina Plant Conservation Program, Durham County, Orange County, City of Durham) for their support.

Education and Outreach

School Collaborations

Educational outreach to schools continues year-round. In the spring Liz Stabenow, newly returned to the Eno staff as education director, worked with the Friends of State Parks to conduct lessons at Eno River State Park through a program that brought students from Lakewood Elementary School to the park to learn about landforms and ecosystems. Fourth grade classes from New Hope Elementary School visited the park for animal adaptations lessons. Both groups did a short hike and examined macroinvertebrates in the river. In the spring and fall, Liz and education volunteers met Orange County High School students in Hillsborough to sample macros and study water quality. This fall, high school students visited the Eno from Orange County to study macroinvertebrates and a visit was made to Northern High School’s Envirothon team in Durham. Plans are under way to take the team to the river, as well as to work with a group of African-American students called Young Men of Progress to take a day-long field trip at four sites along the Eno. Durham County Soil and Water Environmental Field Days brought students out to a field to learn about wildlife of the Eno for three days. Third grade students from Central Elementary in Hillsborough are planning a trip to the State Park to study plants and soils.

Activity	School/Grade	Students*	Adults*	Total*
Friends of State Parks field trips	Lakewood/5th	80	20	100
Field trip assistance /State Park	New Hope/4th	80	20	100
Classes in river at Hillsborough	Orange Co HS/12th	100	10	110
Field trip assistance /State	Woods Hole	40	10	50

Park	HS/9th			
Envirothon training	Northern HS/ various	12	1	13
Soil and Water Field Days	Various ES/3rd	300	50	350
Young Men of Progress trip	Northern HS/ various	50	10	60
Field trip assistance /State Park	Central ES/3rd	40	10	50

* attendance sheets not used at events, numbers are best head count possible **873 in 2012**

iWalk the Eno Afterschool and Summer Science & Nature Camp

In an expansion of the iWalk the Eno Science & Nature summer day camp, Liz worked with instructors and site directors of the Outdoor Science Labs in the Orange County Community Learning Centers after school programs. Lessons were conducted outdoors on school grounds with instructors each week, with a site visit to each school made by Liz to conduct water studies. 70 students and teachers from 3 elementary school participated in the program, which included a day long field trip to Eno River State Park.

iWalk the Eno Summer Camp finished its fifth year, having brought over 300 campers to the river for a week of hands-on, inquiry-based science and nature exploration and reaching an additional 1,000 parents, grandparents, and program partners involved in the program. In this fifth year the camp was open to all students in Orange and Durham County, and instituted a sliding scale fee system as a way of transitioning to the long-term financial viability of the camp. Both the camp and the afterschool expansion program continue to be supported by the Burroughs-Wellcome Fund's Student Science Enrichment Program.

Hikes and Events

New Year's Day Hike was extremely popular, with over 800 hikers out on an idyllic day. Winter hikes and spring Wildflower Hikes continued each week through May. The first annual Duncan Heron Wildflower Photography Workshop was well attended and well received. The Eno River Association Spring Picnic and Stream-In River Day brought over 100 people out into the Eno to explore the wildlife at West Point and celebrate with a picnic on the banks of the river. The first Fly Fishing on the Eno workshop was held in October for participants to learn more about the ecology and sport of fly fishing.

2012 Eno River Association Calendar: Everyone's Eno

The 2012 calendar was produced as a grassroots, community involvement project where writing, photos, and art were submitted and a calendar was produced to reflect people's love of the river. Calendars were sold in local stores, at the annual calendar celebration, and used as an outreach tool to show to sponsors, supporters, and members how much support the Association has for preserving the Eno. The 2013 calendar follows the same format and seeks to reduce printing costs and increase sales through online sales on the Eno River Association website.

Festival for the Eno

The 33rd Festival for the Eno was held July 4, 7 and 8 at Durham's West Point Park. A record-setting heat wave and temperatures above 100° each day depressed attendance, and thus Festival income, but still over 17,000 people attended the Festival. The Festival featured over 80 crafts artists from 7 states and over 85 musical or dance performances on four stages. The River area of the Festival was re-designed allowing the River Stage to be sited in the shade, which successfully encouraged larger crowds for its performances. The Festival's Trash-Free program again diverted over 95% of the Festival's waste to recycling and composting programs.

The Festival staff is currently working with an ad hoc committee to design ways to mitigate the financial risk of the Festival while ensuring that the Association continues to have a big footprint within the community, both with decision makers who need to know we are still here and paying attention, and with the general public. Additionally, the committee will work to make sure that the Festival event continues to connect people to the river and to promote the Eno River Association and its mission.

Development

Cynthia Satterfield

Database Conversion moved donor and volunteer data from old Filemaker software and individual spreadsheets to new cloud-based system

Direct mail solicitations

- Quarterly membership renewals
- Solicitation for Festival support
- Year-end appeal

Festival Sponsorships \$23,000

Fundraising Events

- Evening for the Eno at Hill House raised \$25,000
- Inaugural Eno River Run October 27, 2012

Grant Requests

- 12 Requests totaling \$378,100 for general operating support, governance, environmental education programming, stewardship, and Festival
- Awards totaling \$217,300 (SunTrust request not included in this total, but \$4,800 earned through Whole Foods 5% Day is included)

Grantor	Request	Result
Burroughs Wellcome Foundation	3 yrs. / \$180,000	\$180,000
Mary Duke Biddle Foundation	\$3,000	\$1,500
Merck Company Foundation	\$41,100	\$25,000

NC Land Trust Council	\$9,000	\$6,000
BIN Charitable Foundation	Letter of Inquiry \$10,000 - \$15,000	Pending
Biogen Idec Foundation	\$1,500	Pending
F.M. Kirby Foundation	\$25,000	Pending
SunTrust Foundation	unspecified	Pending
Z. Smith Reynolds	\$31,000	Pending
Durham Merchants Association Charitable Foundation	Fall Grant Cycle \$10,000 Spring Grant Cycle \$10,000	Pending Declined
Duke Energy Foundation	\$15,000	Declined
WalMart Foundation	\$37,500	Declined
Totals	\$378,100	\$217,300

Continuing to Do More With Less

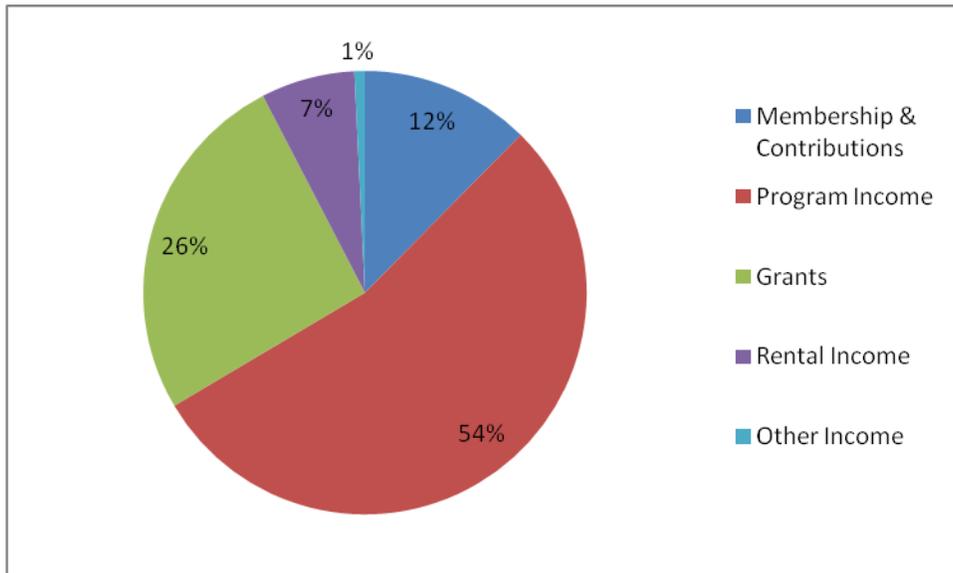
The Association, like other land conservation organizations, continues to find it necessary to work harder and more creatively to accomplish our goals of acquiring the land identified in the Master Plan for the Eno River State Park, protecting land and stream buffers upstream and downstream of the park, protecting the quality of the water in the river, and connecting people to the river so that they will care too, and work with us to do all these things. Money the state used to pay the Association to cover the cost of overhead and staffing for our work on state projects no longer exists, and state grant money formerly available to fund park and conservation projects through the Clean Water Management Trust Fund, Parks & Recreation Trust Fund, and Natural Heritage Trust Fund, has been significantly reduced.

Nevertheless, the Eno River Association has always taken the long view. After nearly 47 years spent protecting and advocating for the Eno we are not about to give up. We are still protecting land, educating the next generation of conservationists, organizing the Festival for the Eno, and staying involved in the community on issues that affect the river. One way or another we will continue to make certain that the important places along the Eno River are protected.

Our members make it all possible. You are the individuals who have engaged with others to *become* the Association. You volunteer to help put on the Festival, plant trees, and take the show on the road at events such as Durham's Centerfest and Hillsborough's Hog Day. Your membership contributions and other donations support the work of the staff and provide funds for projects. We encourage you to invite friends or lapsed members to join with us by becoming members of the Association too. It's easy to do online at www.enoriver.org, or by calling the office (620-9099 x 202). More than ever, the Association and the river need your support.

Sources of Income and Expense
Eno River Association Audit
2012 Fiscal Year

Sources of Operating Income



Operating Expense

