Protecting the Eno: Water main breaks at the river
Kurt Schlimme, Director of Conservation

On October 11, a treated water main broke immediately adjacent to the Association’s Coulter Conservation Area at the bank of the Eno River. The spill, which occurred on land owned by the City of Durham, released a large chunk of the bank into the river along with some old fill material (wood and rock) that had been used when the pipe was installed back in the 1920s. Luckily the City was able to locate the break quickly, causing only a brief interruption in the City’s water supply. The Association called the North Carolina Division of Water Quality after the break occurred to notify them of the event. DWQ personnel showed up at the site the next morning and worked with City personnel to erect a check dam and silt fencing designed to limit any additional sedimentation into the river. To assist with repairs, the Association granted the City’s contractor and personnel access to the break site through the Coulter property via the old nursery roads on the property.

As repairs progressed, Association staff checked in daily to ensure that appropriate steps were taken in the re-stabilization of the bank following water main break.
A t this time of year it's natural to look back on our accomplishments and look forward to new goals and opportunities. 2011 has been an outstanding year for the Eno River Association. It started with the donation by the Link family of a small tract of land that had a big impact, making it possible to complete an entire section of the Mountains-to-Sea Trail. In May a purchase from the Scarlett family completed a twelve-year effort to close a gap in the middle of the Eno River State Park known as the “Missing Link.” Volunteers spent hundreds of hours removing invasive plants, building trails and putting on a fantastic Festival for the Eno. iWalk the Eno summer camp, Eno hikes, and other fun events got people out and connected with the river.

Looking toward 2012, we are excited about getting our new volunteer trail steward program off and running in the Eno River State Park, expanding the iWalk camp, and completing new land protection projects. We're also looking forward to new hikes and new events, and to hearing your stories at the Everyone's Eno StorySLAM.

Your support of the Eno River Association makes all these things possible. Please consider making a special year-end contribution that will help safeguard the river and the parks for our kids and their kids.

Thank you. Best wishes for the holidays and new year!

Stories about Life along the River

O n the Dunnagan Trail in the Eno River State Park, hikers encounter a small graveyard, and it frequently piques the interest of the curious. Many wonder as they walk past the small family cemetery on their way to the river: Who was Catharine Dunnagan? Go to enoriver.org and click on the Eno River link to find cultural history information and a new article by David Southern and Denny O’Neal about Catharine Dunnagan. Also be sure to hike the Dunnagan Trail in the Eno River State Park to visit sites highlighted in the story.

Email your stories, memories and questions about life along the Eno to association@enoriver.org and look for future articles here and online at enoriver.org
(Main, from page 1) riverbank. Repair activities were completed on October 19, with a new junction and shut-off valve installed, the bank stabilized with ground filter cloth and rip rap, the site cleaned up, and old fill materials removed from the river. Thank you to the City of Durham and its contractors for a speedy, safe, and thorough repair process and to DWQ for helping to maintain the continued protection of the river.

Sediment and fill material deposited into the Eno River.

View of Eno River where fill material was removed.

Check dam and silt fencing installation to prevent additional sedimentation into the Eno River.

Ambystoma maculatum
Jennifer Armstrong

Update: Eno River State Park Trail Stewards Program
Kurt Schlimme, Director of Conservation

On October 22, the inaugural meeting for the Eno River State Park (ERSP) Trail Stewards Program took place at the Few’s Ford Picnic Shelter. The meeting was well attended by 25 prospective trail stewards taking their morning and part of the afternoon to learn about the new program under the leadership of Kurt Schlimme, Director of Conservation in partnership with ERSP staff. With guidance from park Superintendent Keith Nealson and Ranger Amy Duggins, the volunteers learned the tools and techniques of the trail steward while doing light maintenance along the trails at the Cabe Lands.

Significant State budget cuts have resulted in the reduction of Park staff, limiting the amount of time available to perform trail monitoring along more than 24 miles of trail in ERSP. Thanks to the enthusiasm of these volunteers, we now have 25 trail stewards who can supply much needed help. If you are interested in participating in the next trail steward training day, please email kurt@enoriver.org to sign up.
I often walk through the woods and along the banks of the Eno to get to work, finding inspiration, beauty, and sometimes adventure along the way. My notebook fills with poems or seasonal observations of plants and wildlife as they live their lives. I do tai chi or yoga exercises along the way, and I sit on a rock in the river and become part of a moving meditation with the water. Picking the native persimmons from a tree that hangs over the river (wading in sometimes to get the ones that fall beyond my reach) makes the persimmon pudding all the sweeter by the effort involved! Through these experiences I have come to know the river as my teacher and mentor. The moment when I see this same awakening in the eyes of a student is the greatest gift I have ever received as an environmental educator, when the most fearful or disinterested child finds joy and wonder within easy reach—just outside the door.”*

The river as our teacher is really what the *iWalk the Eno* camp is all about. Over the past four years we have learned a lot together. The staff has grown with the program and learned how to go with the flow (and I mean that literally!) while still providing high-quality educational programming. Our free flowing time each day is designed to balance structured modules such as native tree identification and aquatic life studies with the pure experience of unstructured exploration, where there are no wrong answers because there are no wrong questions.

Elsewhere in this newsletter you will read the good news about new funding that will enable us to expand *iWalk the Eno* in 2012, with plans to offer more weeks and to more schools. Special thanks to the Eno River State Park Rangers and Superintendent Keith Nealson for their support—we couldn’t do it without you!

*from 2012 Everyone’s Eno calendar

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*Top: Critter catching during Free Flowing time*

*Above: Learning about watersheds and pollution awareness*

*Left: Canoe explorations at West Point on the Eno*

*All photos: iWalk staff*
"S
ince its inaugural summer in 2008, the
Association’s iWalk the Eno Science and Nature
Camp has used the Eno River parklands to
introduce nearly 250 rising sixth graders to the basic
concepts of environmental science.
As hoped, the program has not only prepared
iWalk kids for the North Carolina Middle School
Curriculum, it has also sparked further interest in
outdoor exploration. For those with limited exposure
to the wild outdoors, it has made nature more
accessible and less intimidating—a great outcome in
today’s TV/video-centric world.
That’s why we are so excited to report that this fall
GlaxoSmithKline and the Duke Energy Foundation
awarded direct support for the camp to the Eno River
Association. These grants will allow us to offer the
camp to more children in the watershed, continue to
provide scholarships to those who participate in the
USDA Free and Reduced Lunch Program, and support
former campers who want to return in their middle-
and high-school years as Junior Counselors.
“Many kids in our community simply don’t have
access to the kind of camp experience iWalk the Eno
provides,” says Kathy Lee, the Director of Education
for the Association.
“Especially a camp like this, which
emphasizes outdoor play
along with curriculum-
based learning.

GlaxoSmithKline and the Duke Energy Foundation are
helping us connect these children and their families to
the Eno River and the wonders of the natural world right
here at home.”
Through iWalk the Eno, the Association hopes to
reach and mentor children as future environmental

Give ERA a Year-End Boost
H
ave you made your list and checked it
twice? Was Eno on there? November and
December offer donors one last opportunity to
make a charitable gift before the end of the tax
year. These gifts also give Eno River Association
a much-needed boost at the end of our fiscal year.
Cash, stocks, in-kind, and other gifts—designated
to a specific fund or undesignated—are welcome.
Not sure? Give us a call at 919-620-9099 x201
(Cynthia) or x202 (Robin). We’ll help you work
out the details!
Eno Hikes - Learn about local history, geology, flora and more!
Each Sunday afternoon at 2pm

Visit enoriver.org for additional information (length of hike, difficulty) and to confirm the meeting location for each hike.

January 1 – Eno River State Park, Few’s Ford Access
New Year’s Day Hike
Join the tradition as we gather with hundreds of Eno friends of all ages to start the New Year hiking along the trails on the Eno River! Hikes of varying lengths are offered. Hot chocolate and snacks will be served after the hike.

January 8 – Eno River State Park, Pleasant Green Access
Eno Steam Station history
Former park ranger Christopher Ammon will introduce you to the hidden history of the Southern Power Company. Learn about the steam station and small community that used to exist in this portion of the river on Pleasant Green Road.

January 29 – Eno River State Park, Few’s Ford Access
Fanny’s Ford and the Road to Holden Mill
This first hike in our Holden Mill series led by Joe Liles will introduce you to the history of this section of the river and show you signs of previous land use right beneath your feet. You will look for evidence of a ford across the river to the east bank and site of the Holden Mill site ruins.

February 5 – Eno River State Park, Few’s Ford Access
Holden’s Mill Trail
The second hike introducing you to the history of Holden Mill. Visit the remnants of the mill with hike leaders Don Kritsch and Barabara Baker and enjoy the added bonus of lovely river views and rocky rapids along the way.

February 12 – Eno River State Park, Cabelands Access
Fish Dam Road and Cabe Mill History Hike
Eno board member Joe Liles will take you on a hike along the remnants of the historic Fish Dam Road, an important trading path between two Indian villages—one on the Neuse River and one on the Eno.

February 19 – West Point on the Eno, Durham City Park
Reading the Rocks: A Geology Hike
NEW HIKE! Phil Bradley with the NC Geologic Survey literally wrote the book on Eno geology. His 2007 publication—A Geologic Adventure Along the Eno River—will be brought to life on this new hike at West Point on the Eno.

February 26 – Eno River State Park, Pump Station Access
History of the Eno River Pump Station
Join historian and storyteller Wayne Poole on this popular hike exploring the ruins and surroundings of Durham’s first public water supply built in the late 1800s. The history will unfold through stories and exploration of the many ruins that are still visible.

March 4 – Source of the Eno
The Eno River begins in many places where spring water reaches the surface, eventually gathering with other streams to become the main channel of the river. Join Riverdave on a hike that will take you to one such place where the waters of the Eno begin.

TRAVELING Ts

News flash: Eno mayfly spotted in New Zealand! Laura Benedict, Eno supporter and former board member, spent 2010 working and traveling around New Zealand with her husband, John Morris, and their daughters Claire and Eleanor. This picture was taken on the Interislander Ferry travelling across the Cook Strait, which links the north and south islands. During their time in NZ the Benedict-Morris family enjoyed hiking (known as tramping), biking and exploring the cultural history of NZ—much like they do right here at home along the Eno!

Where has your Eno T been lately? Send your photo and story to kathy@enoriver.org
Eno Holiday Shopping

8th Annual Members Only Sale
50% off Eno art prints and posters and discounts on all Eno t-shirts

We can help you put together a custom gift package for everyone on your holiday giving list including the 2012 Everyone's Eno calendar, map bandanas, mugs, and don't forget a gift membership! Look for your email invitation to the sale and follow these three easy steps:

Step 1 – Use the email order form to find the perfect Eno gift for everyone on your list.
Step 2 – Place your order via email or call Greg at x203.
Step 3 – Pick up your order at our office on Dec 14 and 15 (cash, check, Visa or Mastercard).

That's it! We encourage pre-ordering for the best selection, but you can shop in person as well. It's a win-win-win deal. You save money on your holiday shopping during the members only sale; folks on your gift-giving list will love knowing that your gift helps protect land and water quality; and the Eno River wins because your financial support helps us do exactly that!

If you are not currently a member you can join the Association using the form in this newsletter, online at www.enoriver.org, or in person during the member sale.

* If these dates don't work for you, let us know. We will do our best to make other arrangements.

Everyone’s Eno StorySLAM

Call for Submissions

Yes! We’re teaming up with Jeff Polish of The Monti to present an Eno StorySLAM. If you have a personal river, park, Festival, or other Eno story to tell, we want to hear about it. It can be fully developed or just a basic outline (but no more than 500 words, please). The Association will choose eight raconteurs to work with Jeff to present a five-minute story to a live audience of Eno fans.

Email your Eno story by January 15 to stories@enoriver.org or fax 919-477-0448

The Eno StorySLAM will be non-competitive and open to the public. Please check enoriver.org for date and location information. Tickets sold for the event will raise money for the Eno River Association.

2012 Everyone’s Eno Calendar on Sale

The 2012 Eno calendar is about you, it’s about me, and it’s about everyone who had a story to tell and a memory to share about the Eno River. It has taken a community of people caring about the river to accomplish everything that we have over the past 45 years including almost 6,000 acres of protected land, thirty-two Festivals for the Eno, numerous journals, and this, our 41st edition of the Eno calendar. The images and writing were selected from submissions made during our calendar contest in early 2011. We are confident that you will love looking at each page of this calendar and reading the stories and poems each month throughout the coming year.

Everyone’s Eno 2012 Calendar

Eno Geology Guide

Buy the book or visit the website

A Geologic Adventure Along the Eno River by Phil Bradley with the NC Geologic Survey is now available online. This guide provides hikers with stories about the formation of the rocks beneath their feet, including volcanic activity and dinosaurs roaming the Eno during the Triassic period. But it’s also a trail guide complete with images of the rocks you will see on selected trails along the river. The book is also available for purchase at the Eno office and makes a great gift for families that enjoy hiking and learning together!

www.ncgeology.com/NC_Parks_Geology/pages/geology_nc_parks.html

Wish List

Call us if you have something looking for a good home. You just never know when our wishes and your goods looking for a new home will magically align! Email association@enoriver.org or call 919-620-9099.
CONTRIBUTORS TO THE ENO RIVER ASSOCIATION

Every attempt is made to ensure accuracy when acknowledging donors.
We appreciate your notifying us of any errors.

The Wildflower Society
(Contributions of $500 and above from January – November 2011)

We thank the following donors for their financial leadership and extraordinary commitment to protecting the Eno

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Thanks to all of our other contributors and volunteers
(Contributions from May – November 30, 2011)

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In Memory…

David Page was a longtime board member and edited several of our annual calendars. His long work restoring and cataloging the Hugh Mangum photography collection and museum is a lasting treasure that grew out of his dedication to the Eno. An accomplished photographer himself, his images are much in use for the Eno; ranging from our Facebook profile pic, to the illustrative photo of a piedmont region river at the NC Aquarium at Pine Knoll Shores.

A self-taught photographer, James Hill shot every Eno Fest from 2000–2010 and produced some of the Festival’s most iconic images of kids, performers and just plain folks.

Sculptor and iconoclast Daniel Mathewson never stopped tinkering, or talking. His larger-than-life sculptures matched his larger-than-life personality. The full-scale metal dinosaurs that he brought to the Festival were always a crowd favorite, and his warmth and generosity made any visit to his booth a memorable occasion.

Marion Douglas Sands was born in 1915 in the house her grandparents built within a half-mile of the Eno River. Marion grew up surrounded by what is now Eno River State park and her involvement in the Eno River Association goes back to its very founding in the 1960s. Her stories of Fish Dam Road, and even of reconstruction and the Civil War in Orange County, as recounted by her elders, are as irreplaceable as her irascible wit and love for all things Eno.
Eno River Association Membership

Join us! We are always in need of members who want to help protect the nature, culture, and history of the Eno River. If you are not a member, why not join today? If you have already paid your dues, share your love of the Eno with a friend or family member and encourage them to join the Eno River Association. Memberships also make great gifts!

The Eno River Association’s newsletter, Eno River Currents, is also available online at our website, www.enoriver.org. If you would like to receive the newsletter electronically instead of (or in addition to) the paper edition, please call 919-620-9099 or email: association@enoriver.org

We are proud to be a member of...

Eno River Association Membership Form

Clip and Mail to: 4404 Guess Road, Durham, NC 27712 or join online at www.enoriver.org

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We do not share our email list.

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Eno River Association

Membership Form

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