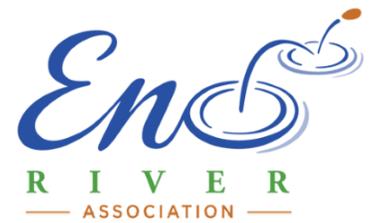


*Our Mission: to conserve and protect
the natural, historical and cultural resources
of the Eno River basin.*



**ENO RIVER ASSOCIATION
ANNUAL REPORT
DECEMBER 1, 2019 – DECEMBER 1, 2020**

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Land Protection and Stewardship

Land Protection

Over the last 54 years, the Eno River Association has played a direct part in the protection of 7,481 acres of land in the Eno River Basin, made possible by the generosity of our donors, the goodwill of our conservation partners, and interest from conservation-minded landowners.

Three projects have been completed since the last annual meeting. In partnership with Orange County, we protected 96 acres of agricultural land with two perpetual working lands conservation easements. The easements protect 1,000 ft of frontage along tributaries to the Eno River. One of the easements is located near Eno River State Park and will not only protect water quality but will further protect a farm listed on the National Register of Historic Places that contains a well preserved, rare Reconstruction-period I-house (circa 1873) and a large intact grouping of agricultural outbuildings. The other farm is adjacent to our Lick Creek Conservation Easement and will provide additional protection to a major headwater stream to the East Fork Eno River and Lake Orange, a drinking water reservoir for the Town of Hillsborough.

In November, we accepted the donation of a nine-acre conservation easement adjacent to Eno River State Park. This easement protects 1,700 ft of frontage along Nancy Rhodes Creek and its tributaries. This easement is located just 1,500 ft upstream of the Eno River and is part of the Middle Eno River Bluffs and Slopes Natural Area identified by the NC Natural Heritage Program. It also contains former structures from the historic Rivermont Carbonated Water company.

We expect closings on multiple projects in 2021. We are currently working with a few landowners that would like to sell their land to be included in Eno River State Park, as well as the area along the Eno River between the Confluence Natural Area and the town of Hillsborough.

Stewardship

The Eno River Association has maintained strong land stewardship efforts over the past year despite the Covid-19 pandemic. The majority of our stewardship work was focused on maintaining the fields and trails at the Confluence Natural Area, after we expanded the hours to seven-days a week from dawn until dusk in response to the demand for outdoor space. Our large-group stewardship volunteer workdays were canceled in March due to Covid. However, prior to the shutdown we held three stewardship workdays involving 32 volunteers and 96 volunteer hours. We also held five, small, social-distanced workdays in the fall and winter involving 7 volunteers and 261 volunteer hours. These workdays involved a variety of activities, including working with the City of Durham to reroute trails and improve access to West Point on the Eno City Park, removing invasive species and litter, and trail maintenance along the NC Mountains-to-Sea Trail.

In addition to our regular workdays, volunteers participated in the Eno River Trail Stewards Program. This program assigns volunteers to specific trails within the Eno River State Park and West Point on the Eno to perform regular monitoring and maintenance. Additionally, many volunteers participated in DIY trash pickup in the parks along the Eno River.

We send a BIG thank-you to the volunteers who donated their time to help in all of these endeavors, as well as to our various conservation partners including the staff at Eno River State Park, the Friends of the Mountains-to-Sea Trail, the North Carolina Plant Conservation Program, North Carolina Botanical Garden, Orange and Durham counties, City of Durham, Burt's Bees Rotary Club of Durham, and BioMerieux.

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Eno Education

Personnel

Dave Cook was our Education and Outreach Coordinator, working 30 hours a week. A recent UNC-Wilmington graduate, Catherine Cole, was our Education Intern this summer. She worked with us from May until August, for total of 480 hours. Antonia Brown began at Eno full-time in September; she is our NC Resilience Corps Member Environmental Educator, an AmeriCorps program.

School Collaboration

Educational outreach to schools was discontinued due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Association staff and volunteers worked with high school students from the NC School of Science and Math (NCSSM) and Riverside High School Engineering Students to do a Martin Luther King, Jr. day-of-service trail and invasive plant species workday, and two tree planting workdays.

Stream-In

Stream-In was cancelled due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

Other Programs

Despite the pandemic, the Association expanded our public-offered programs. Safety measures including face masks, social distancing, hosting the programs outdoors, and keeping to small groups was necessary. Themes included Eco-Explore, wildlife, water quality, wildflowers, trees, Project Wild, general Eno Education, and stargazing for a total of 22 programs. Staff and volunteers led four exploration hikes and a ZOOM program called Ribbons of Color, for silent auction and sustainer raffle winners. At the drive-thru HallowEno event at West Point on the Eno City Park, Antonia gave out Eno wildlife coloring kits thanks to our partnership with local artist and Eno board member, Joe Liles.

Videos

Education staff and volunteers produced 7 on-line Eno nature and history videos that have been viewed 3,385 times on our YouTube page. We also produced an Eno Kayaking video for the One Eno event this summer.

iWalk Nature Summer Camp

iWalk the Eno was cancelled due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

Eno River Field Station

Eno River Field Station was held at the Confluence Natural Area over 5 days in July. In order to proceed safely during the pandemic, face masks were required, the three learning groups were separated, additional equipment and supplies were bought to reduce sharing, cleaning was enhanced, and everyone was kept outdoors. 29 students, ages 12-15, received 5 days and 1 night of intense environmental and earth science and managed to squeeze in some fun as well!

Two Association staff, three local science teachers, and several Association volunteers led the programs. Each day, guest educators specializing in a variety of fields conducted activities with the students; our volunteer teachers supplemented these activities with planned educational exercises. Agencies participating were: NC Division of Parks and Recreation, NC Geological Survey, NC Museum of Natural Sciences, Duke University, NC Herpetological Society, NC Climate Office, Nature Serve, NC Wildlife Resources Commission, UNC-Chapel Hill, NC Zoo, UNC-Greensboro, and Greensboro Science Center. ERA Land and Stewardship Director Kim Livingston led the students in privet removal. On their final day Field Station canoed the lower Eno to the confluence with the Flat River.

Populations Served

Considerable effort is given to include students at camp from populations underrepresented in science and conservation fields. 21% of the students identify themselves from racial or ethnic minorities. By meeting federal poverty guidelines, four (4) campers received full scholarships.

Burroughs-Welcome Fund Grant

2020 is the final year of our current BWF Student STEM Enrichment Program funding. We were prepared to re-apply for another 3 year cycle when BWF suspended all grants applications so they could focus on supporting their current grantees logistically through the time of pandemic. This means it will be 2021 before we can re-apply for funding for 2022. We have not yet secured the dedicated funds to support our upcoming 2021 camps.

Duke Energy Grant

We received a \$15,000 education grant from Duke Energy in 2020. Thank you Duke Energy!

Hikes Series

New Year's Day Hike was a success this year, with 695 hikers participating in a short- or long-hike at Few's Ford in Eno River State Park. This was our 50th hike of the New Year on the Eno! 11 winter and spring hikes with a total of 298 hikers continued every Sunday until Covid-19 shut us down mid-March.

EEK at the Festival for the Eno

EEEEK, along with the Festival for the Eno, was cancelled due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

Assistance to Other Educational Entities

The Eno River Association is very fortunate to have a great stock of educational equipment and materials, thanks to generous financial grants. When not in use, we make some of it available to other educational entities. With schools not meeting in person there was less demand, and our only loan was for a dissolved oxygen meter for a school virtual class.

Eno River Association Calendar

The 2021 *Reflections on the Eno* Eno River calendar (our 50th) went on sale in November. It features photography of water reflections, and essays from past and present Eno characters reflecting on meaning and memories of the river. It is available at 12 outlets and the Association on-line store.

Attendance

Activity	Participants	Youth*	Adults*	Total*
Youth Workdays	NC School of Science & Riverside High School	61	7	68
Nature Hikes & Programs	General Public	77	222	299
School Programs – Outreach & Field Trips	None	0	0	0
Environmental Ed @ Events (non-festival)	HallowEno	240	0	240
Stream-In	Cancelled	0	0	0
Totals November 30, 2020*		378	229	607
Totals November 30, 2019*		789	567	1356

* attendance sheets not used at all events, most numbers are head count

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Festival for the Eno

In lieu of our traditional “Festival for the Eno” at West Point Park on Independence Day weekend we held a “One Eno” event, without a live audience, at the Carolina Theatre on the evening of July 3, 2020.

“One Eno” was hosted by Joe Newberry, a musician well-known to Eno audiences and a frequent guest on NPR’s *Prairie Home Companion*. The broadcast featured live musical performances, interspersed with recorded performances and documentary footage highlighting our local culture, history, and nature.

Concurrently, our Festival website featured local crafts resources: artists, galleries, demonstrations, and classes which were highlighted via the broadcast. Similar efforts were made regarding local restaurants and food-ways, and the content was organized along a Festival theme: “Makers’ Fair”, “Food Court”, etc.

The broadcast event was the central component of our activities that weekend. Other activities included on-going streaming of “Best of the Festival for the Eno” audio recordings from the Southern Folklife Collection archives, social media submission campaigns, and a t-shirt sale in the plaza outside the Carolina Theatre from which we were broadcasting. The broadcast was streamed live via YouTube, Facebook, and Twitch, and rebroadcast the following night. The YouTube stream was embedded in the Festival website at www.EnoFest.org.

The event was produced in association with the NC Art’s Council’s “Come Hear NC” Project, with additional assistance from Pine Cone, the NC Folklife Institute, and the NC Department of Natural and Cultural Resources, who provided a film crew and technical assistance. The Carolina Theatre donated the use of their space, asking only that we pay the cost of their technical personnel.

These activities allowed us, in partnership with the fundraising committee, to activate a robust and upbeat fundraising campaign. Specifically, the Fundraising committee assisted with an online Silent Auction. While several of our regular sponsors had intended to “sit this year out” following the cancellation announcement, we reengaged them around this new event idea. One Eno mitigated our anticipated losses stemming from the cancellation of The Festival for the Eno.

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Financial Report

Eno River Association assets as of December 31, 2019, the date of our most recent audit, are shown below. Cash consists of funds held in our operating bank account on that date. Investments include other funds, both restricted to particular purposes, and unrestricted. Since we are a non-profit organization, we are entitled to request reimbursement of sales tax we pay when we make purchases. This is what is represented by "sales tax receivable." Note: this does not exempt us from the obligation to collect and remit sales tax on things we sell to others, such as calendars and event tickets. Grant receivable are grants that have been awarded, but for which funds have not yet been received.

Current Assets

Cash	\$105,032
Investments	\$695,791
Grants Receivable	\$1,000
Sales Tax Receivable	\$1,999
Prepaid Expenses	45,818
Total Current Assets	\$809,640

Property and Equipment – fixed assets

Land	\$7,537,888
Buildings and Improvements – office and rentals	\$930,323
Equipment	\$34,852
Vehicles	\$15,021
(Subtract Accumulated Depreciation	\$466,020)
Net Property and Equipment – fixed assets	\$8,052,064

TOTAL ASSETS **\$8,861,704**

LIABILITIES

The Association's liabilities as of December 31, 2019 are shown below. Accounts, payroll and taxes payable include unpaid salaries and other bills and obligations which have accrued, but have not yet been paid. Sales Tax Payable is sales tax we have collected on sales of items such as calendars, that is due and payable in the next fiscal quarter.

Current Liabilities

Accounts Payable \$12,515

Accrued Payroll and Taxes Payable \$18

Sales Tax Payable \$487

No Long-Term Liabilities

Total Liabilities \$13,020

NET ASSETS & LIABILITIES

Included in the current assets listed above are certain restricted funds which contain money which must be used for specific purposes, as shown below. Temporarily restricted assets are grant funds already received but designated for use in specific programs.

The value of restricted funds, together with our total liabilities, make up our total restricted assets and liabilities. All other assets are our unrestricted net assets. Added together, restricted assets and liabilities, and unrestricted assets total the same as our total assets shown above (**\$8,861,704**).

Total Liabilities \$13,020

Restricted Assets

Stewardship Fund \$327,927

Margaret C. Nygard Land Acquisition Fund \$47,325

Allen Lloyd Fund for Protection of Upper Eno \$1,670

Confluence Fund \$2,664

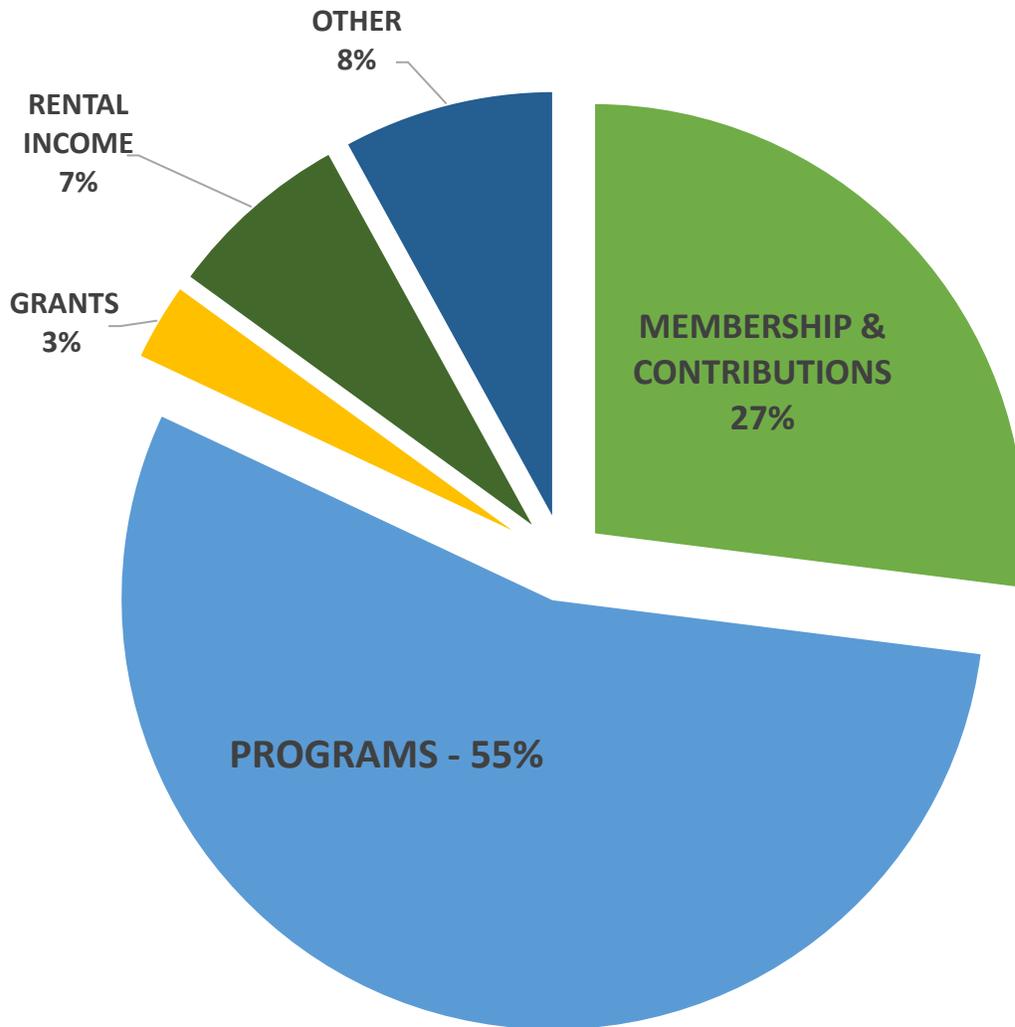
Temporarily Restricted Grant Funds \$50,000 (education)

Total Restricted Assets & Liabilities \$442,606

Total Unrestricted Assets \$8,419,098

TOTAL ASSETS AND LIABILITIES \$8,861,704

2019 Income Sources



2019 Expenses

