



**ENO RIVER ASSOCIATION
Annual Meeting Report
December 1, 2018 – December 1, 2019**



Land Protection and Stewardship

Kim Livingston, Director of Conservation and Stewardship

Land Protection

Over the last 53 years, the Eno River Association has played a direct part in the protection of 7,377 acres of land in the Eno River Basin, made possible by the generosity of our donors, the good will of our conservation partners, and interest from conservation-minded landowners.

One project has been completed since the last annual meeting. In March 2019, in partnership with Orange County, we protected 77 acres of forestland with a perpetual conservation easement. The easement protects 3,300 ft of frontage along the North Fork Little River as well as 2,300 ft of frontage along the Tapley Creek tributary. This was the first project funded through Durham's Watershed Protection Program.

We are in the final stages of two working lands conservation easement projects, one of which will close in December and the other in January. These two easements total 95 acres and are in the Upper Eno watershed. One farm property 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.

We also expect closings on multiple projects in 2020. We are currently working with a couple of landowners that would like to sell their land to be included in Eno River State Park as well as the Confluence Natural Area.

Stewardship

The Eno River Association is excited to have Tom Davis join us as the Stewardship Associate to lead stewardship workdays and conduct annual monitoring.

The Eno River Association has maintained strong land stewardship efforts over the past year. A total of 25 stewardship workdays have been held in 2019, involving nearly 500 volunteers and 1,400 volunteer hours. These workdays involved a variety of activities, including working with the Town of Hillsborough on a reforestation project, planting a pollinator garden at the Confluence Natural Area, removing invasive species and litter, and trail maintenance along the NC Mountains-to-Sea Trail. The largest contribution to our stewardship efforts this year was partnering in the Burt's Bees for their 2019 Culture Day event. This event brought 100 volunteers to the Confluence Nature Area, 40 volunteers to the Penny's Bend area, 40 volunteers to West Point on the Eno, and 40 volunteers to Eno River State Park.

In addition to our regular workday volunteers, 75+ additional 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.

A big thank you goes out to the volunteers who gave up 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, Town of Hillsborough, Burt's Bees and BioMerieux.



Eno Education

Dave Cook, Education and Outreach Coordinator

Personnel

Dave Cook was our Education and Outreach Coordinator, part time 24 hours a week. NCSU student Whitney Rush was our Education Intern May– July. Americorps volunteer Claire Denny began in September with duties in part including Environmental Education.

School Collaboration

Educational outreach to schools continues from elementary to high school. Education 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 workday and a fall trail workday. Education staff and volunteers led programs at three Durham elementary schools led nature hikes at the HUB farm, Science Night at the Expedition charter school, Durham County Envirothon, aquatic macroinvertebrates for Orange County and

Durham AP Environmental Science classes, and three field days at West Point for schools hosted by the National Parks Trust.

Stream-In

Stream-In was held in September at Fews Ford. Volunteers and staff invited the public to net aquatic macroinvertebrates, do candid critter mammal identification, make Eno River bead bracelets, provided Eno River information, and gave away popsicles and bottle water.

Other Programs

Staff and volunteers also led programs and hikes for the public and groups in water quality, community tabling events, canoe hike, Eno history, and general nature.

Activity	Participants	Youth*	Adults*	Total*
Youth Workdays	NC School of Science & Riverside High School	37	4	41
Nature Hikes & Programs	General Public	54	318	372
School Programs – Outreach & On-Site	Durham & Orange Public and Charter Schools	934	79	1013
Stream-In	General Public	35	33	68
Totals November 30, 2018*		1060	434	1494
Totals November 30, 2017*		854	375	1229

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

iWalk Nature Summer Camp

iWalk the Eno Summer Science and Nature Day Camp finished its eleventh year, with two weeks of camp that brought 109 campers ages 8-12 to the river for a week of hands-on, inquiry-based science and nature exploration. This is up from 82 the year before. Ten junior mentors and mentors from middle and high school participated in the camp program, gaining valuable knowledge of the Eno and skills in mentoring young scientists. 6 school teachers, 2 Association staff, and a host of Association volunteers staffed the camp.

Eno River Field Station

The first ever Eno River Field Station was held at the Confluence Natural Area, July of 2018. 42 students ages 12-15, received 5 days and 1 night of intense environmental science and managed to squeeze in some fun as well. Two Association staff, three local science teachers, and several Association volunteers led the students. Each day guest educators specializing in a variety of fields conducted activities with the students and teachers supplemented 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, and the US Fish and Wildlife Service. ERA Land and Stewardship Coordinator Stephanie Panlasigui led the students in pollinator garden construction. 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. 41% of the students identify themselves from racial or ethnic minorities. By meeting federal poverty guidelines 38% received full scholarships and 4% received partial scholarships. We were able to provide a sign-language interpreter for one deaf child. Thanks to the Dickinson gift three students from the Governor Morehead School for the Blind participated with the help of specialized guides.

Burroughs-Welcome Fund Grant

In September 2016 the Association was informed that we will receive \$60,000 a year for the following 3 years to operate iWalk and Field Station. These grants should fund both camps through 2020.

Hikes and Events

New Year's Day Hike was a success this year, with 354 hikers participating in a short or long hike at Few's Ford in Eno River State Park despite bitter cold. 20 winter and spring hikes continued every Sunday through Mother's Day with 333 hikers.

EEK at the Festival for the Eno

The Eno Education for Kids area was hopping throughout each day of the Festival. Our tents had a steady stream of Festival-goers both days of the event visiting the aquatic creatures in our habitat trough, making plaster cast animal tracks, making Eno River Bead bracelets, and challenging the Gray Fox Trail. In the river, volunteers staffed a tent where Festival-goers could borrow a net and catch a river critters while learning more about the Eno's excellent water quality.

Assistance to Other Educational Entities

The Eno River Association is blessed with educational equipment and materials thanks to generous financial grants. When not in use we make some of it available to other educational entities. In 2018 we loaned educational equipment and materials to 3 public schools and the Ellerbe Creek Watershed Association. We donated unneeded taxidermy mounts to a charter school science program.

2019 Eno River Association Calendar

The 2019 *Relics of Those Who Came Before* Eno River calendar (our 48th calendar) went on sale in November. It features photography and stories of the things early people on the Eno left behind.

Festival for the Eno
Greg Bell, Festival Director

The 39th annual Festival for the Eno was held Wednesday July 4th and Saturday, July 7th at West Point on the Eno Durham City Park. The weather was on the 7th was some of the rainiest in memory, with darks skies and rain persisting into early afternoon, which limited attendance substantially. Thankfully the strategies of increasing off site revenue through advanced ticket sales and sponsorships have been successful and, due to record sale of both advanced tickets and sponsorships, the Festival was profitable, even with the “slow” day. In particular we were glad to have the support of North Coast Brewing, with whom we have entered into a four-year sponsorship agreement, for the Festival as well as some of other events.

The River area continued to be inaccessible to vehicles due to damage from flooding and sinkholes but the stages were carried by hand across the wooden pedestrian bridge. We hope Durham may repair the park prior to the 2019 Festival, but this solution was workable if the park road is still impassable. The number of stages was expanded back to five this year, with the reintroduction of the Otter Stage near the small picnic shelter. This stage was staffed and booked entirely by the NC Songwriters Coop at no cost to the E.R.A. The small shelter was the home of the newly expanded Fiber Arts Demo are, in which people could experience hands on demonstration of carding, spinning, weaving, sewing and other fiber techniques. These demonstrations are made possible by the generosity for the Durham Arts Council.

We again used the Splinter Group to develop the Festival logo and collaterals. The marketing and visual branding was widely complimented seemed to have contributed greatly to the record number of advance tickets sold and very strong tee shirt sales.

The Festival featured a very diverse and eclectic musical lineup of over 80 bands on 5 stages, more than 80 regional crafts artists, and participation from over 35 non-profit and governmental agencies. Our Trash Free program continues to innovate and improve, reducing by 97% the volume of landfill-bound waste.

Thanks to the generosity of Nan Baker and Bob Dietrich and their friends, the Festival was able to purchase a new temporary office trailer to replace the almost 50-year-old house trailer, which was full of mold and structurally unsound. Thanks to Nan for spearheading this project!

The 2019 Festival, our 40th, will be on Thursday and Saturday, July 4 and 6. We look forwarding to celebrating this milestone year with events around the triangle prior to the Festival, and with a stellar musical lineup, including some favorites from years past.

Financial Report

December 31, 2018 Audited Finances

Eno River Association assets as of December 31, 2018, 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". (This does not exempt us from the obligation to collect and remit sales tax on things we sell to others, such as Eno calendars and Festival tickets.) Grants receivable are grants that have been awarded but for which funds had not yet been received.

Current Assets

Cash	\$ 637,539
Investments	340,210
Grants Receivable	7,915
Sales Tax Receivable	2,698
Prepaid Expenses	<u>6,772</u>
Total Current Assets	\$ 995,134

Property & Equipment (Fixed Assets)

Land	\$ 7,204,106
Buildings & Improvements (Office/Rental)	927,880
Equipment	28,808
Vehicles	<u>15,021</u>
Total	\$ 8,175,815
Less Accumulated Depreciation	<u>- 434,973</u>
Net Property & Equipment	\$7,740,842

TOTAL ASSETS **\$ 8,735,976**

LIABILITIES

The Association's liabilities as of December 31 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 had collected on sales of items such as calendars that was due and payable in the next fiscal quarter.

Current Liabilities

Accounts Payable	\$ 13,688
Accrued Payroll & Taxes Payable	3
Sales Tax Payable	<u>368</u>
Total Current Liabilities	\$ 14,059

Long Term Liabilities

\$ 0

TOTAL LIABILITIES

\$ 14,059

NET ASSETS AND 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 in 2019.

- 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 all together, restricted assets and liabilities, and unrestricted assets total the same as our total assets shown above (**\$8,735,976**).

Total Liabilities	\$ 14,059
Restricted Assets	
Stewardship Fund	\$ 284,765
Margaret C. Nygard Land Acquisition Fund	35,275
Allen Lloyd Fund for Protection of Upper Eno	200
Confluence Fund	1,581
Temporarily Restricted Grant Funds	<u>207,344</u>
Total Restricted Assets & Liabilities	\$ 543,224
Total Unrestricted Assets	\$ 8,192,752
TOTAL ASSETS AND LIABILITIES	<u>\$ 8,735,976</u>

Income and Expense
Eno River Association Audit
2018 Fiscal Year

