



**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 goodwill 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 with Burt's Bees for their 2019 Culture Day event. This event brought 100 volunteers to the Confluence Natural 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 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, Town of Hillsborough, Burt's Bees and BioMerieux.

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Eno Education

Dave Cook, Education and Outreach Coordinator

Personnel

Dave Cook was our Education and Outreach Coordinator at 24 hours a week until April when hours were increased to 30 per week. UNC-CH student Lillian McCormick was our Education Intern May– August, for total of 480 hours. Education did not have help from Americorps in 2019 as we have the prior two years. A request for a Diversity in Conservation Program intern from CTNC was turned down this Fall.

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 & invasive eradication workday. Education staff and volunteers led programs at four Durham elementary schools, two Orange County schools, and led wildlife programs at the DPS' HUB farm.

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, Eno history, and general nature.

iWalk Nature Summer Camp

iWalk the Eno Summer Science and Nature Day Camp finished its eleventh year, with two weeks of camp that brought 117 campers ages 8-12 to the river for a week of hands-on, inquiry-based science and nature exploration. This is up from 109 the year before. Eight 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. 5 school teachers, 2 Association staff, and a host of Association volunteers staffed the camp.

Eno River Field Station

Eno River Field Station was held at the Confluence Natural Area 5 days in July. 39 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, UNC-Chapel Hill, NC Zoo, UNC-

Greensboro, Greensboro Science Center, and the US Fish and Wildlife Service. 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. 30% of the students identify themselves from racial or ethnic minorities. By meeting federal poverty guidelines 32 campers received full scholarships and 5 received partial scholarships. The number of minority and scholarship campers declined from the previous two years despite the growth in overall participation. Recruitment channels did not change so there is not an explanation for this.

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. The next application will be due April 2020.

Duke Energy Grant

We received a \$20,000 education grant from Duke Energy in 2019.

Hikes and Events

New Year's Day Hike was a success this year, with 703 hikers participating in a short or long hike at Few's Ford in Eno River State Park. 16 winter and spring hikes continued every Sunday with two weather cancellations, through Mother's Day with 396 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 wading pools where kids pretended to be herons catching their dinner. 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 2019 we loaned educational equipment and materials to Ellerbe Creek Watershed Association and the 4H. We provided 120 Junior Ranger Patches to Eno River State Park.

2020 Eno River Association Calendar

The 2020 *Eyes on the Eno* Eno River calendar (our 48th calendar) went on sale in October. It features photography and stories of the things early people on the Eno left behind. It is available at 15 outlets including two new ones, Weaver Street Market in Carrboro and Letters Bookshop in Durham. We also returned calendars to Quail Ridge Books in Raleigh and Dual

Supply in Hillsborough after missing them last year. The calendar order was reduced to 1020 from 1300 last year. There are 300 calendars leftover from last year.

Activity	Participants	Youth*	Adults*	Total*
Youth Workdays	NC School of Science, Girl Scouts, & Riverside High School	51	13	64
Nature Hikes & Programs	General Public	0	83	83
School Programs – Outreach & Field Trips	Durham & Orange Public and Charter Schools, Day Camps(non ERA)	446	78	524
Environmental Ed @ Events (non-festival)	General Public	244	356	600
Stream-In	General Public	48	37	85
Totals November 30, 2019*		789	567	1356
Totals November 30, 2018*		1060	434	1494

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

Festival for the Eno

Greg Bell, Festival Director

The 40th annual Festival for the Eno was held Thursday July 4th and Saturday, July 6th at West Point on the Eno Durham City Park. In commemoration of the landmark anniversary, Eno staff and volunteers curated and installed an exhibition of Festival for the Eno art and ephemera in the Photo Museum at West Point. The exhibit was open mid-June through September, with an opening reception held in collaboration with the Durham Parks and Recreation Department.

Also in celebration of the 40th anniversary, a Festival Kick-Off event was held in late June at the UnScripted Hotel, in downtown Durham. Several musical acts performed, and light hors d'oeuvres and drinks were served. Though the event was moved to the hotel lobby from the rooftop due to inclement weather, the event was very successful as a recruitment tool for volunteers and sponsors and served as a social event for existing supporters. We plan to hold a similar kick-off event in 2020.

The Festival itself ran smoothly both days, despite a lightning storm that quieted the Festival's stages for over an hour on Day 1, and a bus breakdown (and fire!) which blocked the Festival entrance for over an hour on Day 2. In both instances, the quick response of a well-trained staff, safety services, and production personnel ensured the safety of Festival attendees while minimizing impact to the Festival "experience." In true "Eno" spirit during the storm, everyone good-naturedly took shelter wherever possible, pitched in to keep the rain from collapsing tents, and cooperated to dry things off and get the party going again once the storm passed. The Festival site appeared to suffer a direct lightning strike at the outset of the storm. Thankfully, the stages were already powered down, and the only damage was a small electrical fire in the (new) office trailer. As the storm commenced, Grammy Award winner Cathy Fink, who was performing a children's set, calmly led her diminutive audience into the Blacksmiths' shop and, continuing her show, talked to them about how "it is okay to be scared." When the storm passed, musicians Jon Shain, Susie Vinnick, Donna Wyand and Joe Newberry led an impromptu acoustic performance and sing-a-long in front of the Grove Stage, while waiting for the power to be restored.

The Festival featured a very diverse and eclectic musical lineup of over 80 performers on 5 stages, more than 85 regional crafts artists, and participation from over 35 non-profit and governmental agencies. Over 800 volunteers pitched in to help, recruited and organized by the fabulous Bianca Banks, serving in her first year as Volunteer Coordinator. Our Trash-Free program continues to innovate and improve, reducing by 97% the volume of landfill-bound waste. The new office trailer, generously donated by Nan Baker and Bob Dietrich and their friends exceeded expectations as a new, secure, clean and safe Festival HQ on-site. We again used the Splinter Group to develop the Festival logo and collaterals. The marketing and visual branding was widely complimented, and seemingly contributed greatly to the record number of advance tickets sold and very strong tee shirt sales.

The 2020 Festival will be on Friday and Saturday, July 3 and 4.

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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

