

Our mission is to conserve and protect the natural, historical, and cultural resources of the Eno River basin.

2022 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Don Moffitt, President Peter Raabe, Vice-President **David Singleton. Treasurer Christy Gudaitis, Secretary**

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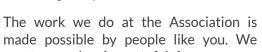
Audrey Vaughn AmeriCorps Environmental Educator

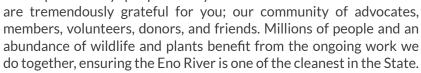
Cover photo by Audrey Vaughn Photo of Jessica Sheffield by Caroline Gilmore

WINTER 2022 AN UPDATE FROM ENO'S EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Greetings Friends,

On behalf of the Eno River Association staff and board. I am pleased to share this issue of Eno Currents. I hope you will enjoy the enclosed 2021 Annual Report, and a preview of what is shaping up to be another great year on the Eno!





Now, I know the impact the Eno has on our lives runs much deeper than these numbers and statistics. Oh, how I love hearing the Eno stories from you, our members and friends!

About that first date between soul mates, held at Fanny's Ford. About your daily walks on the Eno, for refuge and healing. About coming to this place, and feeling the reawakening of your childhood self.

About the student who overcame her fear here, and now loves holding snakes.

About a recipe for persimmon bread, and a 'secret' spot on the lower Eno to find them.

About a beloved Eno dog, who walks by your side.

We all have an Eno story! It's what makes the Eno so dear to us; what inspires us to give, volunteer, and join in the work of the Eno River Association. I hope you will continue to share these stories with me, and with one another. Thank you for being a part of our Association.

Warmly,

Jesound Shelpeld

Jessica L. Sheffield, Executive Director













2021 **BY THE NUMBERS:**

MILLION

VISITORS TO ENO RIVER STATE PARK & OCCONEECHEE **MOUNTAIN STATE** NATURAL AREA

8,600

FESTIVAL FOR THE ENO ATTENDEES

ACRES PROTECTED FOR FUTURE INCLUSION INTO ENO RIVER STATE PARK

\$29013

IN GRANTS AWARDED **TO EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS AND SCHOLARSHIPS**

STEWARDSHIP VOLUNTEER HOURS WORKED

ENO RIVER ASSOCIATION DONORS

RAISED TO FURTHER OUR MISSION

Turn the page for our **full Annual Report!**

ANNUAL REPORT 2021



STEWARDSHIP

- Hosted 28 workdays with 270 volunteers contributing
- Improved the Confluence Natural Area by adding a pollinator garden, updating roadside signage, improving trails, and adding two new benches
- Added pollinator garden and improved parking and trail access at our Guess Road office
- Re-routed Laurel Cliffs Nature Trail and the South River Trail at West Point on the Eno with Rotary Club of Durham
- Re-launched the Eno Trail Stewards program with over 70 volunteers contributing 750 hours

TRAIL STEWARD VOLUNTEERS

Volunteers are assigned to specific trails within Eno River State Park, West Point on the Eno Durham City Park, Penny's Bend Nature Preserve, and the Confluence Natural Area to perform regular monitoring and maintenance, as well as DIY trash pickup



LAND PROTECTION

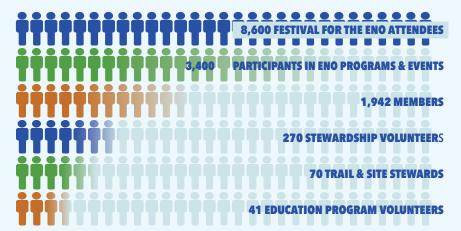
- Protected 96-acre forested property for future inclusion into Eno River State Park; includes 4,500 feet of Eno River tributaries and two Natural Heritage Areas
- Donated 8 acres on Landis Drive to the City of Durham for inclusion into West Point on the Eno Durham City Park, part of the Middle Eno River Bluffs & Slopes Natural Area



EDUCATION

- Expanded the Education Team with a full time Director of Education & Outreach and an AmeriCorps **Environmental Educator**
- Hosted 42 public & private educational programs, 6 youth stewardship workdays, 17 Sunday hikes, and 3 weeks of summer camp
- Published 4 new education videos, 1 Eno River Journal, and the 2022 Eno River Calendar

PEOPLE



PROGRAMS



STEWARDSHIP











7%

Mangement

15%

Resource

Developmei

CALENDAR



3%

Rentals

EXPENSES

31%

Festival

NFW

VIDEOS

EDUCATIONAL PERFORMANCES



FESTIVAL FOR THE ENO

- Hosted two events: a broadcast from St. Joseph's AME Church and an in-person event at West Point on the Eno **Durham City Park**
- 8.600 attendees
- 64 performances across 4 stages
- 55 craft artist booths
- Over 670 volunteer shifts
- 2.000+ volunteer hours
- 623 orders sent to 23 states in our brand-new online store

ADVOCACY

In 2021 we went back to our roots and rededicated the Eno River Association to advocacy work. We've partnered with local groups and coalitions to advocate for sensible development that will minimally impact the Eno River watershed. These projects included Buccee's, Bragtown, and Black Meadow Ridge



44%

Programs

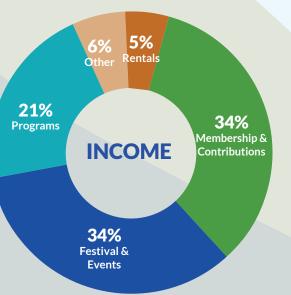
ENO RIVER STATE PARK & OCCONEECHEE MOUNTAIN STATE NATURAL AREA

- Over 1 million visitors in the past year
- Began construction of the new Eno River State Park visitor center, the result of the statewide 2016 bond referendum

DEVELOPMENT

- 1.942 individual members
- 199 Wildflower Society members
- 334 new donors
- 151 Sustaining members
- TOTAL RAISED: OVER \$1.1 MILLION

*Complete annual financials and audits are publicly available on our website: www.enoriver.org/who-we-are



Jason & Suma

THANK YOU TO OUR GENEROUS SUPPORTERS

You make protecting the land, water, wildlife, and history in Durham & Orange counties feasible. Each and every gift we receive is vital to making our work possible. The following lists highlight our Wildflower Society members, funding partners, and special honorary and memorial gifts. From this edition forward, we will now only be including these lists in our annual report newsletter, which will be published once annually. These lists will continue to be published quarterly on our website. We make every attempt to ensure accuracy when acknowledging donors and appreciate you notifying us of any errors at development@enoriver.org.

Wildflower Society

Members of our Wildflower Society have made special commitments to the Eno River Association with annual contributions of \$500 or more in 2021.

BLAZING STAR - \$5,000 & ABOVE Ann Louise Barrick & Joyce Elaine McNeill Carol & Bill Charping Tracey & Donald Dryden Carson Harkrader Lonna & Richard Harkrader Alice & George Horton Rosemary & George Kolasa Annette Shores **David & Olivia Singleton** Aimee B. Tattersall The Wilkinson Family The Wilson Family: Chuck & Jean Wilson. Charlie Wilson

LADY'S SLIPPER - \$2,500 & ABOVE

Anonymous Donna Baird Andrew Balber & Frances Kerr Gregory Beck Brenda Brodie James Brosnan David & Carol Bunne Dr. Harold P. Erickson Susan Gidwitz & Gail Freeman Virginia A. Gilbert Sally & Rob Jackson Richard Low & Anne Almond Mary Love May & Paul Gabrielson Linda & Stuart Paynter Ashlev Robbins Bonnie Wright & Martin Eakes

CRESTED IRIS - \$1,000 & ABOVE Tony & Paula Adams Elizabeth M. Amend Anonymous **J Armstrong** Steve Booth & Mary Lou Rollins Lynn Bowlby & Neal Ready Bill & B.J. Boyarsky Shannon & Steve Brown Hillary & Kate Bruce Rick Burt Karalyn Colopy Don & Judith Cox Mary & Mike Czysz Eric & Patsy Decker Helen Drivas David & Angela Duty Anne Emler Matthew Freeman Mike Giarla & Ellen Michelson **Christy & Jim Gudaitis** Carol Gunther-Mohr Lvnn & David Harrington Patricia & Raul Herrera Emily K. Hill & Miller Cochran Benjamin & Nancy Hollifield Matt & Kathy Hoover Michael Kearney Jeff & Lynne Koweek Donald Kritsch & Barbara Baker

Cathy & Randy Lambe

Ralph & Marie Liebelt

John & Margaret March

John Manuel & Cathy Murphy

Geri LaPlaca

Lisa L. Lorenzin

Julia Marshall

Anne Martinelli

Melissa McCullough

David & Lissa Lutz

Jennifer McDuffie & Hal Kuhns Janis McFarland & Richard McLaughlin Brian & Sarah McGiverin Bonny Moellenbrock & Michael Lowry Fred & Cathy Myers Diana Neunkirchner Chris & Kelly O'Toole Fred Parham Rachel Phillips Ed & Margie Pikaart **Bruce Pitner** Beth Preslar & Raleigh Roark Marilyn & Richardson Preyer Mollie & Bill Purdy Ellen & Ken Reckhow Elizabeth Robbins Cherie Rosemond & David Woodmansee Dan Schnitzer Pete & Margaret Schubert Jonathan Scott & Barbara LeVarge Elizabeth Searles-Bohs & Larry Bohs Martha Shepherd Gwen Silver Ainslev Singleton Heather & Chris Smith Aaron Stoertz & Meredith Barrett Karen & Tom Tierney Julia Tyler Scriba Whitmore & Katharine Somerville Whitmore Robert Wiley Lucy Wilson & Chris Richmond TRILLIUM - \$500 & ABOVE

Sue Alexander

Jean Anderson Anonymous Jenny Arcino & Ryan McCarty Joel & Dawn Battiste Rebecca & Greg Berenfield Lori Bernstein & Doug Merrill Thomas Buhrman Ann Bushyhead & John Valentine Dianne Byrne & Ted Johns Gene & Susan Carlone **Richard Carroll & Doreen Collins** Thomas & Susan Carson Jeanne & Bob Chamberlin **Audrey Chang** Julie Chappell Christina Chia & Gary Ashwill Sara & Rush Childs Jacqueline Clary Ed & Ruth Clayton Tom Cole Ann Colosia Sandra Cook & Chuck Darsie Kenny Dalsheimer & Marybeth Dugan Tom & Patricia Davis Fred Dietrich & Jenny Tenor Caroline Dixon Kate Dixon & Dan Wilkinson

Lara Duffney

Kent Fiala

Dale & John Fluke

Frances Goodrich

Amy Laura Hall

Katie Eimers & Sam Berger

Judy Frank & Michael Muller

Emily Friedman & Keith Guile

Larry & Harriette Frank

Gita & Edd Gulati-Partee

Albert & Elizabeth Harris

Mike & Ruth Freeman

Paul Feldblum & Tolly Boatwright

Robert Hellwig & Gordon Whitaker Duncan Heron Sarah & Jonathan Hodges Joyce Hopkins Elvira & Tom Howard

Peter & Sandra Jacobi Robin & Barry Jacobs Deborah Lynn Jakubs & Jim Roberts Helen Kalevas & Todd Dickinson Richard Kay & Blythe Williams

Ryan & Rebekah Kelly Karen Kemp & Jeff Zimme Ann & Bill Kirkland Lisa Klatt & Ken Hermey Trish Kohler

Joe & Judy Liles Charles Lohr Virginia Lovvorn Chris & Anna Lynch

Lynn Maguire Jennifer Maher Hervey & Jane McIver Karen McLachlan Lisa McQuay & Chris Eubank

Don Moffitt & Sidney Cruze Jonas & Maggie Monast Julie & Rich Mooney Robin Moran

Pamela Morse Morgan & Michael Movlan Amy & Kerry Mullenix

David Myers Todd & Kathleen Nance Anna Naples Robert & Vicki Nebes David Nelson

Susan Nobblitt **Emily & James Pearce** John Pearson & Gail Goodling Jennifer Peifer & Nicholas Plumme

Bercedis Peterson John Petranka & Sally Gewalt Leah Pierce Ken Pugh & Leslie Killeen

Milo Pyne & Alexa McKerrow Peter Raabe & Alesha Daughtrey Flizabeth Railton Elizabeth Ferris Rainoff

Holly Reid & Rich Shaw Allison Rosenberg & Logan Everett Merri Rudd Cynthia Satterfield

Matt Schuneman Alan Seiferheld & Ann Matrone Jessica Sheffield & Ryan Kenney Irena Caf Smith & James Smith Sarah Leach Smith & Andrew Smith

Sean Smith Ed & Catherine Sredzienski Mindy & Andrew Stahl Aviva Starr & Sherry Samuels

Richard Stern Anna Stout Janice Stratton Tom Struhsaker & Theresa Pope Amy & David Turner Keith Waldron

Pat Wallace & Laurie McNeil Kathleen & Warren Warren Mervwen Wigley & Kevin Magill Connie Winstead & Bo Glenn Wavne & Jessa Witzel

Sarah & Mike Woodard Theresa Yuschok

Partner Power

We are so grateful to the 80+ businesses who provide significant contributions to our programs, funds to cover our necessary operating expenses, and partnerships to achieve our shared priorities for our community and our world. Specifically, we want to thank the following cornorate and foundation partners who made contributions or pledges of over \$15,000 in 2021:

Burroughs Wellcome Fund City of Durham Participatory Budgeting C.T. Wilson Construction **Dominion Energy** Duke Energy F.M. Kirby Foundation Merck Foundation **Network for Landscape Conservation Protolabs Foundation**

Foundation, Civic, & **Corporate Support**

Triangle Community Foundation

Thank you to the following organizations, husinesses, foundations, and other groups who provided \$500 or more in donations or in-kind contributions in 2021.

Adele & Willard Gidwitz **Family Foundation** Allagash Brewing Company Alternative Aire

The Anthony and Stella Schomberg **Fund of Triangle Community**

Foundation A Voice for Efland & Orange

Biogen **BioMerieux** Blackbaud **Burroughs Wellcome Fund** Burt's Bees The Bydale Foundation

Carolina Academic Press The Colopy Family Fund of Triangle **Community Foundation**

Durham Arts Council Durham Merchants Association Charitable Foundation

Emily Eve Weinstein Fine Art Eno Animal Hospital Fidelity Charitable Flowering Earth Natives Gateway Building Company

The G. A. LaPlaca Family Fund of Triangle Community Foundation The Glenn-Winstead Fund of Triangle Community Fund

Google Grace Jones Richardson **Testamentary Trust Habitat for Humanity Geezers**

Volunteer Group Harris Beverages, LLC Hendrick Subaru Southpoint **HFH Foundation**

Immaculate Conception Catholic Church Intuitive Foundation **Jacobs Preyer Family Foundation** James and Mildred Wilkinson Charitable Foundation Inc.

The Judy Frank & Michael Muller Fund Norman & Ronnie Guttman of Triangle Community From Marjorie Guttman The KandL Fund of Triangle Penny Hall . From Maggi & Ron Hall Community Foundation Microsoft Sallie Ray Harris Murphy's Naturals From Teresa Moore NC Solar Now Woodard Heath North Carolina Botanical Garden From Robert Wiley North Carolina Plant Becky Heron **Conservation Program** From Carol Anderson, Duncan Heron, Jane **North Coast Brewing Company** & Phil Korest The OAL Foundation Laura Herrmann The Paletta Fund of Triangle From Jessica Herrmann **Community Foundation** Kinchen Holloway PHE, Inc. From David S. Holloway Red Pond Paradise Fund Jennifer "Kate" Howard & Sarah RJR Grading Moore Rotary Club of Durham From Cathy Chandler & Nancy Blood, Saladelia Café + Catering Deidre Lutz The Silver Foundation Dongyun Ke Snan Pea Catering From Charles Lohr Southern Energy Management Mary Ann Koon From Janet Kasischke Cromer Topsail Technologies Triangle Fly Fishers Dr. Tom Kwak From Gerald Pottern & Sharon E. Spangler Triangle J Council of Governments Tryon Distributing LLC Allen Llovd From Chip & Melanie Liner, Evelyn Lloyd Unique Batik US Federal Government Mike Lofgren

Special Gifts

Vaguely Reminiscent

Vanguard Charitable

Zarazua Painting Compan

Zulu Nyala Game Lodge

The Wooden Nickel Public House

IN MEMORY OF

These tribute gifts were made in honor and memory of loved ones during the 2021 calendar year. These gifts will now be listed once a year in our annual report newsletter publication, as well as quarterly on our wehsite

Faila Allen From Anne Atwell Don Barry

From Martha Graham & Dana Baldwin Kathi Beratan

From Ellen G. Dixon-Tulloch, Naomi Miller **Barb Birkhead**

From Scott Birkhead, Don Moffitt & Sidney Cruze Lauren Washam Bradshaw

From Beverly Botsford John G. Buhrmann From Lucy Buhrmann

Wallace E. "Wally" Burke II From Marie & Wallace Burke, Sara & Randall Corriber

Hazel Cash From Linda Cash, Cathy Cozart Wayne Cash

From Linda Cash Milton & Lois Colosia From Ann Colosia **Gary Cutick**

From Pete & Roz Fanello Linda Davis From Charlie Dill

Daniel Deter From Gretchen Wolf William "Bill" Taylor Dickerson

From Robin Crumpton, Norman & LaRue Davenport, Melinda Killenberg, Fran Parker Rod & Millie Duncan

From Daniel Stipe Sam Elliott From Robin Cohen, Todd Dalrymple, Debra Barrett Ferrell, Elizabeth Klingseisen, Dorothy Loyd, William & Christine Yeager, Robert & Denise You

Emma, The Best Dog Ever From Melissa McCullough Kermit "Casey" Gilbert From Virginia A. Gilbert Ginger From Robb Levinsky

From Noel Miguiabas Caroline Becker Long From Croft Long Judy Martell From Lynn Maguire Linda McGill From Deborah L. McGill

Gloria Moran From Robin Moran

Beverly Hines Moser & Denise Moser Livesay From David Lee Moser

Phil Nelson From Suzanne Epstein, Lee Lichtenwalter & Wayne Schnackel, Carrie Benoit Salemi,

Hacha C. Norris From Patty O'Connor Scott Nunnally

From Debbie Absher Margaret Nygard From Patricia Dickinson, Sandra & Steve

Toler, Terry & John Wall Wendy Olson

From Ellen McRae Dr. Thomas "Denny" O'Neal From Carol & Bill Charping, Beverly Dickerson, Helen Drivas, Karin & Marty

Fitzpatrick, Ann & Tony Garcia, Carolyn Garcia, Johnathan Garcia, Jennifer Hurley Liz McGuffey, Randall Neumann, Isaac Nicchitta, Joseph M. O'Neal, Keith Waldron

Lois J. Pearson From John Pearson & Gail Goodling

Wade Penny From Don Moffitt & Sidney Cruze Ann Prince

From Mark Anderson, Michael & Mary Andrews, Roberta Barnes, Analie Barnett, Bohm Giving Fund, Tamara Dempsey-Tanner, Joseph E. Fargione, Jim & Dorothy Gerard, Mary Khoury, Erik Martin, Hervey & Jane McIver, Arlene Olivero, Merri Rudd, Kathy Seaton, Nancy Thall, Bradley Yelvington

Ann Prince on behalf of the NC Natural Heritage Program From Jame Amoroso, Misty Buchanan, Ramona & John Bates, Stephen Hall,

Stephanie Horton, Richard Leblond, Linda & Sam Pearsall, Scott Pohlman, Judith Ratcliffe, Linda Rudd, Mike Schafale George & Mary Pyne From Milo Pyne & Alexa McKerrow

Elijah Raymond From Ellen Reinhold Bill Reid

From Kathy Bonner & Tracey Lanier Gerhart Richter From Shannon & Steve Brown

Stephen Scarlett From J Armstrong Florence Shackelford From Flizabeth McCarthy **David Southern** From Michele Hodgson Timothy Spitzer From His Poker Buddies, Bruce Pitner, Gavin Pitner, James & Deborah Vickery Phyllis Stahl From Mindy & Andrew Stahl Jonathan Steere From Peter & Susan Steere **Bess Williams Stephanz** From Clifford Boro, Kelly Clark, Lynn & David Harrington, Vincent Long, Gene

Greg Taylor From Carol Taylor Jane Umstead

From Joan Curry, Cynthia Walker IN HONOR OF

Dr. Nancy Allen From Susan Booth Claire Baker From Barbara & Dick Rumer

Tom Beck From Tony & Melissa Griffin Dr. Gerald Bell

From Christina Wise Greg Bell From Niklaus & Lucy Steiner Lanier Blum

From Mindy Oshrain & Stephen Jaffe Kathy Bonner From Cherie Rosemond & David

Woodmansee Shannon Brown From Tony & Melissa Griffin

Lucy Buhrmann From John K. Buhrmann **Betsy Wooten Chapman** From Chips Chapmai

Bruce Chinery From Sandy Mouras Galia Cohen-Black From Aline Holzwarth

Dave Cook From Jay & Elinor Williams Thomas Dosser From Emma Dossei JD & Malia Dove

From Kelsey Van Dyke Tom Driscoll From Leslie Winner David Eck & Mary Beth Ward

From John Eck Marcia Eickmeier From Lynn Wilson & Paul Killough

Todd Ellis From Tony & Melissa Griffin The Fantastic Staff and Leadership of

the Eno River Association From Nancy Cox The Eno River Indian Tribes

From Jason Tickle **Essential Workers** From Diana Neunkirchnei The Fiori Hill Neighborhood

From Kate Kryder

Tina & Riley Forsberg From Emily Susan Zell Ryan Gaucher & Joanna Smith From Elizabeth Railton

Virginia "Ginny" Gilbert From Ann & Donald Sweeney Mel Gilles From Christine Cody

Ben Harrington From Lynn & David Harrington Emily K. Hill

From Jacob Boehm, Margaret Cochran, David & Patricia Hill, Martha Shepherd, Marlon Torres

Matt Hoover From Dean & Carol Phillips Adam James From Jesse Vitela

From Susan Walters Hallman **Betsy Tyler Johnson** From Charlie Tyler June the Wonderdog From Holly Leddy Jane Korest From Ellen & Ken Reckhow Joyce Kurpiers & Tim Kelly From Stephen Crum & Eileen Kurpiers Alice Langrall & Pete Zseleczky From Anndrea Burns Nick Lehman & Jessie Schmitz From Ben & Lillian Spiller Leslie & Adam From August Conlin Joe Liles From John & Laura Campbell John Lohnes From Cherie Rosemond & David Woodmansee Fric Luckenbaugh From Mary Luckenbaugh Lvnette From Renee Keogh Rachel Malonev From Alastair Browne Alex McGrew From Tamara Martin Joel Meyer From Julia Mever Jay Murphy From Mary Jo Murphy **Violet Mouras** From Sandy Mouras Keith Nealson From Nancy Ciaffone George Ploghoft From Becky Carver Barb & John Pringle From Susan Julian **Emily Purcell** From Scott Teeman Abby C. Raabe From FC Raabe **Chris Richmond** From Ann & Harry Wilson Carol B. Rist From Carl Rist Harry Rosenberg From James Stuart Kantoi Anne Sinclair Ruffin From Dorothy Sinclair Dick & Barbara Rumer From Barh Rumer The Saur Family From Carol Saur Russell Schmitz From Katherine Shea Fred & Louise Schmoock From Gary & Lynn Schmoock Scott Sipe From Linda Lacy Sipe Heather & Chris Smith From Kuanvu Chen **David Sutton** From Anne Hogewood Volunteers & Stewards of Public Lands From Diana Neunkirchner Travis Wardell From Katie Heineman Virginia Wertman From Eleanor Wertman Mike & Sarah Woodard

From Don Moffitt & Sidney Cruze

EVENTS ON THE ENO

2022

Our education and awareness programs are designed to ignite youth and adults with a lifelong love of the Eno. Join us throughout the year for fun, hands-on, feet-wet adventures on the Eno. Subscribe to our eNews or visit the Events on the Eno calendar on our website for regular updates: www.enoriver.org.









WINTER & SPRING HIKE SERIES

Our Winter Hike Series takes you on a guided exploration of the history and geology along the river. In the spring, our Wildflower Hike Series helps you catch the ephemeral blooms before they disappear for another year.

Hikes are free, but registration is required. Visit our website for more information on dates, locations, and how to register.



MONTHLY STEWARDSHIP WORKDAYS

From September until May, join us once a month for outdoor service projects along the Eno. Build trails, pull invasive species, plant trees, or cleanup waterways with our Stewardship team. Saturdays, from 9am-Noon.



MONTHLY PROGRAMS

Our education team hosts at least one program or event per month to provide you the fun of learning about nature and history! Themes and subjects change regularly – and explore everything from bird watching to wood whittling to youth hikes and more! Check the Events on the Eno calendar on our website to check out our programs throughout the year.



RIBBONS OF COLOR ALONG THE ENO

Ribbons of Color No. 2: The History of People of Color Living on the Eno, being released in February, includes first and second-hand stories of those who have long lived in the Eno watershed. Purchase a copy at enofest.org/store.



MEMBER ORIENTATION

7PM - If you're new to the Association, or just want a refresher on the benefits of being a member, join us for a one-hour virtual orientation. Meet the staff, get our updated schedule of events, and learn about the incredible impact of your gifts to the Association. If you must miss the live session, a recording will be available on our iHearttheEno YouTube channel.



DURHAM CREEK WEEK

Creek Week has been celebrated in Durham since 2009. In partnership with local environmental agencies such as Keep Durham Beautiful and Ellerbe Creek Watershed Association, the Eno will provide you with opportunities to discover and clean up our local streams. To date, these efforts have collected 163,783 pounds of litter with 3,409 volunteers!



EARTH DAY WEEK

Hit the trail, dig in the dirt, or attend a special event during our celebration of Mother Earth.



JAMBORENO

We hope to reimagine & bring back this fall event that's a favorite of members and staff alike.



COMING

SOON

50TH ANNIVERSARY OF WEST POINT ON THE ENO

Happy Birthday West Point on the Eno Durham City Park! West Point was one of the first parks the Association helped protect along the Eno.



ENO RIVER STATE PARK VISITOR CENTER

The new visitor center at Fews Ford will sit near the major trailheads, with through-forest views of the park's most popular beach. The space will house exhibits, a broad breezeway and projecting overlook, and the expansive deck will offer new areas for visitors to enjoy the park. Stay tuned for special first-look opportunities!



JUNE

JULY

2&4

ENO RIVER FIELD STATION

During the week of July 18-22 we will host our one-of-a-kind education program that brings teens together with scientists and researchers at our Confluence Natural Area. See back page for details.

IWALK THE ENO SCIENCE &

June 13- 17 & June 20-24 for youth

ages 8-12. See back page for details.

FESTIVAL FOR THE ENO

were any indication, you can count

on us to pivot with the times to bring

you art, entertainment, and Eno fun

celebrate with us: July 2&4, 2022!

for the whole family. Save the dates to

NATURE CAMP

These camps will be offered



UPCOMING LAND PROTECTION PROJECTS

Our team is always juggling multiple property transactions & conservation easements. More often than not, this work has to remain strictly under wraps until contracts are signed or closing has occurred. However, we have SO many exciting projects in the pipeline for 2022 and beyond, we can't help but give you a sneak peek:

• A conservation easement on the 87-acre Bluestem Conservation Cemetery, see pg 10

ONGOING PROJECTS

- New website: We're working with Code the Dream and Tomatillo Design to build an engaging, modern website which we cannot wait to unveil this year. The new Eno site will be mobile-friendly and easier to navigate, learn, connect, and donate!
- Strategic plan: We've contracted with Mayes Wilson & Associates, LLC to facilitate our strategic planning process. We are working closely with Sara Wilson, ACC, CPCC, to develop a three-year plan to move the Eno ahead in defining and meeting our goals in land preservation, water quality improvement, DEI and environmental justice work, financial sustainability, preserving culture and history in the region, resiliency, and deep community engagement. Stay tuned for more!
- A land transaction that will add 2.8 miles of river frontage, 4 miles of trails, and 200+ acres of important natural areas to Eno River State Park
- 71-acre conservation easement on the Historic Moorefields property in Hillsborough, in partnership with Orange County, NC Land & Water Fund, and the City of Raleigh
- Protecting 96 acres of property adjacent to the Confluence Natural Area
- Protecting 71 acres of wetland in the lower Eno
- Opening our second public nature preserve, including 2+ miles of trails and over a mile of river and stream frontage, by 2023

Stay tuned to our monthly Eno e-News as these projects go public!

ENO RIVER Newsletter | Winter 2022

RESTING IN A GREEN SPACE: CONSERVATION BURIAL

You may be wondering why we, a land trust and watershed organization, are talking about burial. Most people think of the burial of our loved ones in conventional cemeteries, but there are alternatives. A conservation burial ground or conservation cemetery is a conservation property that allows green burial. It takes the deliberate conservation of a green burial property and equally protects a recognized natural space for plants, animals, habitat, and other redeemable conservation values. Sound familiar? As with the mission of the Eno River Association, conservation cemeteries ensure natural spaces remain viable, climate resilient homes for plants and animals, including humans, in perpetuity.

In 2017, the Eno River Association was introduced to the green burial concept by Jeff Masten and Heidi Hannapel, the conservation professionals behind LANDMATTERS. LANDMATTERS collaborates with community organizations, land trusts, private landowners, nonprofits, and conservation burial professionals to increase capacity for conservation, connect people with the land, and turn big picture thinking into strategy and action. Heidi and Jeff did just that when they developed the vision for a conservation cemetery in the Piedmont – Bluestem Conservation Cemetery.

Bluestem Conservation Cemetery honors and protects the unique attributes of a Piedmont landscape. Located in Cedar Grove, a short 12-minute ride from Hillsborough,

Green Burial is an alternative, low-impact choice for burial that respects and restores nature. Bodies are not embalmed, nor encased in metal caskets or concrete vaults. Instead, bodies are interred in biodegradable materials such as a pine box, a cloth shroud, or a favorite quilt. Green burial sites are recorded just as with any other cemetery, and family and friends are able to return to visit the site anytime.

Conservation Burial Grounds are green burial cemeteries that have conservation easements placed upon them. These easements are voluntary, legal agreements between a landowner and a land trust (or governmental agency) that permanently limits the uses of the land to protect its conservation values.

Bluestem straddles the boundary between the Neuse and Roanoke Rivers. The 87-acre property contains 3,500 linear feet of stream frontage, 40 acres of agricultural fields, 47 acres of forest habitat, and a quintessential Piedmont farmstead. Upon completion this spring, the nature preserve and conservation cemetery will offer a 2-3 mile natural trail system that connects visitors with sensory experiences amidst a serene and sustainable burial option. Bluestem will be an open and inviting space for everyone to celebrate, honor, grieve, mourn, heal, and restore.

A **conventional cemetery** has a density of 1,200 burials per acre. As a certified conservation cemetery with the Green Burial Council, **Bluestem** will average only 100 burials per acre.

Bluestem is a true community conservation project of which the Eno River Association is proud to be a part. It preserves the natural, historical, and cultural resources of these watersheds while providing a place for community connection to these resources, to one another, and to our deceased. Two local conservation organizations have partnered on its creation. Eno River Association and Triangle Land Conservancy will co-hold a conservation easement on Bluestem and monitor the development and management of Bluestem's land to ensure its conservation values are protected in perpetuity. In return, a small portion of the revenue generated from Bluestem's burial sites will go to support our land trust operations, stewardship of the land, and the acquisition of additional conservation lands. This unique and meaningful project will help diversify the conservation portfolios of both land trusts while providing continued opportunity to collaborate and connect with our community.

For more information on Bluestem, visit a www. bluestemcemetery.org. For more information on Heidi and Jeff's conservation work with LANDMATTERS, visit www. thelandmatters.com.

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHTS

The Eno River Association is powered by people, and we are thrilled to introduce you to a few community members who make up our leadership team. The following individuals joined the Eno River Association board in 2021; nominated and elected by you, our members.

If you'd like to learn more about joining the board of directors or one of over a dozen volunteer committees, please email us at association@enoriver.org.



EMILY FRIEDMAN

"I am indebted to those who came before me to create all of these trails..."

Emily is a long-time Durham resident and a frequent user of Eno trails. She

is a CPA currently serving as VP of Finance at Premier Research, a clinical research organization. She has extensive professional experience in accounting, financial management, tax and human resources, and has worked in both public accounting and private industry with both commercial and non-profit organizations. Her previous volunteer work includes Board positions with SEEDS and the Self-Help Venture Fund. Emily will serve on the Eno board as a member of the HR/Personnel Committee.



MEL GILLES

"A truly sustainable life has to be lived with inclusion at the heart, and a deep connection to the lands we walk on and the people who belonged to the land long before us."

Mel moved to North Durham to be by the Eno to support her wellness during the pandemic. As a long-time community outreach expert, she has served on countless boards and committees, managed organizations with dozens of staff and volunteer programs with hundreds of volunteers, and consulted with nonprofits nationwide over the past 30 years. She is currently the Recycling Education and Outreach Specialist at DEQ. For the Eno, she will serve on the Environmental Justice/Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee.



KEVIN REINER

"These lands reawakened something profound from my childhood that I didn't even realize I'd lost.."

After decades of urban living in Cincinnati, Kevin relocated to Durham in 2012 and began exploring around the Eno. Prior to joining the Eno board in February 2021, Kevin coordinated Burt's Bees volunteer stewardship workdays with the Eno staff. Kevin is a Senior Scientist at Burt's Bees, where he currently works on formula development for international markets. He is an art school dropout, and a chemist with a variety of experiences in industrial and consumer product applications. Kevin co-chairs Eno's Environmental Justice/Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee.



DELPHINE SELLARS

"Having access to open green spaces and the wonders of nature is impactful, powerful and healing..."

Delphine is the Co-Founder and Executive Director of Urban Community AgriNomics (UCAN). UCAN runs a community garden and conducts many nature-based programs at the Catawba Trail Farm in Durham, located along the Little River just above its confluence with the Eno. Delphine was an upper-level manager in her career at the Durham Cooperative Extension, and has served on the Triangle Land Conservancy and other local boards. She will serve on the Environmental Justice/Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee.



LINDSAY WHITE

"The Eno is such an incredible hub of our community and provides resources for all of us – from recreation to habitat connectivity to water quality..."

Lindsay works for The Conservation Fund with a focus on working forest conservation, and has experience in forest management, land protection and conservation easements. Lindsay has previously volunteered and interned for a variety of conservation organizations, and is currently an At-Large Member of the Durham County Farmland Protection Advisory Board, and a Preserve Steward for the Ellerbe Creek Watershed Association. Lindsay will bring this expertise to the Festival Committee.





We are a proud member of





Eno River Association is proud to be an accredited land trust.



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Eno River Field Station invites students ages 12-15 to get out of the classroom and into the field at the Confluence Natural Area in Hillsborough for a week in July. Students spend five days and one optional night outdoors with science professionals, researchers, and environmental educators to gain new perspectives on science and observation. We study everything from hummingbirds to bats to rocks during this exciting week in the field. Offered July 18-22, 2022.

Registration for iWalk is open through April 30 and registration for Field Station is open through May 31: www.enoriver.org/education

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