



# The Boone Watershed News

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## The Boone Watershed Partnership Works for Clean Streams with Bold Projects

The Boone Watershed Partnership is working to make a real difference in the water quality of our lakes, rivers and streams in our watershed. Since January, projects completed include: a 16 page newspaper insert to help education the

public on a variety of watershed related issues, support of various partner stream clean-ups, and our annual BWP Awards Picnic. Perhaps the highlight of this period was the announcement that the BWP will received a 319 grant to restore

Sinking Creek. In addition the BWP Board of Director has been working hard doing strategic planning, developing a more and effective efficient organization structure.

**Gary Barrigar**  
President, BWP

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## Boone Watershed Partnership to Receive a Stream Restoration Project Grant for Sinking Creek

The Tennessee Department of Agriculture has announced that the Boone Watershed Partnership is to receive a EPA funded, 319 grant of \$300,000 to address nonpoint source pollution on Sinking Creek, which runs through Washington County and Carter County in Tennessee. The Boone Watershed Partnership is a 501(c) (3) nonprofit organization that works with local users, regional, state and federal entities, educators and others to identify and address water re-

source issues in the Boone Watershed, an area of about 686 square miles lying in Sullivan, Washington and Carter Counties of Tennessee and Washington County of Virginia. The total cost of the project will be \$517,000, with the rest of the funding being provided by local partners, including the City of Johnson City, the Boone Watershed Partnership, TVA, volunteers and others.

This 3 year project will address all nonpoint sources of pollution on

Sinking Creek, a state-listed 303(d) listed stream (A 303(d) listed stream is a one that is impaired). Sinking Creek is listed because of high levels of E. coli and is posted, warning the public to avoid contact with the water. The restoration plan includes extending sewer lines, addressing failing septic tanks, establishing buffer zones along the stream, providing assistance to farmers for livestock Best Management Practices, and public outreach and education.



**Northeast TN  
and  
Southwest VA  
continue to  
experience  
a severe  
drought .**

**Do your part  
to conserve  
Water!**

## BOONE WATERSHED PARTNERSHIP 2008 WATERSHED AQUATIC STEWARDSHIP AWARDS

The 11th annual Boone Watershed Partnership Recognition Event was held Saturday June 21 at Winged Deer Park in Johnson City. Award Winners were:

- Chris Mathes - Civic Volunteer Aquatic Stewardship Award



Chris Mathes accepting the Civic Volunteer Aquatic Stewardship Award



Ingrid Luffman accepting the Higher Education Aquatic Stewardship Award

- Mary Ann Kinch - Lifetime Aquatic Stewardship Award

After the awards were presented, those attending enjoyed a picnic catered by City Market of Elizabethton.

- Ingrid Luffman - Higher Education Aquatic Stewardship Award
- City of Mountain City - Local Government Aquatic Stewardship Award
- Mark Odom - Outstanding Service Award
- Misty Waters Property Owners Association - Industry/Business Aquatic Stewardship Award
- Phil-Tenn Developers, LLC - Industry/Business Aquatic Stewardship Award



Mary Ann Kinch accepting the Lifetime Aquatic Stewardship Award



## "Clean Team" Project Targets Businesses on Beaver Creek

Beaver Creek is one of the most trashed streams in the Boone Watershed, and much of this trash is eventually carried into Boone Lake! How does this happen? Beaver Creek meanders through numerous small communities as well as by over 110 businesses and several churches. Also, trash that is discarded from vehicles on VA & TN roadways always ends up at the lowest point, which is Beaver Creek!

To deal with this problem the Beaver Creek Watershed Alliance (BCWA) and the Bristol, TN&VA "Keep Bristol Beautiful" have launched a litter prevention effort dubbed the "Clean Team" project to target the businesses on Beaver Creek from Exit 7, Virginia to Boone Lake. With the help of the Boone Watershed Partnership, the Boone Lake Association and TVA, BCWA members are contacting the businesses and churches asking for their participation.

Even though there are laws against littering, it is difficult to effectively prevent people littering from their vehicles, what can be done is to involve everyone to take ownership of their section of Beaver Creek. If all watershed residents pitch in, Beaver Creek and subsequently Boone Lake, will be much cleaner! This new effort involving a commitment from the over 110 businesses on Beaver Creek.

This "Clean Team" project is similar to the "Adopt a Spot" program many cities/counties currently have in place. Each business is being asked to be responsible for their small portion of Beaver Creek. Each business



owner, will then ask their employees to join the "Clean Team". Rewards could be given to conscientious and caring employees. The program consists of the business: (1) evaluating the handling and storage of trash to make sure the business is not contributing litter, (2) conducting a regular pickup of trash around the business's trash receptacle and (3) conducting a quarterly (or as needed) pickup of trash on the business's section of Beaver Creek.

Once the business's "Clean Team" is organized, the Beaver Creek Watershed Alliance will gladly meet with them to supply gloves and bags if necessary. The Beaver Creek Watershed Alliance will also keep businesses abreast of what is being done by the local/state government and watershed organizations to insure the quality of our drinking and recreational waters.

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### Upper Tennessee River Roundtable Members Tour Elizabethton Projects

Recently, Upper Tennessee River Roundtable members toured the various storm-water projects installed by local businesses in Elizabethton, TN, as required by the city's storm-water ordinances. The UTRR members hope to use some of these types of devices in Cedar Bluff, VA .



Upper Tennessee River Roundtable members visit a project in Elizabethton



Johann Cotzee shows tour participants Wal-Mart's storm-water treatment system



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To partner with local users, regional, state and federal entities, educators and others to identify and address water resource issues in the Boone Watershed.

We're on the WEB!

<http://boonewatershed.com/>