



The Boone Watershed News

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The Boone Watershed Partnership Incorporates

The Boone Watershed Partnership was established 12 years ago through an initiative of the TVA Watershed Team. Since that time, it has accomplished much (see accompanying article, on this page).

In an effort to increase the effectiveness of the BWP, we began in May with a "self study." As a result, it was determined that in order to increase a sense of "ownership" for the BWP Partners, reach out to more diverse interests, provide a "hub" for technical assistance and provide needed funding, the BWP should reorganize. As a result of seven

months of work, the Boone Watershed Partnership is now a non-profit organization.

This process involving many different stakeholders and required reexamining the BWP's watershed boundary, group name, mission statement and purposes. The next step was to apply to the state of Tennessee for a Non-profit Incorporation Charter. Then, after considering the needs of all the stakeholders involved, By-Laws were written. a Board of Directors and officers were elected and a Technical Advisory Committee was selected. In addition, the

BWP has submitted the IRS form in order to qualify as a 501(3) organization.

Many thanks to all those individuals who have worked to make this reorganization possible and especially to TVA for providing start up funding.

Gary Barrigar
President, BWP



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The History of the Boone Watershed Partnership

The Boone Watershed Partnership was formed by TVA in August 1995 to address pollution and litter problems in Boone Lake and the tributaries that run into it. Since that time much progress has been made. For 9 years, the BWP and its partners, under the able leadership of Chairman Ken Chase, conducted

numerous projects on Doe River, Buffalo Creek, Steel Creek Park, Beaver Creek, Cash Hollow Creek, Sinking Creek, Hampton Creek, Boones Creek, the Watauga River, the Holston River and Boone Lake. In 1998 the BWP worked with other entities to complete stream bank

restoration efforts to repair damage from the January flood in the Doe River and it's tributaries. Gabion baskets were installed at 13 sites and stream-bank restorations were conducted. To complete the project, interpretative signs were installed. (continued on page4)

Doe River Habitat and Streambank Restoration/Demonstration Project
Site #1

Vortex Weir - Benefits stream by creating pool habitat, controls streambed erosion and collects and retains gravel.

Boulder Cluster - Provides habitat by providing cover, creating scour holes and providing areas of reduced stream flow.

Native Vegetation - Improves stream conditions by controlling stream bank erosion, provides shade for cooling water temperatures and filters runoff.

For more information about this project visit Roan Mountain State Park Visitors Center.

After the Doe River flood of 1998 the BWP partnered with Appalachian RC&D, NRCS, Roan Mountain State Park and TVA. to conduct extensive restoration projects. In addition, 5 interpretative signs were placed at the sites.

Ways to Help Keep Stormwater Runoff Clean

Lawn Care:

- Don't over water your lawn, use a soaker hose instead of a sprinkler.
- Apply fertilizers and pesticides according to label instructions to save money and minimize pollution.
- Cover piles of dirt or mulch when



not being used to reduce runoff.

- Compost or mulch yard waste. Yard clippings and leaves can wash into storm drains and contribute nutrients and organic matter to streams.
- Plant trees, shrubs etc. along stream banks to keep soil from entering the water or to keep the stream bank in place.
- Run downspouts to grassed or landscaped areas.

Auto Care:

- Washing your car and degreasing auto parts at home can send detergents and other contaminants through the storm sewer system.
- Dumping auto fluids into storm drains has the same result as dumping the materials directly into a water body.

- Use a commercial car wash that treats or recycles its wastewater, or wash your car on your yard so the water infiltrates into the ground.
- Repair leaks and dispose of used auto fluids and batteries at designated drop-off or recycling locations.



Pet Waste:

- When walking your pet, remember to scoop up waste for proper disposal.

Construction:

- Divert stormwater away from disturbed or exposed areas of the site.
- Install silt fences and other erosion

controls and properly maintain them.

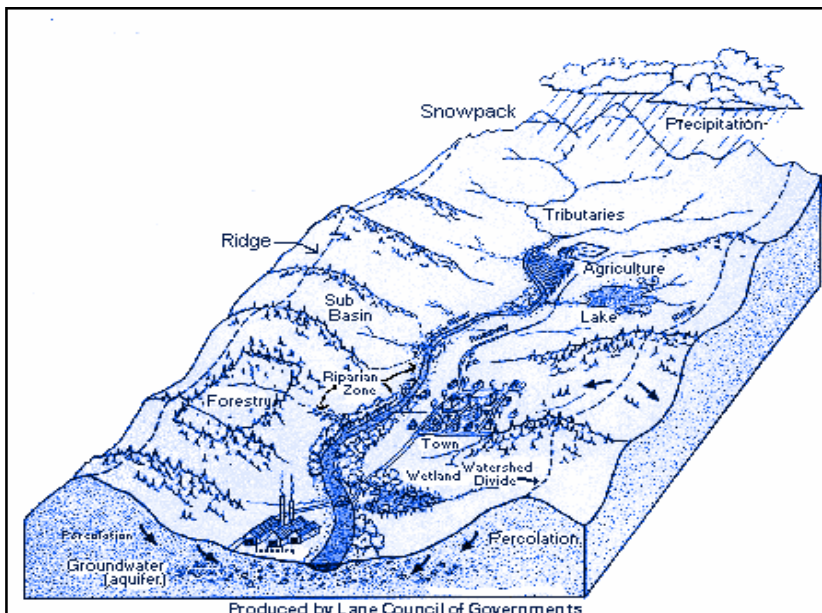
- Prevent soil erosion by minimizing disturbed areas during construction projects, and seed and mulch bare areas as soon as possible.

Commercial:

- Sweep litter and debris from sidewalks, driveways, and parking lots especially around storm drains.
- Cover grease units and dumpsters and keep them clean to avoid leaks.



- Dirt, oil, and debris that collect in parking lots and paved areas can be washed into the storm sewer system and enter local water bodies.



Everything that goes on in a watershed affects the water quality of the streams that flow through it.



Facts About Boone Lake and It's Watershed

- Boone Lake was built by TVA in 1952.
- It has an area of 4510 acres and a maximum depth of 129 feet at normal maximum pool.
- It has an extensively developed shoreline of about 130 miles.
- It has the highest phosphorus loading of

any TVA tributary lake and the highest average chlorophyll.

- The Boone Watershed below South Holston and Watuaga Dams is about 670 square miles.
- The local watershed (below South Holston and Watuaga Dams, excluding the Doe) lies in two states

and four counties.

- It includes the cities of Bristol TN and VA, Blountville, Bluff City, Johnson City, and Elizabethton.

- Although no firm data are available, Boone probably has the most densely populated and heavily developed watershed of any TVA reservoir.



Students work on a stream clean-up

"For many of us, water simply flows from a faucet, and we think little about it beyond this point of contact. We have lost a sense of respect for the wild river, for the complex workings of a wetland, for the intricate web of life that water supports."

- *Sandra Postel, Last Oasis: Facing Water Scarcity, 2003.*

BWP Partners



Boone Lake Association



Cities of
Bristol, TN/VA
Elizabethton and
Johnson City

Appalachian
RC&D

FTDD

Tennessee Dept. of Agriculture

Local Schools



Concerned
Citizens



Local Industry





The History of the Boone Watershed Partnership (continued from page 1)

The Boone Watershed Partnership has worked to form sub-watershed groups. Currently, the Beaver Creek Watershed Alliance, the Sinking Creek Watershed Alliance and the Buffalo Creek Watershed Alliance work within the framework of the BWP to solve water quality problems in the Boone Watershed. Through these sub-watershed groups with local stakeholders: issues are identified, long-term goals are defined, source identifications and water quality studies are conducted, and annual clean-ups conducted. The BWP continues worked with other partners to form new watershed groups throughout the watershed.

Through the Adopt-A-Watershed program local schools became involved protecting their local Watersheds. Students from seven area high



Elizabethton High School students help clean up Buffalo Creek.

schools surveyed watersheds and streams for problems and tested water for pollutants. Students also have been in numerous stream clean-up throughout east Tennessee helping remove tons of litter from local streams.

In addition, the BWP recognizes individuals who have made extraordinary contributions to protect aquatic ecosystems in the Boone Watershed by presenting the Annual BWP Watershed Conservation Awards. See the box below for more information on these awards.

**The 10th Annual Boone Watershed
Partnership
WATERSHED
CONSERVATION AWARDS**

For applications go to our website:

<http://www.geocities.com/rainforest/vines/6411/>



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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://www.geocities.com/rainforest/vines/6411/>