Bringing NC Legislators to the “Water Table” For Conservation & Efficiency

After six months of subjecting us to TV “drought tips of the day,” Governor Easley has realized that local control of water restrictions is too little, too late. His priorities for this year’s short legislative session include many initiatives that CWFNC has been calling for since the last drought—leak detection and repair, increased enforcement for reporting water withdrawals, more comprehensive groundwater monitoring, state authority for minimum conservation, prohibiting water-wasting rate structures, and requiring water efficiency standards for new construction. We salute those initiatives and hope all CWFNC members will work to make sure their legislators support them, but much more is needed.

Programs for leak detection and repair are critical, as are incentives to move toward conservation pricing. But if those are only incentives for getting PUBLIC funding for water projects, then they’ll miss the boat—most of the infrastructure financing in NC is now through privately financed bonds.

In fact, privately held bonds may be an impediment to conservation policies in several ways. Big projects create prestige and bring profits to bond holders, but increase public debt. Some city water managers are even starting to talk openly about bond rating companies putting pressure on cities not to do conservation that might reduce water sales, ignoring the fact that good pricing structures can hold water income constant while saving water.

The Office of Water Conservation and Efficiency that the Governor proposes can be an underfunded agency doing token projects. OR it can be a significant source of affordable financing to residents, businesses and municipalities to undertake conservation and harvesting projects. Let’s help our legislators see the wisdom of a strong investment in our water future.

Finally, an over-concentration on interconnection for drought response could result in more unnecessary big engineering projects, with adverse impacts and unnecessary costs, which may have little benefit in a future extended regional drought. Instead, let’s keep those interconnections as local as possible, have strict conservation criteria for requesting access to a nearby water supply and create a competitive/collaborative climate for seeing who can reduce their per capita water use the fastest!

Randleman: An “Orphan” Reservoir Greensboro Never Needed?

Former Greensboro Water Conservation Manager Mike Baron, fired in 1999 after winning awards for successful programs, now refers to the Randleman Dam and reservoir as a “scam” that the people of Greensboro are paying for with higher water rates. It’s been more than 5 years since the dam was constructed in the face of widespread opposition due to its expense and concern about ecological impacts and future water quality. Yet, even in a drought, none of the Triad cities that said they’d need the future water supply has built a pipe or treatment plant to use the water. High Point officials say they will not need any of the water.

An Aquifer Sucked For Mining…and Sold?

PCS Phosphate on the south shore of the Pamlico River has done deep, open pit mining since the early 1960s by lowering the water table, pumping 68 million gallons a day of wonderful drinking quality water from the Castle Hayne Aquifer. The company discharges most of it into the Pamlico River as if it were wastewater.

When PCS began its pumping, individual and municipal wells dried up for many miles, even across the Pamlico River. The continuing impact on ground water resources is now more gradual, though still significant. A corporation formed in 2001, Eagle Water, has bought the rights to this water and is looking for a big buyer to make a massive pipeline profitable. Many in Eastern NC are objecting to the fact that, in private hands, the resource or any profits unlikely to be used to benefit the people of their region.

PCS is a prime example of massive withdrawal by a for-profit company, and a waste of priceless groundwater. The company provides more than thousand jobs in Beaufort and Pamlico counties, and wields huge political and economic clout. If PCS is allowed to greatly expand its operation, as the company is seeking, the damage would only increase.

Says Jack Spruill, Vice President of PenderWatch, in the state’s current study of its water allocation policies, “There should be no sacred cows, such as the PCS mine. The social cost of wasting valuable ground water in order to mine the mineral and create the jobs should no more be ignored than the social cost of polluting our streams in order to produce cheap pork and chicken or to generate cheap electricity by polluting our air.”

We agree—industries that exist only by wasting or degrading public resources must undergo major changes in how they operate, or have no future in a sustainable NC economy.

-With thanks to Jack Spruill
Meet Joann Almond, CWFNC Board Member!

Joann was a founder and President of Stanly Citizens Opposed to Toxic Chemical Hazards (SCOTCH), formed to challenge the toxic air emissions from burning of hazardous wastes at the Solite Company, which produced “expanded” shale for use in lightweight cinderblocks and other materials. SCOTCH’s relentless monitoring and advocacy forced two DENR Divisions to take enforcement action, increase inspections and strengthen permits over almost two decades. Joann has also been an active Clean Water for North Carolina (CWFNC) member for almost two decades. She lives on a farm near Albemarle, where she has loved raising horses all her life. We’re glad to celebrate all of Joann’s years of support and now her role in guiding CWFNC!

Efficient lights are a part of the solution, but... What to do with your used compact fluorescent light bulbs?

The amount of mercury in compact fluorescent light bulbs (CFLs) is much less than would be released in producing the same amount of light from a conventional incandescent light bulb using power from a coal fired plant. ...but that’s NO reason to be complacent about the toxic mercury in these bulbs, which can be released to air and water.

Shockingly, more than 98% of CFLs purchased by households are DISCARDED rather than recycled! There’s no law requiring recycling, and federal energy legislation will probably prevent sales of conventional bulbs by 2014.

There are a number of permanent Household Hazardous Waste collection facilities across the state, and all of the ones we called accept CFLs! To find the state’s list, visit: http://www.wastenotnc.org/swhome/hhwsites.asp. If the phone number listed isn’t current, try the link to the city or county in the left hand column to find other options.

DON’T WAIT until incandescent bulbs break or burn out— start saving energy right away by replacing them today with CFLs! They’ll use ¼ as much energy as a conventional bulb for the same light and last much longer...then RECYCLE ‘EM!

Orphan Reservoir continued from front cover

In fact, says Baron, Greensboro is using the current drought as an excuse to undertake the next big phase of engineering to sell water regionally. While he was conservation manager, with a record number of new construction permits being issued, reduced usage per customer was more than taking up the slack. Secretly, the water department worried about how to pay expenses while selling less water, but didn’t adjust its cheap water rates. Engineers and officials had assumed Greensboro’s water use would rise, thus justifying the Randleman Dam. Anyone watching regional economic trends knew that an accelerating manufacturing exodus from NC would mean that more water would be freed up for other uses. Yet build it they did.

Who benefits from big new engineering projects and why do they get built despite analysis that says they aren’t needed, or that there are more ecologically sound, cost-effective approaches? Investigation of the circumstances and players in the Randleman project decision would reveal a lot about what’s cockeyed about our current prestige- and investment-driven approach to letting local governments and consultants make such decisions while taxpayers foot the bill. To see more of Mike Baron’s case for the Randleman Dam as a poster child for dysfunctional water resource policy, visit www.damscam.blogspot.com.
Love Your River Rally Calls for a Clean Pigeon River—100 Years is Enough!

On Sat. March 1st, over 100 people from all over western NC and east TN marched around the sprawling Canton paper mill to demand a cleaner Pigeon River. The march was followed by a rally which included passionate speakers from the ongoing struggle to reclaim the river as a public resource. For 100 years, Evergreen Packaging, and previous owners Blue Ridge Paper Products and Champion Int’l., have polluted the tiny river, which flows into TN.

While NC agencies have pitched the message that a polluted Pigeon River is an issue of the past, the Pigeon has a long way to go to be “fishable and swimmable.” Grassroots activists were successful in pushing for clean up of the River in the 80’s and 90’s, but improvements have stalled out since the Mill’s most recent permit in 2001. The Mill is now operating under a permit that is 18 months overdue for renewal. “The technology exists to solve the problem,” said Gary Davis, an environmental attorney who helped environmental groups to challenge the mill 20 years ago. “It’s not jobs versus the environment. It’s just a matter of political will.”

The Pigeon River Action Group (PRAG), a newly invigorated coalition of grassroots groups from TN and NC, calls for major improvements in the next permit: strict daily enforceable in-stream limits, with independent monitoring by NC agency; reduction of toxic compounds in discharge every permit cycle; no more foam, stink, or unpalatable fish; requirements to install pollution-reducing process changes immediately and require reduced pulp production until toxic reductions are met, with even deeper reductions during low river flow conditions.

We need your help to finally win one of the nation’s longest running Clean Water Act struggles! Contact us TODAY to find out how you can get involved at info@cwfnc.org!

CWFNC, EJ, RiverKeeper Groups Protest DENR Spending of Drinking Water Fund

Years of advocacy by CWFNC and community groups helped to establish a statewide Emergency Drinking Water Fund to help well users threatened by contaminated groundwater. But last August, the whole $300,000 appropriation for 2006 was handed over for a single site near Sylva to serve four homes.

Investigation by News and Observer reporter Dan Kane found that over $600,000 was added by the Rural Center, all to build a 2 mile water line extension to an undeveloped area close to a major highway. That’s a total of $185,000 per household, the highest in state records.

The project will accelerate sprawl in an area of Jackson County ripe for development, and will be exempt from the environmental review usually required for a state-funded project because it’s “emergency funding.” Hard to imagine such a “perfect storm” of policy abuses in a single decision.

Assistant DENR Secretary Robin Smith, responsible for this decision, claimed the Sylva site was the only one where low income residents had applied to use the Fund. In fact, over 3 dozen sites with contaminated wells, some of them neglected for over a decade, had been nominated from across the state by February of 2007. The contamination in the Sylva family’s well was only found a month later.

NC Environmental Justice Network groups, NC Fair Share, community activists and the Pamlico-Tar and Lower Neuse River Keepers joined CWFNC in a January 22 letter to DENR officials protesting this spending. The groups called for: 1) notify all users within 1,500 feet of contaminated wells, 2) assist with testing of wells for contaminants, and 3) provide cost-effective safe replacement water, and 4) commit $120,000 to test wells near hog operations, long neglected as a source of well contamination.

DuPont-Made Toxin “Staggeringly High” Downstream of Georgia Carpet Makers

In February, the Georgia Dept. of Natural Resources announced plans to begin statewide sampling at drinking water intakes for perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA, also known as C8). Research by a former GA Univ. professor and graduate students had shown “staggeringly high” levels of the toxic “likely carcinogen” PFOA and other perfluoronated chemicals in the Conasauga River and ponds and streams near Dalton, GA. The culprit appears to be about 30 million gallons of PFOA-containing wastewater from area carpet manufacturers, which was sprayed on 9,200 acres of forest land through a federal- and state-approved program. PFOA is used by companies to make stain-repellent carpeting, and the chemical is manufactured at a single U.S. location – DuPont Works in Fayetteville, NC, where CWFNC has been working with the local community for over two years to get better protections in place, and hold DuPont accountable.

According to news reports, US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) was concerned about the potential for pollution of Georgia waterways in 2004, but chose not to investigate further. Sampling by the United Steelworkers Union showed elevated levels in area drinking water, but GA DNR has no plans for further testing of ground or drinking water. A recent letter sent by the Steelworkers and dozens of environmental groups, including Clean Water for NC, to EPA and GA officials demanded a full-scale investigation, including sampling of ground or drinking water, fish tissue, and annual reporting on promised industry reductions in manufacturing of PFOA.
New Yadkin RiverKeeper Group Gets License!
With remarkable speed, the new Yadkin RiverKeeper, Inc. ("Protecting the Yadkin and Pee Dee River Basin") applied for and got its license from the WaterKeeper Alliance last December! Zoe Hanes, the Chair of the Founding Board, is delighted to have come so far and hopes that fundraising efforts will soon allow the group to hire a RiverKeeper.

Last Spring, Clean Water for NC sponsored meetings to help connect folks along the basin, and we’re working with the group’s Membership Committee now to reach even more potential members. Says Steve Hannah of Granite Quarry, who helped to present the program at a Salisbury meeting on March 25th, “Getting folks involved in protecting their river will be the real measure of our success. Members and volunteers work together to make a better future possible for all of us who depend on a healthy river.” Watch for a late April meeting in Stanly County and Surry County in May. Visit the website at www.fypdr.org or call Montie Hamby at 336-659-0956.

Madison Ski Developer Using Water to Make Snow in a Drought?
Absolutely! Members of Community Group Laurel Valley Watch called local officials to investigate when they saw evidence of withdrawals from a tiny, spring-fed Puncheon Fork Creek for use in snow-making by an expanding ski resort. Residential wells have been going dry in the very same area of Madison County. Local officials appeared satisfied after being told artificial snow was made from a pond that collects rainwater, but further investigation showed a series of pumps and pipes from the nearby creek to the pond. Turns out resort owners pumped up to 650,000 gallons on one or more days in 2007 - over 50% of the volume of the creek! State law says users who withdraw 100,000 gallons or more of ground or surface water in any one day must report their use, but the company hadn’t done so until state officials were brought in. Weak NC laws, based on a history of plentiful water, require no limits to the volume that industries or developers can pump.

In the meantime, Clean Water for NC and Laurel Valley Watch are awaiting a June hearing date for an administrative law judge of the NC Div. of Water Quality permit for a treatment plant. The permit would allow the gallons/day of wastewater into Puncheon Fork Creek just below where water is being withdrawn for snowmaking! Building permits for new condominiums were recently rescinded by the Health Dept. because they had planned to tie into a wastewater plant that hasn’t been built.

Jackson County Sewer Plant
“Special Order” Toughened by Public Comments!
Last year, Tuckaseigee Water and Sewer Authority (TWASA), near Sylva, requested an amendment to their “Special Order by Consent” (SOC), allowing them to operate an old, poorly-designed plant at full capacity (1.5 Million gallons/day). This amendment leaves no room for error, though the plant has a well-documented history of chronic sewage overflows, caused by stormwater seeping into the collection system.

Like dozens of other facilities across NC with long histories of repeatedly violations, TWASA got an SOC from the NC Division of Water Quality to get relief from enforcement while making improvements. Too often, SOCs have simply given polluters permission to continue violating state and federal laws. The original SOC for Tuckaseigee called for only tiny fines if there were violations of an extended 4-year compliance schedule.

Clean Water for NC’s “Pollution Action Pipeline” mobilized volunteers to send in comments on the requested amendment. Although we didn’t stop approval of the additional flow, we did succeed in getting tougher enforcement requirements in the final SOC! Many thanks to our concerned and empowered volunteers, and to Pamlico-Tar Riverkeeper Heather Jacobs, who worked closely with CWFNC on a 2006 challenge to weak SOC for Oxford, a chronic sewage polluter, helping to strengthen enforcement guidelines statewide.

Help us keep tabs on NC polluters! Contact Gracia at 828-251-1291.

Report a pollution problem: contact your nearest environmental regulator

DENR Regional Offices

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<tr>
<th>Office</th>
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<tr>
<td>Washington Regional</td>
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<td>Raleigh Regional</td>
<td>919-791-4200</td>
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If DENR doesn’t take action, contact CWFNC at 800-929-4480
Empowering Communities for a Healthy Environment

Granville Activists Turning the Tide on Biohazard Lab

Relentless efforts by dozens of Granville and area activists have made inroads into support for a proposed federal National Bio- and Agro- Defense Facility (NBAF) that a NC Consortium wants to site in Butner, north of Durham. In December, two small towns, Stem and Creedmoor, voted to oppose the NBAF, and Granville County Commissioners withdrew their support. In January, the Raleigh City Council voted to oppose the lab and Granville Non-Violent Action Team (GNAT) hosted a public forum on proliferation of biohazard labs and Homeland Security’s secretive process that drew a crowd of 400. Clean Water for NC and the Neuse River Foundation researched potential threats to numerous drinking water supply reservoirs in the area and helped to mobilize residents in nearby counties.

Pressure was so intense that Homeland Security officials made an extra February visit to NC to “answer questions.” But most of the public still doesn’t believe that they are getting facts they can trust—thousands have signed petitions to oppose the facility. At least 8 foreign animal diseases, several transmissible to humans, would be brought to NC for study, so the threat could be regional. To get involved, contact Hope at 919-401-9600 or hope@cwfnc.org!

The Granville Non-Violent Action Team taking action in the early 1990’s to stop a state study of potential site for a hazardous waste incinerator. GNAT is making a name for itself again as the group fights a proposed huge Homeland Security biohazard lab.

Cumberland County Well Contamination Investigated—Safe Water Task Force Created

Fayetteville—Despite rapid development in recent decades, over one third of Cumberland County residents still depend on private wells, some even within the Fayetteville city limits. It’s a common pattern throughout the southeast, even in urban areas: water and sewer lines bypassing communities of color and low income neighborhoods in and near Charlotte, Raleigh and other major NC cities, leaving residents on untested wells especially vulnerable to contamination.

In a remarkable five-part series of investigative reports by the Fayetteville Observer (“What Lies Beneath,” starting February 24), the paper’s team found residents who had no idea about contamination that could be spreading to their wells from long-neglected hazardous sites, failures to report test results, long delays in extending lines to contaminated neighborhoods and unreasonable fees to hook on, as well as a lack of funding and follow-through by agencies to help well users deal with problems. Reporters found records for hundreds of contaminated sites throughout the county in state records. A new Cumberland County Safe Water Task Force is building on all of this information to create new policies and initiatives to protect well users and ensure healthy drinking water. Their number one priority: a comprehensive database of all contaminated sites in the County, something that CWFNC has been calling for statewide since 2003. We salute Cumberland County Officials for their initiative and we look forward to working with them for statewide protection for more than 2.7 million NC well users.

NO-OLF Celebrates: Washington County Site Taken Off Navy List

Hearty congratulations for the success of all the hard work and great strategy that finally succeeded in removal of Site C, in Washington and Beaufort Counties, off the Navy’s list of potential locations for the Outlying Landing Field! More than four years after the fight started, No OLF threw a huge celebration on March 29th that drew hundreds of supporters from throughout the region.

The persistence of local residents in protecting their homes and way of life was the single most important factor in this success. Pro bono representation by a Charlotte law firm, Kennedy Covington, and the Southern Environmental Law Center (which joined because of a nearby wildlife refuge) would have been able to accomplish little without a determined local organization keeping up resistance long enough for other issues to get traction.

The group overcame major skepticism about their ability to take on the Navy, built an effective coalition, lobbied everyone they could think of and stayed humble about what they had accomplished. Local resident Ronnie Askew says that the Navy didn’t understand the power of community. Ironically, says NO-OLF spokeswoman Doris Morris, “I think there’s a bond and a friendship that has united the community we didn’t have before.”
Duke Energy: Cliffside Plant Challenged; 200% Profit from “Save-A-Watt”??

In January, the NC Division of Air Quality gave a permit to Duke Energy for the 800 MW Cliffside coal-fired plant that the Utilities Commission had said was justified last year. Groups all over the state had made oral or written comments about the increased toxic emissions, the “shell game” that Duke was playing with NOx emissions and, perhaps most damaging of all, the unsustainable water use and massive increase in greenhouse gas emissions. Groups from NC WARN to Appalachian Voices, to the RiverKeepers and Southern Environmental Law Center are legally challenging the permit, and an even broader coalition continues to take grassroots action to draw attention to the hypocrisy of Duke CEO Jim Rogers and plan further direct actions.

Last year’s NC Senate Bill 3, intended to create a “renewable portfolio standard” for utility electric generation, included several dangerous utility-supported provisions were strongly opposed by CWFNC, NC-WARN, and even several mainstream groups. “Construction Work in Progress” or CWIPS, would help utilities shove the financial risks of building big new coal or nuclear plants onto ratepayers by adding to electric rates even while being planned, and even if the plants never produce a kilowatt of power! CWFNC will work with other groups to stop Cliffside and all new coal and nuclear plants and make sure that CWIPS never gets used to rob ratepayers of the right to decide what energy they buy.

Clean Water for NC is also working with groups to challenge Duke Energy’s overreaching and unjust “Save-A-Watt” (SAW) program, now being considered by the Utilities Commission. Our analysis of SAW shows it’s really only about 20% efficiency and conservation. The very limited programs will be paid for by increased rates for everyone, but will benefit mostly middle and upper income ratepayers, sort of an inverse Robin Hood approach. Still worse, if Duke is given permission by the Utilities Commission to pay for “efficiency” by recovering 90% of the “avoided costs” of building and operating expensive new power plants, the company could make a 200% profit, essentially sabotaging the cheapest way to meet energy needs! How could this even be legal, you ask? The corporate control of our legislature and Utilities Commission MUST be challenged. Only a non-utility efficiency/conservation program will have the ability to reduce greenhouse gas emissions fast enough to stave off a climate crisis.

Industry Wants to Weaken Monitoring of Fuel Tanks, DENR: No!

By far the largest source of contaminated groundwater in North Carolina and most of the US is leading underground storage tanks (USTs). There are thousands of such sites in NC and only a small fraction of those are being required to clean up, due to the near bankruptcy of a state Underground Storage Tank Fund that is supposed to serve as insurance for tank owners. To stop the Fund from running out of money, legislators said that the state agency shouldn’t require cleanups except at the “highest risk” sites—so toxic contamination at thousands of sites continues to spread. Even EPA has noticed this terrible idea for a “solution” to the financial problems of the UST Fund! Again this year, NC DENR, the petroleum industry, tank owners and advocacy groups like CWFNC and NCPIRG, will try to hammer out a legislative compromise that will move tank owners to “third party” insurance to fully cover them for any liability. Then the state agency will have no excuse for failing to hold tank owners accountable for cleaning up ALL sites!

One of the best ways to prevent leaks from happening is to require “secondary containment,” including double-walled tanks and a protective layer around all piping and connections. New rules requiring secondary containment for all new or replacement tanks, which CWFNC supported strongly, have been in place since last summer.

There are several ways to monitor for potential leaks in the inner or outer tank walls to alert the tank owner BEFORE a leak can get to the groundwater. The most reliable methods, to find leaks anywhere on an inner or outer tank, involve measuring small changes in pressure or vacuum. But the manufacturers of steel tanks want to allow electronic monitoring, which would only be able to detect liquid building up at the bottom of the space between the tanks, so might not be able to prevent a leak the next time a tank with a hole near the top was filled to a higher level. DENR officials tried to cut off this proposed change early in the process, but did not succeed, so the rule change will probably go to public hearings soon. We’ll ask for your help to stop this industry-initiated weakening of monitoring requirements!

California Environmental Justice Groups Challenge Carbon Trading

A carefully crafted resolution, signed by dozens of statewide and grassroots environmental justice groups, challenges the concept of carbon trading as a means to prevent climate change. Saying that “Asian, Black, Latino, and Native American communities in the United States, as well as indigenous and poor people around the world, disproportionately bear the negative economic, environmental, and health impacts of the fossil fuel economy…” and pointing that the poor, and people of color are already starting to suffer greatly from climate change, the groups say that no one should be given the “right” to dispose of wastes in conflict with “true human rights of people and respect for our planet.”

The intrinsically undemocratic nature of such market structures, preventing most people from participating in energy decisions, the potential to enrich California’s biggest polluters and the unlikely success of such models to reduce emissions at the urgent rate needed are all reasons given by the groups to oppose carbon trading and offsets. The California Environmental Justice Movement resolves to oppose efforts by state government to create a carbon trading and offset program, especially since this largest state economy would only encourage other states to follow suit, further deepening economic and environmental inequities.

As we look for solutions to prevent the deepening climate crisis, we must remember that any markets we create must be dedicated to reducing such inequities, and creating a new, restorative economy. An important step in that direction could be independent energy efficiency programs, which would pay back participants or investors through energy cost SAVINGS! See our 2007 report on such efficiency programs at www.cwfnc.org/.
Thanks to Our Foundation Partners and Major Donors for their Generous Support!

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Sam Hummel (Humble Pie Foundation)
Richard A. McElrath
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Thanks to Our Recent New and Renewing Members!

Thanks to our new Stream Monitoring volunteers!
Bruce Johnson, Richard Humble, Barbara Stroud, Mike Ward, Pam Vivian, Kathy Stroupe, Elliot Mills, Craig Mills, Katie Massey, Matt Chambers, Dan Clere, Randy Burroughs, Michael Vitale, Eddie Morris and Joy Harwood

Thanks to our Environmental Wild and Scenic Film Fest volunteers!
Brandi Honeycutt, Sarahbeth Larrimore, Mark Vanderhoff. Thanks to Robin Cape for a terrific job of emceeing our event!

Thanks to our SEE Expo volunteers!
Mark and Susan Crimaudo, Brandi Honeycutt, Nathaniel Alvarez, Thea Shaw, Sarahbeth Larrimore, Mary Hughes and Lynn Johnson.

Join Clean Water for North Carolina
(or renew your membership!)

❖ Here’s my donation to join or renew my CWFNC membership:
❖ $20  ❖ $35
❖ $50  ❖ $100
❖ Other $___________

❖ I would like to volunteer, contact me.
Name ________________________________
Address _______________________________
City __________________________________
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(Email is a faster & cheaper way for us to reach you.)

Make your check payable to:
Clean Water for North Carolina
and send to: 29½ Page Avenue
Asheville, NC 28801
Akeem McDay, Water and Energy for Justice Asheville intern, knows that he is actually saving and protecting WATER while he reduces energy use on a neighborhood home. NC’s coal and nuclear power plants withdraw NINETIMES the water used each day by all of the state’s drinking water suppliers combined, an unjustifiable and unsustainable while large areas of the state still face severe drought conditions!

Do YOUR part to show that NC doesn’t need Cliffside or ANY new power plants and that there’s no place for them in our water future! We highly recommend “Climate Code Red,” a new report released by the Australian Friends of the Earth, available at www.climatecodered.net.

Akeem McDay caulking a resident’s window in the Shiloh neighborhood.