A newsletter of clean water and community environmental justice issues

Clean Water for North Carolina
Clean Currents

Papermill Permit Challenge Moves Forward

After more than 20 years of research on papermill impacts and advocating for a clean Pigeon River, Clean Water for NC joined downstream river advocates and NC and TN groups to file a legal challenge to Blue Ridge Paper’s new wastewater permit in late July. Despite NC Div. of Water Quality’s changes to the draft permit after EPA objections, the groups say the permit still allows the Canton Mill to discharge too much color and heat into the Pigeon River, about 40 miles upstream of the Tennessee border.

Following the 1997 Settlement of a previous permit challenge, the Mill’s discharge improved rapidly for 3 years and then stalled out for the past decade. A 2001 “Joint Study” between environmental groups and Blue Ridge Paper showed that pulping and bleaching processes at the Canton Mill could be modified, likely reducing chemical costs, while cleaning up the discharge and improving water quality in the River. EPA recommended some of the same process changes. However, the NC regulators ignored those recommendations. The most recent draft permit, issued more than 3 years late, had threatened a permanent end to the River clean up.

“We know enough about these processes to be confident that what we are calling for is no threat to jobs at the Mill,” says Hope Taylor, Exec. Director of CWFNC. “The statement that these process changes could shut down the Mill is just ‘job blackmail’ to whip up local support.” Blue Ridge Paper is now owned by a New Zealand based private equity firm with deeper pockets than previous employee owners.

Clean Water Expected for East Tennessee, Clean Water for North Carolina, Cocke County, Tennessee, the Tennessee Chapter of the Sierra Club, Tennessee Conservation Voters, Tennessee Scenic Rivers Association and Western North Carolina Alliance are represented by the Southern Environmental Law Center in the “contested case” against the permit.

River guides have observed dark color, foam and odor, especially during periods of low flow, as recently as this past summer. In 2007, the death of at least 8,000 fish near the paper mill was attributed to high water temperatures. Despite the threat that heated plant wastewater poses to fish and other aquatic life in the river, the permit only sets a monthly average temperature limit, measured nearly half a mile down-stream, and sets no limits on daily discharge, allowing extreme temperature spikes.

Iliff McMahan, Jr., Mayor of Cocke County, TN at the time of filing, explained, “Citizens downstream from the plant are being deprived of high quality recreational experiences, as well as a healthy environment to develop businesses and raise their families. We feel the permit’s terms do not represent meaningful progress under the Settlement Agreement, or the Clean Water Act. After 102 years of continuous pollution from this paper mill, that is not acceptable.”

“The high temperatures and temperature fluctuations allowed under this permit will not safeguard against future fish kills,” said Hartwell Carson, French Broad RiverKeeper with WNCA. Amelia Taylor of Clean Water Expected in East Tennessee adds, “We know that process changes to improve the paper mill’s discharges are technically understood and affordable.” Instead of requiring water improvements “at the quickest possible pace,” as required by the 1997 Settlement Agreement, “this permit prolongs a century of environmental injustice by failing to require long overdue steps towards restoring the river.”
Clean Water for North Carolina

Clean Water for North Carolina is a private, non-profit organization based in Asheville, NC. CWFNC works to ensure that all people have a right to live, work, and play in clean and safe communities. Together, we have the power and responsibility to work for a healthy and sustainable environment. Our staff works with an active and diverse board of directors, as well as, members to increase grassroots involvement in environmental decisions. CWFNC spearheads action statewide and helps grassroots and environmental groups, individuals, and local governments develop strategies to address threats to the environment.

Our Mission

Clean Water for North Carolina promotes clean, safe water and environments and empowered, just communities for all North Carolinians through organizing, education, advocacy, and technical assistance.

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Key Federal Legislation—Bipartisan Approach Needed

In the shifting political winds of Congress, it will take bipartisan efforts and a commitment to the future health of our children and communities to overcome corporate messaging that economic recovery depends on their massive profits. Let your Representative know your views!

The “FRAC” Act: Restoring Safe Drinking Water Act and Chemical Disclosure Requirements

The “Fracturing Responsibility and Awareness of Chemicals Act” or FRAC Act, introduced in both the House and Senate, ensures that the wider production of natural oil and gas throughout the US will not impair drinking water safety. Both bills require public disclosure of fracking chemicals and that gas fracking be placed under the protections of the Safe Drinking Water Act. Since “fracking” (horizontal drilling and injecting fluids to gain access to gas reserves) was exempted from federal laws by the 2005 Energy Policy Act (the “Halliburton Loop”), EPA lost authority to adequately investigate or regulate the process.

The FRAC Act would place fracking under the same federal regulations as other industries that inject fluids, while leaving flexibility for most states to develop their own regulatory programs. North Carolinians could soon be part of the national debate if oil and gas companies work to overturn our protections. CWFNC urges readers to learn about gas fracking and to support the federal FRAC Act.

Kid Safe Chemical Act: (KSCA)

Introduced in both Senate and House), the bill would establish a safety standard for each chemical on the market, including those in baby bottles and children’s toys. Sponsor Rep. Waxman stated, “it will deliver what its name implies — a nontoxic environment for our children." Families would be protected from unregulated toxic chemicals; using a similar regulatory structure as currently exists for pesticides and pharmaceuticals. Out of 80,000 possible chemicals used in product production, the EPA currently requires the testing of only 200. If the bill passes, the EPA would gain authority to restrict those chemicals that fail to meet standards.

Toxic Substances Control Act—Fix it!

A bill introduced in Congress in July would strengthen TSCA by requiring review of all chemicals for safety, restricting or eliminating ones found dangerous and promote development of new, safer chemicals. Companies would supply EPA with the chemical identity plus data on substance’s hazards, exposure, and use for each chemical they produce. H.R. 5820 also would require manufacturers and processors to disclose what goes into their products throughout their life cycle.

A coalition of 250 public health and environmental groups, Safer Chemicals, Healthy Families, points out that reform would reduce chronic disease and give US manufacturers and retailers tools to compete in a global market turning away from toxic products.

Reauthorizing “Superfund” Tax on Big Polluters

In 1980, Congress established the “Superfund” program, designed to clean up high-priority toxic waste sites. Using taxes on major polluters such as petroleum and chemical industries - a “polluter pays” approach - EPA could start a clean up, identify “responsible parties” and take them to court to recover the costs. In 1996, Congress failed to reauthorize the Superfund fees, so funds ran out in 2003. Since that time, taxpayers have paid for Superfund site clean ups, resulting in major slowdowns and accountability lapses.

For Superfund’s 30th birthday in early December, CWFNC join groups across the nation calling on Congress to lift the burden from taxpayers for funding the toxic waste site cleanup program and reinstate polluter pays fees in 2011. The chemical industry has experienced a 200% increase in profits this year—and must be made to foot the bill for pollution they cause!
Water privatization by for-profit corporations is a global concern as well as a local one for North Carolina. In our Summer issue, Duke intern Siying Zhang reported on water privatization trends that are particularly characteristic of our state’s economic history and rural development pattern. We’ve seen that large companies like Aqua America aggressively buy small, rural water systems and raise statewide rates, with some evidence that those rates fund more improvements in higher use/higher income communities. Meanwhile, very small water companies impact low-income residents of mobile home parks by charging for water which was once included in rent, with limited accountability. During our 2010 Water Justice Listening Canvass, we have talked to NC neighborhoods facing these very problems. Here are a few examples.

Asheville – Residents of Mosswood and Crownpointe mobile home parks (MHPs) started paying for water earlier this year. Owners of MHPs often start by including water costs in rent. However, the North Carolina Utilities Commission (“the Commission”), which regulates private utility rates and service, allows owners to apply for a “Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity” to meter water and charge residents a separate bill to make a profit. We’ve noticed a rapid rise in the number of MHP owners who get this Certificate – an easy way to profit at residents’ expense!

The owner of both Mosswood and Crownpointe buys Asheville City water at a bulk discount and resells it to residents, who pay more than they would if the municipal, publicly-owned water system served them directly. Rent charges didn’t get reduced when residents started paying water bills—unfortunately that often happens across the state. Many have a hard time paying the new water bills, get very poor service, and find bills unclear, with fees for contractors in charge of meter-reading and billing, plus water, sewer, and an additional administrative fee. The language barrier is an additional problem for Spanish-speaking community members: correspondence from contractors and many MHP owners is usually in English only.

Charlotte - The new development Park South Station is in an outrage about Aqua NC’s rates. After an arrangement with the developer, Aqua obtained a “certificate” to resell water at a profit in the subdivision when it was built, and residents see the company’s acquisition of their water system as an opportunistic way to increase profits without undertaking the costs of providing the actual water supply.

When Stan Coleman received his first bill from Aqua, with more than $60 in “flat” charges alone (the base charge for water and sewer each month, on top of which he pays for the volume of water used!), he talked to his neighbors and found that everyone was alarmed. The community is mixed income, with many “starter homes.” Stan did some research to find out why the company could charge so much for water and sewer services simply bought from Charlotte-Mecklenburg Utilities at the lowest tier of residential rates. After becoming increasingly frustrated by the Utilities Commission’s apparent lack of concern for the public and preferential treatment of Aqua NC, Stan filed a formal complaint. Many residents of Park South Station signed a petition protesting Aqua’s rates. They say that Aqua has no right to sell at a profit the same municipal water used by neighboring areas at lower rates. The Commission’s approval of such high rates and resale of public water, say Park South residents, indicates flawed, unfair policies that must be reformed to protect the public.

Fuquay Varina, Wake County - Despite being close to the town of Fuquay Varina’s public water lines, the developer of Northgate donated a lot to the private Heater Utilities company to drill a community well for selling water to the 30 modest homes to be built in the 1970s to 90s. The lot was adjacent to a Burlington Mills contaminated site, which had been known for decades by the NC Groundwater Section and other officials. In 2000, the toxic solvent trichloroethylene (TCE) was detected below regulatory levels in well water distributed to Northgate residents. Quarterly water tests showed a rising TCE levels for several years. Only when Aqua’s well was close to violating the drinking water standard for TCE as an annual average in 2005 did the company notify the public and install a filter to remove the solvent.

The well tested clean for six months after the filter was installed, but tests soon showed increasing TCE again. This should have alerted the company and regulators that the filter wasn’t working and was overdue for replacement. Instead, the filter wasn’t replaced until 2007. Residents were fed up with Aqua NC and don’t trust state regulators to protect them either. They bought bottled water, strategized with CWFNC in 2008 and hired an attorney to work to hook up to city water and settle with Guilford Mills and Aqua NC.

Two years later, the polluter has only offered to pay part of the cost of hookups, and Fuquay Varina will only connect Northgate residents if all agree to hook up and not sue Guilford Mills, an unreasonable condition. Because a few households want to retain their right to sue for any health effects from the contamination; the Town has denied hookups to everyone, who are stuck with poor service and erratic water quality from Aqua. If town water had been piped directly to residents when the community was built, the residents would never have faced this situation.

“...the right to safe and clean drinking water and sanitation as a human right that is essential for the full enjoyment of life and all human rights.”

United Nations, July 26, 2010
Focus on Communities

Buncombe County Mobile Home Park Residents Protest Water Bills, Foul Water

Weaverville - Residents of Eden Glen mobile home park recently had to start paying for water they can’t even drink. The community’s public well has been plagued with iron and iron bacteria for years, causing tap water to appear yellow or black and have a foul odor. Iron occurs naturally and falls under secondary drinking water standards, which our state Public Water Supply Section doesn’t enforce (some states do). Though iron isn’t generally considered a threat to human health, except in extremely high concentrations, most people agree the water is undrinkable and stains skin, teeth and clothing. For years the landlord, David Young (who happens to be a state political party official), included water in the rent. But in 2009, after getting a “Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity”, he was allowed to begin making a profit from separate water charges.

When residents began to receive bills, many refused to pay for the poor-quality water. After initial water cutoffs in response to nonpayment, public outcry forced Young to reconnect water and temporarily suspend charges until he could install a better filtration system. Residents continue to buy bottled drinking water out of their own pockets, and are doubtful that the new filtration system will make much of a difference. CWFNC will hold a “Water Justice” workshop in the community in November to help residents take the next steps toward affordable and safe water.

CWFNC Hosts 26th Annual Meeting!

Winston-Salem - CWFNC members, staff, volunteers and Board gathered at the Childrens’ Home in Winston-Salem in September. Interns, community volunteers and staff presented on topics ranging from water privatization and water rights to polluter challenges to urban stream monitoring. Thanks to all of our great 2009 - 2010 Board officers and wonderful volunteers who make our work possible!

New officers elected include: Chair—Jodi Lasseter, Durham; Vice Chair—Joanna Connolly, Lawndale; Secretary—Allen Hubbard, Lincolnton; Treasurer—Isaac Coleman, Asheville.

CWFNC Reaches Out to 14 Counties Vulnerable to “Fracking” Sundance Award-Winning Film GASLAND Fires Up NC Audiences

Starting in early November, CWFNC began working with local co-hosting organizations to show the remarkable documentary “GASLAND,” about Josh Fox’s search for the truth about the impacts of hydraulic fracturing for natural gas from Pennsylvania to Wyoming. Tapwater that catches fire, destroyed landscapes, toxic air that knocks nearby residents out cold, and companies and agencies that evade residents’ need for answers and protection—all are part of a story that North Carolinians need to hear. Parts of at least 14 counties (see map) lie over coal bed methane deposits that are drawing interest from at least 5 gas companies. Rural Advancement Foundation International, which works with farm groups, and their volunteer attorneys have said the leases are among the “most predatory we have ever seen.” Landowners could be responsible for environmental damage, could be forced to pay for water and infrastructure for “fracking” operations, and could have no recourse if they lose the use of their wells.

Showings started in Chatham and Granville Counties, and more are being scheduled in Anson, Durham and Lee Counties. If you live in one of the areas shown on the map with gas reserves and want to work with CWFNC to host a showing, please contact us today! E-mail hope@cwfnc.org or call 919-401-9600.
New Hill Community Persists in Fight to Stop Regional Wastewater Plant

New Hill, NC—For several years, the New Hill Community Association has fought relentlessly against the siting of a regional wastewater plant in their community, where many of the residents wouldn’t even receive services. Rev. James Clanton, pastor of First Baptist Church, recently received the Florenza Moore Grant Community Environmental Justice Award for his leadership in the struggle.

Many considered that, with several municipalities working together as Western Wake Partners to build the plant, that the small, mostly African-American New Hill community wouldn’t have a chance to prevent the plant from being built. But their persistence, growing public support and pro bono legal representation by the Southern Coalition for Social Justice have begun to create cracks in the plan: the town of Holly Springs recently withdrew from Western Wake Partners.

Most recently the Southern Coalition filed a legal challenge to the wastewater permit that NC water quality regulators had granted to the proposed plant at the controversial site. Many New Hill residents also recently participated in a public hearing in Apex, questioning the Western Wake Partner’s plan to discharge from the proposed sewage treatment plant into a distressed portion of the Cape Fear River. CWFNC salutes the New Hill Association for its determination, and we join the allies fighting for a better environmental solution that doesn’t impose disproportionate impact on this remarkable community!

Report a pollution problem: contact your nearest environmental regulator...

DENR Regional Offices

Asheville: 828-296-4500              Raleigh: 919-791-4200
Fayetteville: 910-486-1541           Washington: 252-946-6481
Mooresville: 704-663-1699           Wilmington: 910-796-7215
Wintom-Salem: 336-771-4600

If DENR doesn’t act, contact CWFNC at 800-929-4480

Focus on Communities

Roanoke Rapids Neighborhood Fights Yet ANOTHER Enviro Injustice

Florine Bell and Sally Powell, leaders of the Lincoln Heights Community Development Coalition, are working with over a hundred local residents to save their neighborhood and rebuild its health and well-being. After dealing with a legacy of old contaminated textile mill sites, two city landfills and continuing illegal dumping in their community outside the City line, they are now faced with the threat of a large waste transfer station. Instead of supporting years of grassroots efforts to restore or demolish the older homes in the neighborhood, some of which are abandoned, the City continues to view Lincoln Heights as a sacrifice area, the path of least resistance for any new undesirable project.

The transfer station would bring rodents, odors and an unsightly facility, and right at the entrance to the neighborhood. While the City says it is looking at a total of 5 possible sites for the transfer station, Sally Powell says, “With the history of dumping on this area, we'll need to demand a public meeting and be sure that the City knows that they can’t keep wasting areas that have low wealth and minority residents.” As Florine Bell points out, “NC law says that new waste facilities can’t be built in areas where they will have a disproportionate impact. Enough is Enough!”
CWFNC, RiverKeepers Call for Stronger Coal Plant Protections

This year, several of Duke and Progress Energy’s coal-fired power plants begin another 5-year permitting cycle under the Clean Water Act.

Hot Discharges: Threat to Aquatic life and Water Supplies
Clean Water for NC is especially concerned about the effects of hot water discharges. Not only do power plants constitute over 80% of total water withdrawals in NC, the water they return to rivers and lakes is hot, causing tens of millions of gallons of evaporation each day downstream and threatening water supplies. High temperatures also kill native fish and other aquatic life, reducing oxygen levels.

Catawba Coal Plant Permits
Working with great interns from the Duke Law Clinic, CWFNC submitted comments last May, calling for stricter and daily limits on hot discharges, as well as much stronger protections for Catawba River basin coal plants’ ash ponds. A flood of comments from groups contacted by CWFNC and the Catawba RiverKeeper caused DWQ to announce a public hearing in October. CWFNC joined many other organizations and concerned citizens in demanding stronger permits for Duke’s Marshall, Riverbend, and Allen Steam Stations. At the hearing in Mooresville, CWFNC’s Katie Hicks urged the agency to set daily limits for discharge temperature for all plants, to prevent extreme temperature spikes which can cause fish kills. Others pointed to the Catawba’s role as a drinking water source downstream and the dangers of toxic coal byproducts.

Upcoming Asheville Plant Permit Renewal
Later this year, the Progress Energy’s Asheville plant’s permit, which also lacks a daily temperature limit and adequate coal ash protections, will come up for renewal. Lake Julian, which receives the discharge, is always warm, and the high level of evaporation is obvious when it condenses on cool days. Ironically, it now hosts a population of tropical tilapia fish!

The Asheville plant also has a “highhazard” coal ash pond dam, looming ominously over I-26 and the French Broad River. CWFNC, French Broad RiverKeeper and local WENOCA Sierra allies will be watching the process closely. Stay tuned for more information. To get all notices, e-mail katie@cwfnc.org to be added to our “Pollution Action Pipeline.”

NC SAVE$ ENERGY Alliance Works To Support Statewide Efficiency

The NC SAVE$ ENERGY Alliance - more than 40 organizations united to promote an independent , statewide energy efficiency program - is updating our plan to work for more grassroots and legislative support next year!

In 2009, electric utilities Duke and Progress Energy opposed House Bill 1050, which would have created a statewide program to fund home weatherizations and energy efficiency upgrades to buildings that serve the public, such as schools and libraries. Many job training programs are already underway at community colleges, and the state’s 35 Community Action Agencies have increased employment to use federal stimulus funding, overseen by the NC State Energy Office. With no new administration needed, our proposal can emphasize continuing weatherization efforts at a strong pace and widening the base of folks who can benefit.

It’s critical that we save weatherization jobs and create savings for thousands of NC families who still need help to make their homes more comfortable, healthy and affordable to heat and cool. Further, a revolving loan fund would allow middle class folks who can’t afford upfront costs for efficiency improvements to begin saving on their bills right away, as they pay off the cost of improvements over several years.

The Alliance will meet on December 2 in Raleigh and new member organizations are welcomed! Call 919-401-9600 or visit www.ncsavesenergy.org to learn more, join the Alliance.

Upcoming NC “Triennial Review” - A Clean Water Act Tool for ALL to Use

The federal Clean Water Act requires extensive public participation, from reviews of permits, to new or revised regulations. Every three years, each state is required to initiate a Triennial Review, in which the public is invited to send in data and observations about streams, rivers and reservoirs they use or live close to, as well as to propose new or improved water quality standards for pollutants such as nutrients, sediment, toxic substances, etc.

This has been a greatly underused tool in NC, and there’s been little public participation, partly because the NC Division of Water Quality has generally ignored any proposed changes from the public. But we want to change that this year, by getting LOTS of comments on what standards would make NC waters and communities healthier, and a good turnout for public hearings. We will also be commenting on the state’s “variances” to our water quality standards, for color (paper mills), chloride (pickle factories) and hot discharges (most of the state’s coal and nuclear plants)—it’s time to give NC waters the FULL protection of the Clean Water Act!

To get announcements of Triennial Review comment period early in 2011, as well as permits coming up for renewal, you can e-mail katie@cwfnc.org to sign up for our Pollution Action Pipeline!
Thanks to our Foundation Partners and Major Donors for their Generous Support!

Ann Batchelder and Henri Kieffer
Colette and Stan Corwin
Alan and Marty Finkel
First Congregational Church of Christ—Asheville
Pricey Harrison (Julian Price Family Fund)
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Jack R. Spruill
Brad Stanback and Shelli Lodge-Stanback
Fred and Alice Stanback
Betty and Winston Taylor Family
Rick and Shawney Weisler Family Fund
2 Anonymous

Thanks to Our Recent New and Renewing Members!

Mitchell Jackson, Thomas and Joan East, Meg MacLeod, Jean and Kenneth Hinson, Susan Luster, JoAnn Almond, Jennifer McGovern and Steven Unruhe, Reg Tucker, Peter and Jane Roda, Lois and Charlie Brummitt, Leah Karpen, Dr. Daniel Graham, Pablo and Jenean Stone, Joseph Haun, Pam Westmoreland Sholar, Bill and Jane Berry, Dan and Barbara Gerber, Jerry and Mary Price, Jack Saye, John Noel, Joan Lemire, Patsy Keever, Jim and Carol Hilleges, Peter and Jolynn Lloyd, Elaine McNeill and Ann Louise Barrick, Pat Tompkins, Heather Rayburn and Benjamin Gillum, Richard Bierly, Deck Stapleton, Sarah Beth Larimore, Charles Stohr, Gracia O’Neill, Joanna Connolly, Dave and Katie Schwartz, Nathanette Mayo, Sara O’Neal, Etta-Jeanne Greski, Jeri Gray, Richard DeMott, Judith Hallock, Doug and Carol Wingeier, Bill and Ann Davis, Jodi Lasseter, Mazie Levenson, Ran Coble and Jane Kendall, Molly Beacham, and Steve Schewel

Thanks to all those who made our September 7 Burrito Bash a success!

Haw River Assembly: Thanks for inviting us to share in this fun event and guiding our first ever “silent auction” effort! Wonderful Volunteers who greeted guests, checked tickets, handled auction sales, recruited auction items: Anjali and John Orlando, Russell Herman, Andrea Lloyd—we couldn’t have done it without you!

And hearty thanks to the generous members, artists, staff and businesses who Donated Auction Items: Azteca Restau- rant, Regulator Books, Maqui Ortiz, Carolina Brewery, Brad Porter, Dave Graedon, Shakori Hills Festival, Donovan Woods, Paws4Ever, Big Bloomers-Sanford, Delvecchio Faison Judi Ortiz, Hill Creek Veterinary Clinic, REI Durham, John Orlando, Tiritest Laboratories, Metaform Movement

Thanks to our recent volunteers

(SEE Expo, fall mailing, canvassing, outreach, aerial photography & “fracking” outreach):


Thanks to all who took the time to fill out our Volunteer/ Member Feedback Survey online.

You told us how we can better support your participation, including:

- organizing events closer to your home
- offering trainings (greatest interest: “water rights” workshop, and photography and documentation see our new website for a “Guide to Documentary Photography”)
- giving clearer explanations of volunteer opportunities (see NEW position descriptions and volunteer application on our website!)

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

Here is my donation to join or renew my CWFNC membership:
- $25  □ $35  □ $100  □ Other  □ I would like to volunteer

Contact Information:
Name: ________________________________
Address: ________________________________
City: __________________________ State: _____ Zip: ______
Email: ________________________________

(Email is a faster & cheaper way for us to reach you)

Make your check payable to: Clean Water for North Carolina, 29 1/2 Page Avenue, Asheville, NC 28801
Highlights Our Members & Volunteers

Andrea Emanuel Lloyd
Andrea is currently a doctoral student in Community Psychology at NC State Univ. Andrea became involved with CWFNC because of her interest in environmental health and access disparities. She has played several roles since joining the organization this year including ACTIVIST, RESEARCHER and COMMUNITY CONNECTOR through her input on our canvassing questionnaire, by researching water issues with families and by her time spent canvassing in Durham and Lincoln counties. Thank you, Andrea!

Joan Lemire
Joan, a member and supporter since 2005, recently helped CWFNC connect with members of her church through its annual Social Action Fair. Acting as a COMMUNITY CONNECTOR by simply getting some free materials from our office, Joan was able to reach out to several interested individuals in her congregation. Thank you, Joan, for your support of CWFNC!

Have you seen our new website?
Visit http://www.cwfnc.org for an updated look and some exciting new features, like an interactive community map and more ways to connect to our work.

Water Rights Workshops Announced!
Clean Water for North Carolina recently launched a new workshop, “Your Rights as a Water Customer.” The free two hour participatory workshops will cover: your water system, reading a water bill, and defending your rights. Please contact Katie Hicks at (828) 251-1291 or katie@cwfnc.org for more information or to schedule a workshop in YOUR community.

You’re Invited to the Clean Water New Years Party!
Join us Friday afternoon, January 7, from 4:00 to 6:00, to enjoy other CWFNC members, staff and volunteers, celebrate our achievements and gather our spirit for the coming year! Refreshments, good fellowship and a chance to learn more about what we’re planning for 2011! Please RSVP to Katie, 828-251-1291