

The Greenway News



The Yadkin River Greenway Council Newsletter

The Greenway... To Build And Preserve!

2017 – THE YEAR IN REVIEW INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Programs On The Greenway
Connect Students to History

2

Moravian Creek To WCC
Paving Photos

3

Volunteers Help The Yadkin
River Greenway Roll On

4

Maintenance
Partnership

5

Meet The Yadkin River
Greenway Council

6

Yadkin River Greenway
Listed In Trip Advisor

7

Greenway's Mulberry
Fields The Site Of An Old
Indian Village!

8

Connector Project Areal

9

Fundraising

10

Greenway Friends,
Contributors & Sponsors

11

Photos Along
The Greenway

12

13

Greenway Planning Map

14

Existing Greenway
Sections Map

15

A Message from the President

The analogy of “ducks on the water” best describes the Council’s greenway activities for 2017! And that is... while the ducks *LOOK!* tranquil on the surface, if you peek under the water, they are paddling like crazy!

The past year culminated in the finalization of one of the greenways most sought after, anticipated and difficult construction projects...the connection of the Smoot to Memorial Park and Mulberry Fields greenway sections.

This milestone achievement will represent the second time two major greenway sections have been connected since the greenway came into existence over 25 years ago! With the achievement of these two milestones, greenway construction and *connectivity* has become an integral part of the development and planning of pedestrian routes within both the Towns of North Wilkesboro and Wilkesboro!

Thanks to the generous finance support of the community, 2017 was yet another great year for Greenway fund raising programs.

In addition, generous funding by various corporations and governmental entities allowed the Greenway to continue to expand and help meet the recreational and physical fitness needs of the visitors to and citizens of Wilkes County.



Walking The Yadkin River Greenway

The Council would like to thank our partners in interest, the Towns of Wilkesboro, North Wilkesboro and Wilkes County for their continued support, protection and maintenance of this valuable asset. Their efforts continue to sustain its growth and development.

I would like to thank our Council members for their efforts and support and congratulate them on their continued success.

As always, I look forward to seeing *YOU* on the *Greenway!*

Charlie White

Programs On The Greenway Connect Students With History

Overmountain Victory Trail Association is the friends organization partner with The National Park Service re-enactors has been conducting programs for area students along sections of the Yadkin Greenway which are also part of the Overmountain Victory National Historic Trail.

Each fall, students from Wilkes and Surry School systems are invited out to participate in field trips along the Yadkin River Greenway. During these field trips, students get to participate in 18th century hands on demonstrations. They walk along sections of greenway that were used by the "Overmountain Men" in 1780 in route to the Battle of Kings Mountain during the American Revolutionary War.

The Battle of Kings Mountain resulted in a Patriot victory and is considered among military historians as the turning point in the American Revolutionary War. The Overmountain Victory Trail was designated by Congress in 1980 and signed into law by President Jimmy Carter.

The total trail length of the designated route is 330 miles. It passes through sections of Virginia, Tennessee, North Carolina, and South Carolina. Much of the Yadkin River Greenway follows (and in some places aligns directly with) the original route of the Overmountain men during their historic campaign.

The National Park Service has an important partner with the Yadkin River Greenway. It has provided funding to install historic kiosks and construct a bus turnaround and parking area near Willow Lane. In addition, the National Park Service recently provided cost share funding from the Outdoor Foundation to help construct a portion of the connector section the Yadkin River Greenway from Mulberry Fields to Memorial Park.

In 2017 over 15,000 students attended interpretive field day programs along the 330 mile stretch of the Overmountain Victory National Historic Trail. Approximately 1700 area students attended these programs in Wilkes and Surry Counties. The programs are provided through cooperative agreement funding by the National Park Service to the Overmountain Victory Trail Association (OVTA).

Students participate in marching, drilling and colonial dancing. They get to experience many demonstrations up close. Other partnering agencies assisting with the school programs include the Wilkes Heritage Museum and the Fort Defiance Historic Site, which is located in Happy Valley, North Carolina.



Mary Bohlen and Doug Mitchell (above) along with other historic re-enactors with the OVTA present programs along the Overmountain Victory Trail for area students.



The National Park Service sets up a booth along the Greenway to talk to students about the Overmountain Victory National Historic Trail.



A re-enactor from the OVTA tells students about the Overmountain Men who fought at the Battle of Kings Mountain.

Moravian Creek to Wilkes Community College Paving Completed!

Our most recent Greenway Construction Project along Moravian Creek to Wilkes Community College is featured below. The paving was made possible by a grant from The NC Division of Water Resources. Completion of the connection to the proposed campus trail head is scheduled in the near future.



The above left photo shows the newly paved section of greenway near the businesses along College Drive in Wilkesboro. The above right photo shows the Greenway section as it passes under the Highway 268 bridge.



The above left photo shows the Greenway connecting with the Wilkes Community college walking trail. Above right photo shows the Greenway section as it passes by Windemere Apartments.

Volunteers Help The Yadkin River And Yadkin River Greenway “Roll On”

With the help of our volunteers the mighty Yadkin River and Yadkin River Greenway continue to “roll on!”

Walking with nature gives us inner peace; and, a love for the environment.

The Greenway Volunteer Coordination Committee was established in January 2002 to field requests from community organizations for beautification and service projects along the greenway corridors and to coordinate their activities based on approved guidelines.

Since the committee was formed, we have had numerous project requests. Most of these requests at this time, and, for many years, have come from individuals who wish to memorialize their loved ones or young scouts who need projects to become an Eagle Scout.

With Spring and Summer coming on our long time volunteers will be in full swing working their prospective areas along the greenway corridors with weed control, mulching, grooming and trimming trees and shrubbery. We are fortunate to have these loyal volunteers who continue to be with us year after year. These volunteers are to be commended for dependability and unselfish time of service to our greenway system. These different groups and individuals have volunteered through our Adopt-A-Trail program to groom and maintain their adopted areas.

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- Dan Day continues to care for and maintain a space around a tree which has been planted in memory of his mother Pat McNeil Day.
- Sonny Church dedicates his endeavors to maintaining an area on the greenway at the confluence of the Yadkin and Reddies River that was created and dedicated in memory of his mother and father.
- Keith Howell, father of Eagle Scout, William Howell, continues to groom a flower bed and landscaped area along the Jefferson Turnpike Trail.
- Jule Hubbard maintains the canoe access facility on the Mulberry Fields section near Pardue Crossing. The access steps were constructed by his son Miles, as an Eagle Scout project.
- Ginger and Harvey Barlow have for many years, pruned shrubbery and planted new flowers in a landscaped area near the dental office.
- The Master Gardeners, under the leadership of Diane Stephens, work to keep the corridor at the Reddies River Trailhead beautifully landscaped and well preserved with new plants and flowers. Also, the Master Gardeners agreed to maintain the area around the Recognition Wall.
- William and Lynn Clark routinely clean up trash along the greenway while exercising and walking their new puppy.
- Also thanks to Blaine Johnston for volunteering to repair and replace the boards on the deck at the dental office which is part of our Reddies River Trail.

Three new volunteers have joined the Adopt-A-Trail Program.

Craig Bennett painted bollards at the Reddies River Trailhead near the dental office and he volunteered to paint bollards in other areas along the trails. He also demolished and disposed of four dilapidated picnic tables on the Rivers Edge greenway section. Craig also assists in restocking the Doggie potty bags dispensers.

Bill Clifton agreed to frequent certain sections of the greenway trails and report the areas where maintenance is needed.

(Volunteers continued from page 4)

- Craig Langston will work and help to maintain the area around the blueberry bushes at the confluence of the Reddies and Yadkin Rivers.

We would especially like to thank the Wilkes District Boy Scouts for their work in completing Boy Scout Eagle Service Projects. We are most appreciative and grateful for these Eagle Scout projects as they provide lasting positive improvements to the greenway.

This year Scout Charles Reece with Troop 335 is making plans to earn his Eagle badge. In 2018 he plans to construct and install bat houses along the corridors of the greenway.

Greenway Maintenance Takes a Partnership

Maintenance crews from the county and towns have been exceptionally responsive to make sure the greenway trails are maintained and safe for our citizens. The interagency agreement between Wilkes County, North Wilkesboro and Wilkesboro is critical to maintain the greenway in a state of beauty for the public to enjoy.

We would like to express thanks to the Wilkes Park and Recreation Department for their many hours of mowing cutting and removing fallen and dead trees; and, delivering mulch to the landscaped areas.

The Maintenance Crew of the Town of Wilkesboro and the North Wilkesboro Parks and Recreation and Public Works section have spent hours responding to needs on the greenway trails to make sure that the greenway is well maintained. Crews are frequently called upon to remove fallen trees, snow and related weather causing debris from the greenway. This work was apparent following the damage of the tornado which struck Wilkes County in October of 2017. The various departments have done a lot to repair greenway paving, replace decking boards and to maintain mowing and weed control.



Two of our Greenway volunteers, William and Lynn Clark, are shown above in the photo picking up trash on the Greenway at the Reddies River Trailhead retaining wall. Thanks to all who pitch in to help beautify the Greenway!

Again, we thank you volunteers for your commitment, your generosity and for caring about the health and well being of the citizens of our community! As the Mighty Yadkin River rolls on, so does our new greenway expansions.

Those interested in the Adopt-A-Trail program or volunteering for any project on the greenway, please contact Freida Matthews at 336-838-4938.

You Can Help Beautify the Greenway
Become a Greenway Volunteer!!!

Meet the Yadkin River Greenway Council

The Yadkin River Greenway was created through the cooperative efforts of citizen volunteers, landowners and the governments of Wilkes County, towns of North Wilkesboro, Wilkesboro, and the State of North Carolina. The effort began in 1994, and the first phase of the greenway became a reality and was opened May 18, 2002. The Yadkin River Greenway Council, a non-profit organization, provided coordination and leadership.

Greenway Council members are active throughout the year growing and developing the Yadkin River Greenway. Council members recruit volunteers, conduct fundraising, organize planning sessions and promote the greenway to the community! The work on the Yadkin River Greenway never ends! Thanks to all who support The Greenway!

The 2017 Yadkin River Greenway Council members were: Charles White, President & Chairman, Carolyn Brookshire Pardue, Vice President, Gary Cogdill, Treasurer, Susan Buchanan, Secretary. Other Council members are: Dr. Craig Bennett, Lee Bentley, Amy Blair, Bill Clifton, Gary Johnson, Keith Johnston, Craig Langston, Blake Lovette, Freida Matthews, Carl McCann, Steve Steele, Sam Stroud, Frank Taracido, David Wiles, Roy Williams and Graham Wyche. The Executive Director is RG Absher. We thank these individuals for their service and participation in the success of the Yadkin River Greenway.



Council Members meet monthly year around to plan greenway projects and to discuss Yadkin River Greenway issues.

The schedule of the Yadkin River Greenway Council monthly meetings is posted on our website. (No meetings are held in December due to Christmas holidays). Meeting times are typically at noon at the Wilkes Chamber of Commerce Board Meeting Room. Any changes on our meeting dates, times and locations will be also be announced on our web-site:

www.yadkinrivergreenway.com

Also be sure and visit us on Facebook!



Yadkin River Greenway Is Now Listed On TripAdvisor.com

One of the important resources for people planning vacations anywhere in the world is a popular website called TripAdvisor.com. Several months ago YRGC requested and was allowed to post a listing for Yadkin River Greenway on TripAdvisor. Our objective was to spread the word about the wonderful YRG experience to all who might enjoy it.

The TripAdvisor (TA) website includes listings and visitor reviews for travel attractions including restaurants, hotels, museums, parks, etc., organized by destination (e.g., city). Listing on the website is free. To create a new listing, a responsible party must submit a request to TA and it must be approved. No one who is affiliated with a particular attraction is permitted to submit a review of it, which in theory means that reviews on TA are unbiased.

TA requires listings to be presented in a prescribed, concise format, so we were not able to include the full scope of information that is on the YRGC website. The great majority of the information presented on TA is in the form of reviews posted by TA members.

While anyone can view TA listings, you must become a member to submit reviews. As with social media websites such as Facebook, membership is free. If you join you will get occasional email ads from destinations you previously expressed interest in by viewing them on TA. The volume of ads is not overwhelming and you don't have to read them if you choose not to.

TA gives an overall rating for each attraction based on the average of all member reviews submitted for it. The rating system is one to five stars, more being better, and requires the reviewer to include at least a few sentences explaining their opinion. Your reviews are posted in chronological order alongside those of other members who have visited the same attraction, and you may post photographs as well.

Except for this article there has been little outreach thus far to encourage reviews of the Yadkin River Greenway on TA. As a result, only four such reviews have been posted thus far. Happily, three of them were perfect five star ratings, and the other was four stars. To view the YRG listing and these reviews, go to this URL:

https://www.tripadvisor.com/Attraction_Review-g49399-d12646027-Reviews-Yadkin_River_Greenway-North_Wilkesboro_North_Carolina.html

The YRGC encourages greenway users to submit (hopefully positive) reviews and photographs through TripAdvisor, and if you have suggestions to improve the greenway, please call or leave a message at our administrative office, telephone number 336-651-8967. Thank you very much for your support.

Sam Stroud
Member, YRGC

Greenway's "Mulberry Fields" Is The Site Of An Old Native American Village



The above painting is an artist interpretation of "Mulberry Fields" or "Keowee." The painting hangs in the Wilkes Heritage Museum.

By William Vance Nichols

When you take a walk along the section of greenway from the Westpark Medial Center to the Reddies River Trailhead, you are walking along the historic native American village and old settlement know as "Mulberry Fields."

Late in the fall of 1752, a Moravian survey party passed through the area while mapping the historic "Wachovia Tract," which was a 98,985 acre tract purchased by the Moravian Church in western North Carolina from John Carteret, 2nd Earl Granville. As they reached the hilltops of present day Wilkesboro, the Moravians observed an Indian village in the river bottom at the confluence of the Reddies and Yadkin Rivers. The natives were gathered for the annual corn harvest celebration known as "Busk." The survey party chose not to cross the river and interact with the natives. It was noted that numerous thatched roof dwellings were located in the bottom-land and that the natives hunted and grew corn along the river.

Later, Daniel Boone moved into the area in 1760 and built his cabin upstream near the present location of Ferguson. By then, the Indian village had declined and the area was known as Mulberry Fields. The Cherokee translation for Mulberry Fields is "Keowee."

The Memorial Park To Mulberry Fields Connector - Soon To Become A Reality!!!



The above photo illustrates the route of the greenway along the Yadkin River from Memorial Park ball field to the Wilkesboro Avenue Bridge.

After many years of planning, easement gathering and fund raising, 2017 saw the culmination of all those efforts with the kick off of the long anticipated construction of Memorial Park to Mulberry Fields connector at the Wilkesboro Avenue bridge underpass.

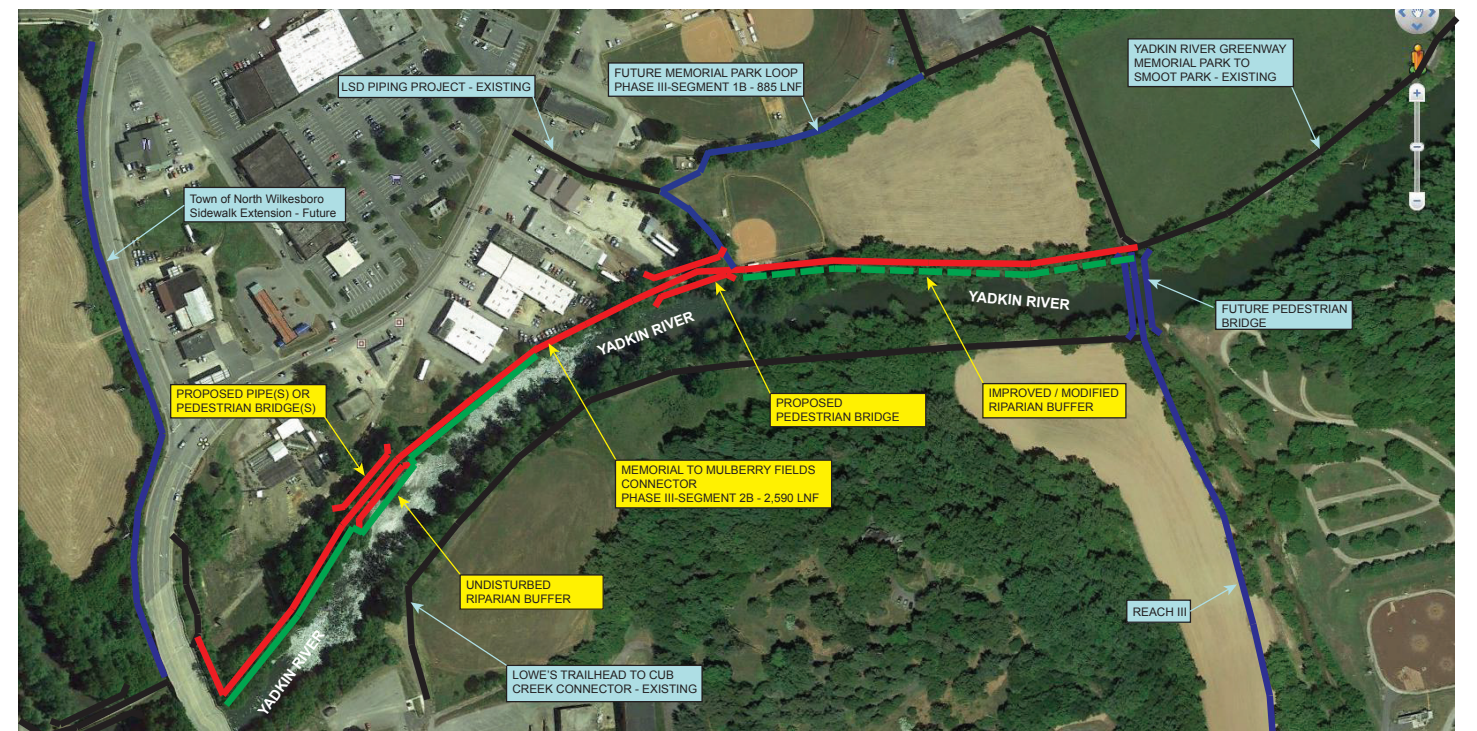
Thanks largely to the efforts of the Town of North Wilkesboro, who is both the construction lead and a major financial supporter of the project, the actual work should commence at some time in 2018 and be completed shortly thereafter. The Engineering firm of Vaughn and Melton, Consulting Engineers, Inc. will be the construction supervisor of the project and Tri County Paving, Inc. will be doing the construction work.

This has always been one of the most challenging segments of the greenways construction due to the number of land owners along its intended route, the complexity of the areas geology, various drainage structures and concerns and space constraints between the existing buildings and the Yadkin River.

The Greenway Council would like to thank all those who have supported this project! This is truly an historical event as it is the first time two major sections of the *existing greenway* have been connected!

The above photo illustrates the proposed route of the greenway along the Yadkin River from the end of the existing "roughed in" greenway connector (which was completed in late 2016) near the Memorial Park ball field to the Wilkesboro Avenue Bridge.

Another view of the connector project area.



Fundraisers And Annual Contributions Help The Greenway Expand

In just 17 years, the Yadkin River Greenway has gone from blueprints to footprints on miles of greenway. 8.2 miles of Greenway provide easy access to the beauty of the land along the rivers that flow through the center of our community and connect our parks and neighborhoods. Today we have new sections in the construction and planning phases.

Our community is fortunate to have many local citizens whose generosity helped build the extensive Greenway system we have today. Local contributions not only pay for construction costs, they also help us win grants! Significant public support is a major requirement of the grant application process. Over half the money raised to build our current Greenway system has come from grant sources outside our community. Over half the money spent, to date, on Yadkin River Greenway construction has come from grants.

Our Council employs an Executive Director who actively seeks sizeable grants from many sources that provides the majority of funding for the construction of new Greenway sections. We're pleased to say that we have been very successful in qualifying for grants over the previous years. Your contributions to the Greenway organization help pay for this function, which has enabled us to more than double the amount of new construction projects the Council has been able to fund and construct. **Your donation keeps our Greenway system growing. You can choose one of three ways to direct your contributions.**

1. You can specify 100% of your contribution is to be spent on construction of new Greenway segments.
2. You can give an unrestricted contribution to the Greenway that enables us to plan new sections and to find and secure grants to pay for new construction. Become a member of the Friends of the Greenway with your annual gifts, or send us a contribution. Any funds received in excess of our operations expenses can be used for construction.
3. You can support Greenway fundraisers that help fund the administration and operations of the Greenway organization. Our fundraisers include:
 - The Turtle Regatta Drop Dunk and Draw Event is held in October at the Mulberry Fields Trailhead. Although the turtles once raced down the Reddies River, The new event format is safer and is not dependent on the water levels of the Reddies River to run the event. Become a Turtle Regatta sponsor, by "adopting" a turtle for \$5. The first turtles drawn from the holding tank, are awarded various prizes. The Turtle Regatta is scheduled during this year's Trail of Treats day along the Yadkin River Greenway. Stay tuned for the details!
 - The Greenway Benefit Golf Tournament is held annually at Oakwoods Country Club. Sign up for a fun round of golf or be an event sponsor. The Golf Tournament will be held this year on June 28th just after noon.
 - All event sponsors are recognized at the event and in news releases in our community! Thanks to all who donate, volunteer and work to help grow our Greenway system!!! *The Yadkin River Greenway Council is a 501(c)3 charitable organization and donations are tax deductible.*



Turtle Regatta
(AKA Dump and Draw)



Regatta Turtles await drawing!



Regatta Grand Prize Winner!
William Buchanan



2017 Golf Tournament Participants At Oakwoods Country Club

Our Friends, Contributors And Sponsors

Members of Friends of the Yadkin River Greenway

(A–C) Jim and Rose Andrews, Wayne and Zedena Barker, Harvey and Ginger Barlow, Leo and Ila Baugham, Bob & Carol Black, Gary D. Blevins, William Benson, Karen and Harold Bumgarner, Edwin Canter, Phil and Cecilia Carlson, Kin and Vicki Church, William and Lynn Clark, Bill and Karen Clifton, Anne Clifton, Sonny and Piper Church, Mrs. George Collins, Howard and Brenda Colvard, Rick and Trish Cook, Cubic Inc., Ed and Ramona Curtis

(D–K) Lois Ann Doss, Allen and Audrey Dyer, Ginger Edmiston and Bobby Johnson, Camille Eller, Claudia Eller Tolbey, Mike Eller, Kim and Claude Faw, Buddy Forester, Chuck Forester, Rayanne Francis, Russell and Loraine Golds, Ruth Graham, Fred and Jean Graf, Ted and Jacquelyn Hall, Bill and Ruth Harris, John and Peggy Harwell, Vaughn and Francis Hayes, Lee Herring, Leonard G. Herring Family Foundation, Mr. and Mrs. James R. Hicks III, James M. Huffman, Rebecca Hubbard, Alison Huskey, Gary and Madelene Johnson, Keith and Amanda Johnston, Patsy Jones, Petro Kulynych Family Foundation I, Petro Kulynych Family Foundation II

(L–P) Arnold and Becky Lakey, Gerald and Linda Lankford, Dean and Susan Ledbetter, Pete and Wilma Lovette, Carroll Lowe, Pete Mann, Richard and Dot Marlow, John and Freida Matthews, Pam and Drew Mayberry, Carl McCann, David and Connie McNeil, Mike and Donna McNeil, Brenda B. Moore, Anne Pardue, Phylliss and Dave Moulton, Tim Murphy, Sandra and John Oliver, Lisa Pardee, Carolyn Frazier-Pardue, Ned and Betty Pierce

(R–Z) Dusty, Lynne and D. Rhodes, Chuck and Belinda Smithey, Gordon Smoak, Jim and Luci Smoak, Mary Spears, Larry and Diane Stone, Stone Foundation, Steve and Kay Steele, Sam Stroud, Alvin Sturdivant, Frank Taracido, FW and Martha Townes, Jim Sturdivant, Glinda and Franklin Triplett, William and Karen Watts, David Wiles, Charlie and Mary White, Lane Wood, Graham Wyche, Fran and Tim York, Randall Zirkle

Walker Level Members (\$100 to \$499) Harvey and Ginger Barlow, Kin and Vicki Church, Mrs. George B. Collins, Rick and Trish Cook, Cubic Incorporated, Allen and Audrey Dyer, Ginger Edmiston and Bobby Johnson, Camille Eller, Kim and Claude Faw, Caroline Frazier-Pardue, Chuck Forester, Russell and Lorraine Golds, Kim, Kathy, and Trevor Hamby, Jacquelyn and Ted Hall, John and Peggy Harwell, Bill and Ruth Harris, Vaughn and Frances Hayes, Reggie and Karen Hill, Mr. and Mrs. James R. Hix the III., Dr. Carl Hoffman, Rebecca Hubbard, James Huffman, Gary and Madeline Johnson, Patsey Jones, Arnold and Becky Lakey, Dr. Henry C. Landon, Pam and Drew Mayberry, David and Connie McNeil, Lisa Pardee, Ned and Betty Pierce, Rusty and Lynne Rhodes, Chuck and Belinda Smithey, Jim and Luci Smoak, Mary Spears, Daine and Lanny Stephens, Stone Foundation, Alvin and Shirley Sturdivant, William Watts, Charlie and Mary White

Hiker Level Members (\$500 to \$1499): Phil and Cecilia Carlson, Leonard G. Herring Family Foundation, Mike and Donna McNeil, Steve and Kay Steele, Graham Wyche

Recognition Wall Donors

Jogger (\$1,500 to \$2,999) total contributions: John & Fran Bond, Margaret & Thomas McMahan, Brenda & Carl Page, Jack Anderson, Kimberly & Brian Peace, Betty & Clarence Benton, Wilkes Journal-Patriot, Vicki & Bob Taylor, Ed Greene,

(Jogger Level Continued) Mary Iva & Jim Gray, Wilkesboro Down Town Merchants, Dariel Rathmell, Mary & Bill Marlow, Betty Reinhardt, Stephen J. Wessels, Dot & Richard Marlow, The North Wilkesboro Rotary Club, Wilma and Pete Lovette, Beverly & Gaither Keener, Martha, Charlotte, & William “B” Towns, Northwestern Bank, Kiwanis Club of North Wilkesboro, Frances & Bill Casey, Blue Ridge Engineering, Mary Lee Culler, Kim and Claude Faw, Mark and Patricia Pegram, Ed & Patricia Sturdivant, Dr. & Mrs. John Bennett, Dr. & Mrs. Brad Shinaman, Autumn Nichols, Vicki & John Barker, Michelle & John Pontzer, Dr. David Sargent & Dr. Barry Ellis, Charlie & Mary White, Paul & Joyce Anderson, Meadows Mills, Inc., June & Bob Hege, David & Lisa Factor, Dr. Joseph H. Johnson, Patricia W. Johnson, Wanda & David Henson, Steve & Ann Palmer, Ned and Betty Pierce, Carol Stone, ECMD, Inc., Women’s Service League of Wilkes, Wilkes Community Foundation, Kodak, Mildred R. Turner, Vicki & Jeff Gray, Dr. Joseph H. Johnson & Patricia Johnson, Claude and Kim Faw, Bill and Ruth Harris.

Pathfinder (\$3,000 to \$4,999) total contributions: Hall Petroleum Co., Inc., Heather & Tim Murphy, Lisa & Perry Jennings, Karolen & Tom Bowman, Camille Lovette Eller, First Union Bank, John E. Gyga, Ken and Laura Welborn, Cooks Inc., Pat McNeill Day, Pete Mann, Connie & David McNeill, Anne Pardue, Kay & Steve Steele, Nancy & Bob Ricketts, Mr. & Mrs. C.O. Lovette, Mr. & Mrs. Ralph Wooten, Ray Stroud, RMC Metromont Materials, Kim & Jug Shumate, Ina Parker, Kathy & Craig Bennett, Duncan Electric Corporation, Dr. & Mrs. Kenneth Curl, William M. Duncan, Sr., Abby, Andrew, Jan & Dennis Huggins, Mary & Ed Spears, Advantage West-North Carolina, Gardner Glass Products, Greg Stikeleather.

Explorer (\$5,000 to \$9,999) total contributions: Randell K. Hayes, Shirley and Alvin Sturdivant, Reins-Sturdivant Funeral Home, First Citizens Bank, Freida and John Matthews, Mark and Teresa Church, Frances and Vaughn Hayes, Vulcan Materials, BB and T, Luci and Jim Smoak, In Honor of Rose S. Andrews, Yadkin Valley Bank, Bruce and Vicki Church, Lena R. Lovette, Duke Energy Company, Overmountain Victory National Historic Trail, National Park Service, Wilkes Community Foundation, American Drew and La-Z-Boy Co. Wachovia Foundation, Carolyn and Billy Bare, Kin and Vicki Church, Carolina Realty, Inc. Joyce and Nick Cirillo, Chuck Forrester

Trailblazers \$10,000 and up total contributions: Carson Foundation, Jane & David Kim, Rusty & Duane Smith, Becky & Arnold Lakey, Pam & Lee Herring, Judy & JC Faw, Children of Rachel N. & Vernon S. Church, Larry & Diane Stone, Wilkesboro TDA, Lanny & Diane Stephens, The Jim Shumate Family, Rose & Leonard Herring, Tyson Foods, Thomas Frazier, MD., Keith & Amanda Johnston, Lorene & Robert Joines, Sandy, Matthew & Jim Faw, Petro Kulynych Family Foundation, I and II, Cubic Inc., Willis Hoyle Bryant, Debbie & “Mule” Ferguson, NC DENR, Tammy & Cam Finley, Friends of Bran Goad, NC Department of Transportation, Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation, Lowes’s Charitable and Educational Foundation, Dwight & Anne Pardue, Brushy Mountain Water Co., Gwyn F. “Duck” Vannoy

How to Attain Recognition Wall Status

Once you become a Friend of the Greenway, your contributions are continually tabulated. As you make additional contributions, you will progress through the donation membership levels. Once your combined contributions reach \$1,500, your contributions will be recognized as a “Jogger” and your name will be engraved on a bronze plate and placed on the recognition wall!

See the Sponsorship and Friends Levels on the Back of this newsletter!!

If you have questions about becoming a Friend of the Greenway, call our office at: 336-651-8967 or visit our web page at:

www.yadkinrivergreenway.com

PHOTOS OF THE GREENWAY!!! COURTESY OF BETTY OWENS

These outstanding photographs were taken by Betty Owens. For more of Betty's photos, be sure and check out our Facebook page!! We encourage you to take photos and share them with the Greenway.



White Tailed Deer



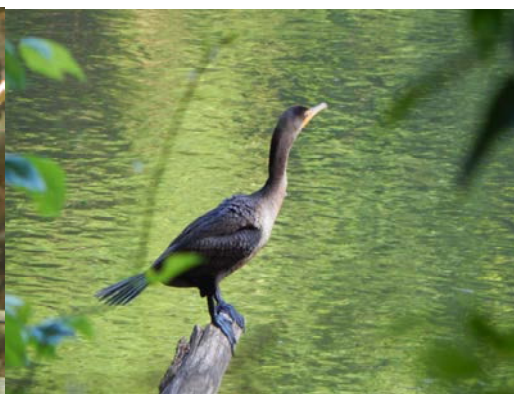
Cardinal



Pileated Woodpecker

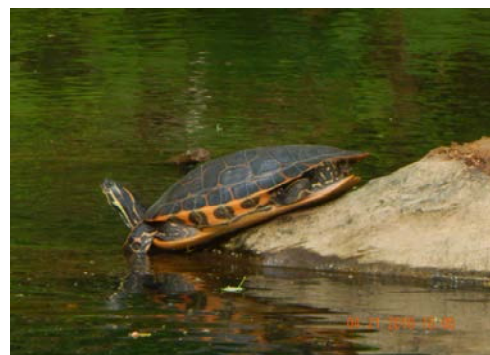


Eastern Bluebird



Cormorant

From birds and mammals to reptiles and amphibians, the Yadkin River Greenway is teeming with wildlife, stunning scenery and new discoveries! Come out and enjoy the Yadkin River Greenway!!!



Turtle enjoying a sunny day!

PHOTOS OF THE GREENWAY!!! COURTESY OF LYNN CLARK

These outstanding photographs were taken by William and Lynn Clark. For more of their photos, check out our Facebook page!! On the Greenway, a surprise awaits you! Get out and enjoy the scenic Yadkin River Greenway!



The Arrival of Spring



Wild Aster



Wild Azalea

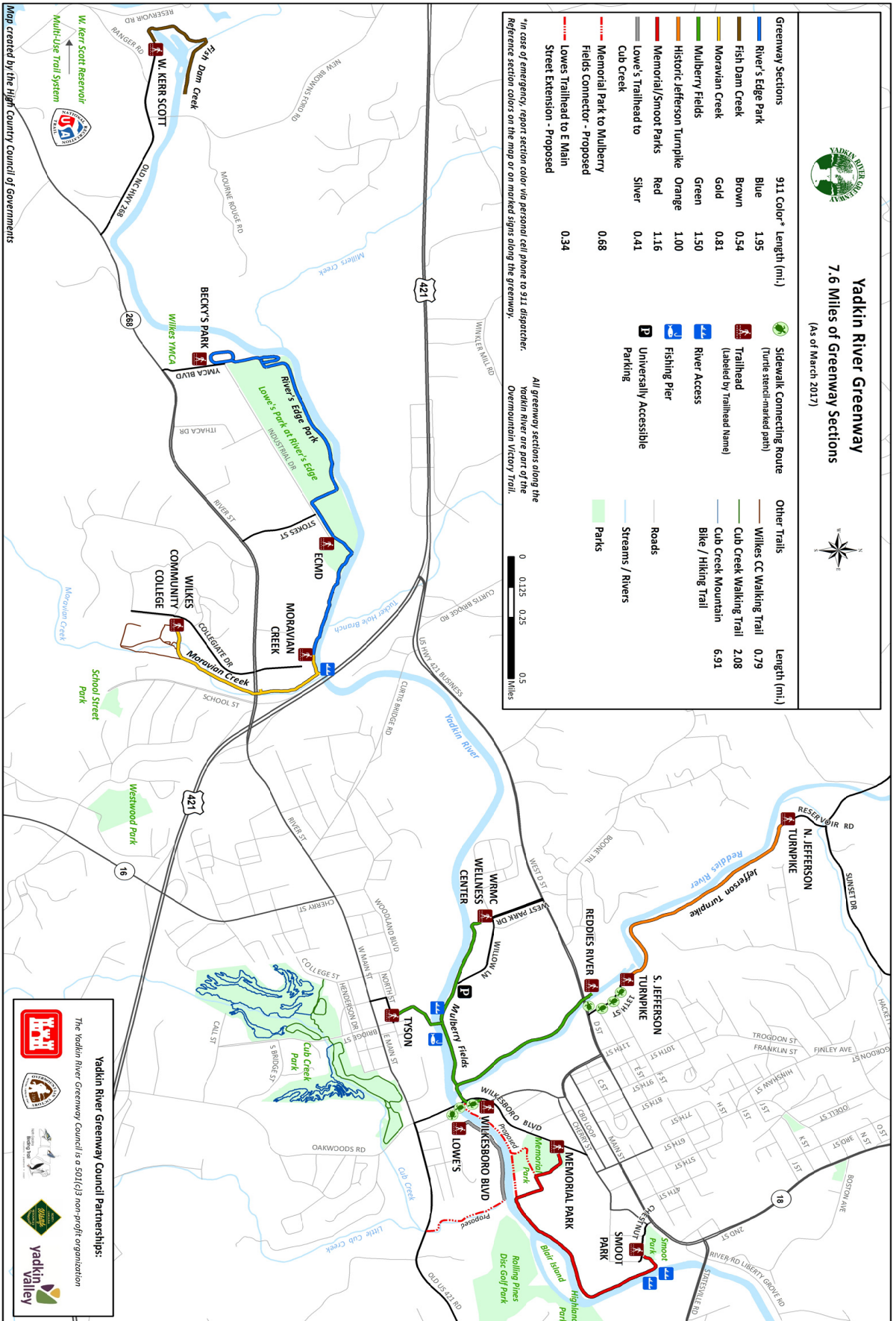


Summer Reflections



Swallowtail Butterfly

Yadkin River Greenway Section Map



**The Yadkin River Greenway
Council Newsletter**

Yadkin River Greenway Council
P. O. Box 191
North Wilkesboro, NC 28659

Phone: 336-651-8967
Email: yrgreenway@pcshome.net



Become A Friend Of The Greenway!

The **Friends of the Greenway** campaign has completed another year as a “grass roots” support organization. Friends of the Greenway added 7 new members during 2017 for a grand total of 281 past or present members! Of these, many members renewed their membership during the past year. We hope all will renew during 2018!

Friends of the Greenway contributions, over the past 15 years, now total \$167,383.00! These donations go a long way towards covering the administration expenses of the Yadkin River Greenway Council. This enables the Council to fulfill its mission of developing a greenway system in our community. Annual membership is open to all. And, since the Council is a 501(C)3 non-profit organization, membership dues are usually tax deductible.

We offer opportunities to our members to volunteer time on specific greenway events and projects, helping in the greenway office, and contacting prospective new members. This newsletter and other communications will, hopefully, keep our members informed of Greenway activities.

Each January, or based on membership anniversary date, we will begin contacting each Friend of the Greenway to consider the renewal of their membership and to continue their support of the greenway. Regular memberships are: \$20 for individuals, \$40 for families, \$12 for youth, \$100 for businesses, and \$50 for civic organizations.

Also, if you would like to be recognized as a **Friend of the Greenway**, the donation categories are:

Walker: \$100
Hiker: \$250 to \$500
Jogger: \$1,500 to \$2,999
Pathfinder: \$3,000.00 to \$4,999
Explorer: \$5,000 to \$9,999
Trailblazer: \$10,000 and up

Once you become a Friend of the Greenway, your contributions are constantly tabulated. As you make additional contributions, you will progress through the donation ranks of membership levels mentioned above. Once you ultimately reach the combined contribution level of \$1,500, your contributions will be recognized as a **Jogger** and a bronze recognition name plate will be installed on the Greenways Recognition Wall for all to see!

Thanks again for your continuing support!
If you have any questions, please call the Greenway office at: 336-651-8967.

RG Absher, Executive Director

www.yadkinrivergreenway.com
