



# THE BLACK CREEK WATERSHED WIRE

News from Black Creek Watershed, Cary, NC

July 2008

Visit the project website at [www.ncsu.edu/WECO/blackcreek](http://www.ncsu.edu/WECO/blackcreek)

## Black Creek Meeting Highlights

The Black Creek Watershed Association (BCWA) last met on May 19 at Page Walker Center Center, with a special session for orienting volunteers to a pollution inventory exercise on June 9.

In May, Shelby Gull Laird with the NCSU Tech Team discussed an upcoming pollution inventory, and asked for help determining how to divide up the watershed into small sub watersheds.

This discussion and a description of the pollution source inventory are summarized in this month's newsletter.

Please be aware that the next meeting is scheduled at a different place and date. To enable our technical team's participation, the meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday, August 5**, at **Page Walker Community Center** in downtown Cary. There is no July meeting. A meeting is also scheduled on Monday, Sept. 29.

The NCSU technical team will share more monitoring results and the land use analysis results.

If you are not yet on the Black Creek listserve but would like to be, send an email to: [mj2@lists.ncsu.edu](mailto:mj2@lists.ncsu.edu) with the following in the body of the email: subscribe blackcreek [J\\_DOE@ADDRESS.COM](mailto:J_DOE@ADDRESS.COM)



## Second Annual Streamwalk Event

The Tech Team suggested conducting a stream walk/ pollution source inventory in the watershed to see if there were any potential sources that could explain some of the monitoring results they are seeing. This information will be fed into the geodatabase and help the group to determine priority areas for action, and to determine potential management strategies.

Questions still remain about possible sources of pollutants to the Black Creek watershed stream network. Are there unknown discharges from business, industry, or institutional sites where pollutants are being discharged to stormwater systems that should be discharged to a treatment system? Does frequent dumping of pollutants into the stream network occur? Examples include dumping of household trash, garbage, and yard refuse. Are there refuse collection

points, fuel storage facilities, or pesticide storage facilities, etc. where improper storage results in discharge of pollutants to stormwater?

Answering these questions requires on-the-ground surveys by individuals who are familiar with an area within the watershed.

### *Dividing Black Creek Watershed into smaller areas*

With feedback from the May 19 meeting attendees, Shelby delineated, or divided up, the watershed into 10 small areas. Initially, the purpose is to divide the watershed up into manageable areas for the pollution source inventory. Having smaller areas delineated also helps is to evaluate the smaller drainage areas more closely, to determine if

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**While The Black Creek Watershed Association usually meets on the last Monday of the month, the next meeting is on a Tuesday:**

**Tues., August 5**

**6:30-8:30 p.m.**

### **Page-Walker Arts & History Center**

119 Ambassador Loop on Town Hall Campus. The campus is off North Academy Street, between Chapel Hill Road and Chatham Street in downtown Cary.

#### **Agenda:**

- ◆ **Overview of new monitoring data & pollution inventory results**
- ◆ **Presentation of land use analysis information**
- ◆ **Discuss prioritizing areas for action based on results**
- ◆ **Discuss potential grant opp.**

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## Second Annual Streamwalk

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there are smaller drainage areas that should be prioritized for targeted management efforts. In restoring watersheds, working at smaller levels allows for the potential of more tangible improvements. A map on the opposite page shows the areas as outlined by Shelby. The areas are numbered 1-10 (BCWA members are welcome to suggest names for the areas!).

BCWA members volunteered to perform a pollution source inventory in one of these areas at the June 9 meeting and via the listserve/email. Maps of each of the areas were posted as PDFs on the website, along with the instructions and form to fill out.

The suggested methods are:

- ◆ Review the GIS map of the area and conduct a driving survey
- ◆ Draft list of potential pollutant sources/sites and examine the sites more thoroughly (stay on publicly accessible areas and be mindful of private property)
- ◆ Visit as many accessible sites along stream as feasible
- ◆ List and briefly describe potential point and non-point sources on the form
- ◆ Take digital pictures of sites/sources

Thanks to our volunteer surveyors: Liz Adams, Bianca Bradford, Susan Davenport, Bob Morris, Amin Davis, the Cobb Family, Vicki Maxwell. NCSU staff also surveyed 2 areas. A volunteer was not found for Area 5. After the results are received in July, they will be evaluated and compiled with the rest of the data the Tech Team has been collecting.

### Discussion from meetings

In May participants discussed a few management ideas, including a potential **demonstration project** in a public place. The site would demonstrate a stormwater best management practice to show what types of retro-fit projects may need to be constructed throughout the watershed.

### Town of Cary Illicit Discharge Detection

According to Charles Brown, The Town of Cary found approximately 10 illicit storm water discharges when doing their inventory of stormwater pipes (where they looked at outfalls, but not ditches). Illicit discharge detection involves quick screenings for pollution when flows from stormwater pipes continue more than 48 hours after a storm. Charles is now in charge of the illicit discharge detection program with the town and should be contacted if any are suspected.

### Next Steps for Black Creek Watershed

The Tech Team is winding down on the data collection and analysis, and will be presenting the final data at the meetings in August and September.

We will ask the BCWA to consider the results and discuss prioritizing potential areas for targeted management efforts, to help identify a demonstration site, to determine reasonable restoration goals for the watershed, and to start identifying specific management actions for achieving those goals.

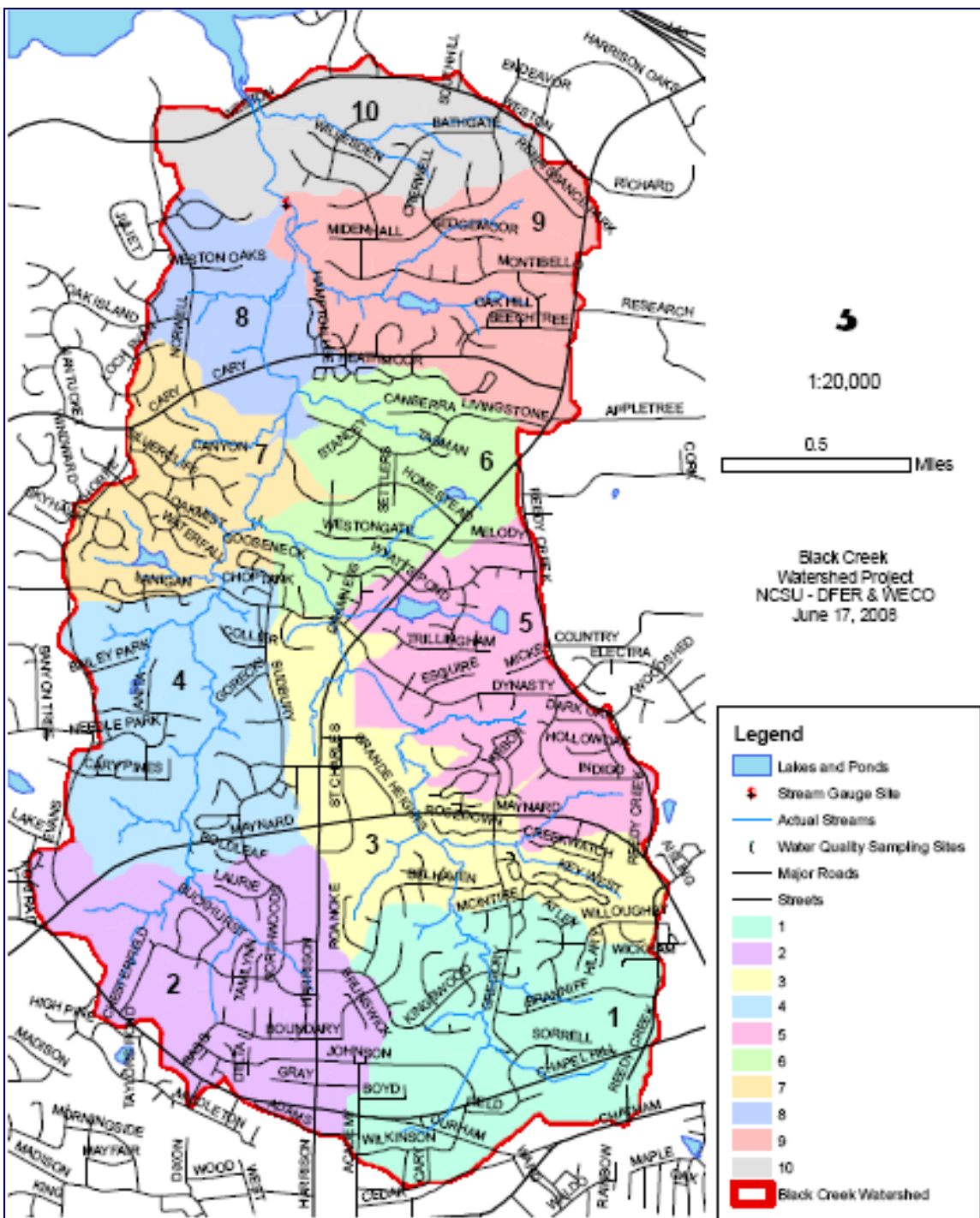
Regarding potential funding for management strategies, the NC Clean Water Management Trust Fund recently announced a new funding source for stormwater management. We recommend submitting a proposal for this source, and are discussing options with NCSU's Dept. of Biological and Agricultural Engineering to involve them in implementing a management strategy and studying stormwater management efforts. The request for proposals follows. Note the October deadline for proposals:

### *Request for Proposals for CWMTF Innovative Stormwater Management Technologies*

*The N.C. Clean Water Management Trust Fund has released a Request for Proposals to fund projects that employ innovative stormwater management technologies, applications, strategies or approaches which are designed to protect and improve water quality in North Carolina. The RFP is available at: <http://www.cwmtf.net/stormwaterrfp.doc> Deadline for submittal is Oct. 15, 2008. For additional information or answers to questions, contact Kevin Boyer, CWMTF's Project Manager for Restoration and Stormwater Projects.*



# Black Creek Watershed Areas



**News from Black Creek Watershed, Cary, NC**

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## Black Creek Public Art Project

Cary Visual Art, Inc. announced that artist Brad Spencer of Reidsville, NC was selected for the Black Creek Greenway Public Art Project. The project will feature art on three locations near the intersection of NW Maynard and Chapel Hill Roads. The primary site is on an easement directly behind and partially bisecting a circular area approximately 30' in diameter at the corner of the intersection. The other two sections are a pedestrian tunnel and a pedestrian bridge, both of which will be located along the nearby Black Creek Greenway Path. As possible art forms, CVA's Black Creek Greenway Committee has recommended the use of a low relief art form, which may take form as seating areas, carved brick, or paving patterns. The project will be funded by Cary Visual Art and the Town of Cary. For questions regarding the Black Creek Greenway Public Art Project, call Michelle Normand at 531-2821..

## Other Updates

### PCB Issue

Marilyn reported that PCBs were found in fish living in the Neuse River downstream from Crabtree Creek. The EPA had not yet made a Record of Decision about management actions for Lake Crabtree and Crabtree Creek as of the May meeting.

### Falls Lake

Marilyn and Bill also reported that the Falls Lake 319 grant is getting underway. They are putting together a monitoring plan.

### Aquatic Center

The only update Susan had to provide in May was that the YMCA may be interested in partnering on this project.

### Logo Contest

Christy received a number of entries, including those from an entire 5th grade class. Most of the entries in general were from middle school students. Waterfest was cancelled, so the appreciation event will have to occur some other time. A design student or professional may be hired to "spruce up" a logo, since the logos, while very creative and artistic, were not necessary formatted or designed for use as a logo. BCWA members will need to discuss how they want to recognize logo contest participants.



A tributary in area 9 is swollen with rain and full of sediment after a heavy March rain

### May 19 Meeting Participants

Patrick Beggs, *WECO; NCSU*  
Charles Brown, *Town of Cary*  
Susan Davenport, *Beechtree, Cary PRCR Advisory Board*  
Amin Davis, *Beechtree resident*  
Bill Dupont, *North Raleigh resident*  
Marilyn Grolitzer, *North Raleigh*  
Shelby Gull Laird, *NCSU*  
Grace Lawrence, *Wake County Cooperative Extension*  
Vickie Maxwell, *Wessex HOA*  
Bob Morris, *Silverton; Cary Greenway Committee*  
Christy Perrin, *WECO, NCSU; Windchase*



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