



**NEW RIVER WATERSHED ROUNDTABLE QUARTERLY MEETING**  
**New River Valley Business Center | New River Room**  
**August 29<sup>th</sup>, 2018 | 10:30 AM to 12:00 PM**

**ATTENDING**

Ann Goette .....	ReNew the New Committee	Kevin Byrd .....	NRVRC
Bill Pedigo .....	Town of Pulaski	Laura Walters .....	New River Conservancy
Brad Buchanan.....	Montgomery County	Laurie Buchwald .....	Pathways for Radford
Cathy Hanks .....	Friends of Peak Creek	Mark Gordon .....	New River Adventure
Cheri Strenz.....	Friends of Claytor Lake	Megan Scott .....	VA Department of Transportation
Hailee Goolsby .....	Virginia Tech	Michael Gottfredson .....	NRVRC
James Moneymaker .....	VA Department of Environmental Quality	Mike Harvey .....	NRVRC Board Member
John Burke .....	Montgomery County	Patricia Colatosti .....	Town of Christiansburg
Josh Nease .....	Radford University	Ralph Robertson.....	ReNew the New Committee
Kayla East.....	New River Adventure	Steve Knowles .....	Appalachian Power
Katelyn Kast .....	Virginia Tech SID	George Santucci .....	New River Conservancy

**NOTES**

Welcome

- Kevin Byrd welcomed the group.

Report

- ReNew the New Clean-up Event 2018
  - Results:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Tonnage</u>	<u>Tires</u>	<u>Bags</u>	<u>Distance</u>	<u>People</u>
2016	4	150	200	10	450
2017	12	400	350	30	475
2018	5	130	325	13	350
<b>Total</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>650</b>	<b>875</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>1275</b>

- What Went Well:
  - Weather
  - Useful equipment (rebar hooks)
  - No major injuries
  - Allergy awareness during safety briefings

- Improvements:
  - Full locality participation
  - Clear communication of clean-up sites
  - Improve means of transportation
  - Improve waiver length, clarity
  - More safety equipment for land crews (visibility vests, etc)
  - Improve registration through Wednesday/Friday email; set deadline to guarantee place on boat crew
  - Dress needs to be appropriate for clean-up
  - Perhaps a raindate?
  - Ensure safety briefing happens
  - Provide press release/ media cheat sheet to localities
  - Coordinate future dates with localities
  - Better coordination of equipment
  - Review t-shirts: by locality? Date? Should they be sold?
  - Develop more partnerships with other organizations
- NRVRC to follow-up with group on potential improvements.

#### Follow-Up Items

- New River Water Watchers Report
  - George Santucci reported on the New River Water Watchers program. Data collected is under review, and will be hosted at the [New River Conservancy's](#) website. Would like to see better participation in Montgomery County. Will compile a report to present next time. Josh Nease to follow up with Radford University students and staff for volunteers.
- New River Water Trail Expansion
  - Mr. Gottfredson reported on recent New River Water Trail Expansion activities.
  - Localities have included monies in their budgets to go towards expanded New River Water Trail signage.
  - The NRVRC is partnering with NRV localities on a POWER Grant to expand the New River Water Trail from Pulaski County to Hinton, West Virginia. This would include monies going to boat access construction and improvements, signage, improved website, and marketing materials

#### Report Out

- John Burke suggested the different MS4 permittees coordinate promotional material.
- Laurie Buchwald endorsed the idea of a regional trail from Abingdon, through the New River Valley, to the Roanoke Valley.
- Swiftwater Rescue: resources needed to assist swiftwater rescue on the New River
- [Friends of Claytor Lake](#): recruiting volunteers for water quality testing around Claytor Lake
- [Friends of Peak Creek](#): engaging in clean-up of Peak Creek "doodle dust"
- [Giles County](#): new boat ramp with facilities to be constructed at Eggleston; Narrows to further develop outdoor recreation through grant projects; ACCE Race needs volunteers.
- [Montgomery County](#): currently there are parking restrictions at the Whitethorne Boat Launch

## Next Steps

- Upcoming Meetings:
  - NR Watershed Roundtable Quarterly Meeting ..... November 28<sup>th</sup>, 2018