

NORTH CAROLINA SOURCE WATER COLLABORATIVE

Scope: State

Location: North Carolina

SCOPE:

- » Support strategies to preserve the lakes, streams, rivers and aquifers used for drinking water and the land that protects and recharges these sources of water.
- » Partners include non-profit organizations, university programs, professional organizations, state, local and federal agencies.

COLLABORATIVE FORMATION:

- » Department of Environment and Natural Resources held December 2011 workshop to launch North Carolina Source Water Collaborative (SWC) with limited EPA funding and participation from EPA and ASDWA.
- » Meeting participants included representatives from non-profit organizations; university programs; state, local and federal agencies; professional associations; and regional councils of government.

MEMBERS:

- » Association of County Commissioners
- » Conservation Trust for NC
- » Division of Mitigation Services
- » Division of Soil and Water Conservation
- » Division of Water Infrastructure
- » DWI – Design Management Unit
- » DWR-Water Planning Section
- » DEMLR-Stormwater Section, Water Supply Watershed Protection Program
- » DWR-Public Water Supply Section, Source Water Protection Program
- » DWR - Water Quality Permitting Program
- » NC Chapter of the American Planning Association
- » High Country Council of Governments
- » Land-of-Sky Council of Governments
- » Mecklenburg County HD and Groundwater Guardian
- » NC Farm Bureau Federation
- » NC Land and Water Fund
- » NC League of Municipalities
- » NC Rural Water Association

CONTACT INFORMATION:

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- » NCSU - Cooperative Extension
- » NCSU - Watershed Education for Communities and Officials
- » Nicholas Institute for Environmental Policy
- » Piedmont Triad Regional Council (PTRC)
- » Triangle J Council of Governments
- » Trust for Public Land
- » U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- » UNC-CH, School of Government
- » Environmental Finance Center
- » US Geological Survey
- » Western Piedmont COG
- » Wildlife Resource Commission
- » Fayetteville PWC
- » Kerr Tar Council of Governments
- » City of Raleigh
- » NC Rural Communities Assistance Project, Inc.
- » USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service

WATER CONCERNS:

Water concerns are specific to public water systems and depend on the systems' water source.

STRATEGIES:

- » Develop source water protection packets for specific audiences
- » Enhance capacity for collecting and sharing information
- » Develop a Source Water Protection Awards Program to incentivize innovative source water protection actions
- » Foster partnerships to meet mutual objectives

RESULTS:

- » Produced vision, mission, and statement of purpose that reflects diverse membership.
- » Established operating structure, including a steering committee and work teams.
- » Developed the framework for a Source Water Protection Awards program including outreach documentation, nomination forms, criteria documents, and judging instructions.
- » Formed a partnership with NC Water Resources Association to present first round of awards at their 2015 spring conference with continued annual awards presentations at the NC Water Resources Research Institute Annual Conference.
- » Created an autonomous website for the Collaborative.
- » Developed a Source Water Protection primer as well as a promotional post card to be distributed by Collaborative members at various meetings and conferences.