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## EarthShare NC Celebrates 25 Years!



On October 26th, EarthShare NC threw a party to celebrate and thank Member nonprofits, leaders, partners, supporters and friends who have been a part of EarthShare North Carolina's 25-year history.

The event took place on the American Tobacco Campus in Durham. Highlights of conservation accomplishments were shared and toasts were made in recognition of those who have invested their time, talent and treasures to advance Earth Share NC's mission. Here is to the next 25 years!



Net Friends CMO Matthew Coppedge pictured with wife, Tracey & EarthShare NC Executive Director Heather Beard!



[Fireside Collective](#), a newgrass band (a mix of bluegrass & progressive folk) that hails from Asheville, NC provided music for the celebration.



EarthShare NC Operations Manager, Brian Nealon and Board Chair, Todd Huston.



EarthShare NC friend, Diane Faires, cuts the beautiful and delicious anniversary cake!

## Chartreuse Moose Creates Video for EarthShare NC!

A **BIG** thanks to [Chartreuse Moose](#), a creative services agency in Raleigh, who generously donated their time and talent to create this two minute video featured on the [EarthShare NC website](#). It is beautifully done and is a great introduction to EarthShare NC's work. Check it out and share it with friends!



## Get Involved! Volunteer with EarthShare NC!



### Volunteer with EarthShare NC!

We are always needing support on various projects throughout the year. We need help on a variety of projects from day-to-day office tasks to events! If you are interested in volunteering contact us!

**YES! Sign me up to volunteer!**

## Your Dollars At Work

**Three EarthShare NC Member Organizations work together to save Blounts Creek.**



Since September 2013, [Sound Rivers, North Carolina Coastal Federation](#) and the [Southern Environmental Law Center](#), have been working together to protect Blounts Creek from a limestone mining company that wants to use it as a discharge site.

Blounts Creek, which is in Beaufort County, contains brackish waters and the conservation groups argue that the discharge of up to 12 million gallons of wastewater per day used in the limestone-mining process would harm water and wildlife. The creek is known to residents and tourist as a recreation resource and fishing haven.

The case has been in and out of the out of the courts for three years and now rests in the hands of Administrative Law Judge Phil Berger, Jr. who recently asked for a 30-day extension to make his decision. Whatever happens, EarthShare NC member nonprofits will continue to be dedicated to protecting the creek.

## Looking Ahead

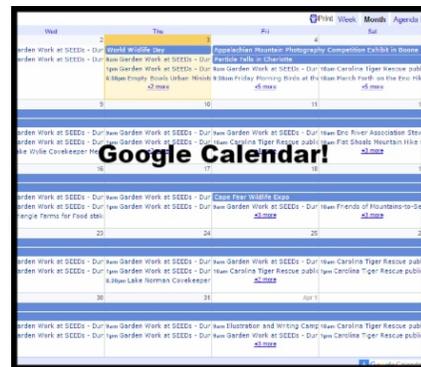
As always, our Member events [calendar](#) is full of volunteer, education, and recreation opportunities near you! You can sync it with your calendar so you'll never miss an event. Here's a sampling of upcoming events:

**December 4:** Triangle Land Conservancy: Special Guided Walk + Winter in the Woods @ Brumley Forest

**December 5:** Friends of the Mountain-to-Sea Trail. Trail Workday in Pisgah Nat'l Forest

**Dec 7th** Carolina Raptor Center Building Healthy, Sustainable Honey Bee Communities Worldwide

**December 22:** Carolina Raptor Center: Happy Owidays Winter Camp



## Sustainability Corner



Enormous gyres made up of plastic "soup" have been found in all our oceans. The infamous North Pacific Gyre, also known as the Great Pacific Garbage Patch, covers an area twice the size of Texas! Meanwhile, endocrine-disrupting plastic chemicals like BPA ([and its replacements](#)) could be contributing to cancer, birth defects, and behavior problems.

All this plastic is wreaking havoc on our health and environment. Here are some tips from EarthShare

Members on fighting back against plastic pollution:

Support Plastic Fees and Bans (bags, microbeads, takeout containers, etc.). Policy is the most effective tool to fight plastic pollution. Tell your local, state, and federal politicians that you want

to dis-incentivize wasteful plastic use. [Check out the cities that have already done it.](#)

Put pressure on Manufacturers. If you believe a company could be smarter about its packaging, make your voice heard. Write a letter, send a tweet, or give your money to a more sustainable competitor ([NRDC](#)).

Volunteer to Cleanup a Waterway. Sign up to participate in one of [Ocean Conservancy's International Coastal Cleanups](#) or [Surfrider Foundation's Cleanups](#). It's a fun (and eye-opening) way to care for your local environment.

Reduce \*Before\* Recycling. While it's better than the landfill, recycling plastic isn't a sustainable solution. Plastic degrades as it's recycled and is sometimes exported to other countries. Reduce first, then reuse, then recycle ([Save Our Shores](#)).

Keep Plastic Out of the Kitchen. Avoid heating plastic containers and use kitchen dishes and implements made of glass, porcelain, wood, cast iron, and stainless steel instead ([CEHN](#)).

BYO (Bring Your Own) Everything. From utensils and mugs to bags and diapers, we can kick the single-use habit by purchasing longer-lasting products meant to be reused ([Surfrider Foundation/Earth Island Journal](#)).

Change the Culture. At a coffee shop? Ask the barista for a ceramic cup. Decline excess packaging at stores, and share news about [successful campaigns to fight plastic with your friends](#). Together, we can change the culture around waste.

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Thank you for supporting EarthShare NC and our Member nonprofits. Follow us on social media at the links below to stay up to date between bi-monthly editions of NC E-News.

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EarthShare North Carolina



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