

Our Biggest Challenges

Growth -- Development is quickly transforming the landscape from forests and pastures to parking lots, streets and rooftops causing rain to run off the land rather than soaking into the ground.



© HRWA courtesy of Southwings

Stormwater Runoff -- Rain runs off the land bringing with it sediment, toxins, fertilizers and animal wastes. These substances are called “nonpoint source” pollutants and are the leading cause of river degradation.

Loss of Farmland -- The loss of valuable agricultural and forested land means less open space for infiltration of rain water and a reduction in protective stream corridors.

Sewage Processing -- The Harpeth River accepts treated effluent from three sewage treatment plants. Low flow conditions cause oxygen levels to drop. This combined with the effluent discharges makes it difficult for the river to effectively dilute the effluent.

HRWA is working with private and government partners on land use planning and responsible agricultural management to promote practices that offer solutions to conventional development issues.

A Stream of Successes

The Harpeth River Watershed Association has been hard at work since 1999 on efforts that improve water quality and river habitat for people and wildlife. Our successes include:

- ◆ Stabilizing 4,000 feet of bank and planting 17,000 trees to replace streamside habitats.
- ◆ Conducting scientific studies relevant to future drinking water sources and sewer regulations.
- ◆ Successful relocation of seven miles of TVA transmission lines off West Harpeth River.
- ◆ Realignment of SR 840 to protect the most pristine systems in middle Tennessee as member of TDOT’s Context Sensitive Design Team.
- ◆ Developing the largest stream restoration project to date for the State’s new Stream Mitigation Program.
- ◆ Assisting with the design of progressive stormwater regulations adopted by Williamson County that improve river protection.



Working with local scout troops, HRWA stabilizes streambanks to stop erosion.

Contact us to learn how your group or company can participate!

You CAN Make a Difference!

You can be a part of the solution and help the Harpeth every day!

- ◆ Join the hundreds of HRWA members and support work in your watershed. **Your support is vital to our success! Please consider joining today!**
- ◆ Plant trees along your creek and do not mow within 25-50 ft. of the edge.
- ◆ Water your lawn in the morning or evening to reduce the amount of water lost to evaporation.
- ◆ Reduce the use of fertilizers and pesticides or use natural products to prevent excess algae growth in creeks.
- ◆ Install a rain barrel to collect runoff from your roof for use in your garden.
- ◆ Replace shower heads and toilets with low-flow models that save water and turn off the water when brushing your teeth.
- ◆ Keep your septic tank maintained.
- ◆ Properly dispose of paints, chemicals, used motor oil and other household toxins.

HRWA is committed to maintaining a clean, healthy river for everyone to enjoy!



HARPETH RIVER WATERSHED ASSOCIATION



WORKING TOGETHER TO PROTECT AND RESTORE THE HARPETH RIVER WATERSHED AND PROVIDE EXPERTISE IN STATEWIDE CONSERVATION POLICY



YES, I want to support HRWA and join the effort to protect and restore the Harpeth River Watershed.

Name: _____ *Shirt Size: _____
 Address: _____
 City: _____ ST: _____ Zip: _____
 Phone: Day _____ Evening _____
 E-mail: _____

*HRWA sends updates and organizes volunteers via email.
NEW Option: Please make my payment monthly via my credit card.
 \$5 \$10 \$15 \$ _____
 I would like to pay by Check Visa MasterCard
 Account Number: _____
 Signature: _____ Exp: _____

Annual Giving Levels:

- \$10 Student Membership
- \$25 Basic Membership
- \$40 Membership Plus (with t-shirt*, poster)
- \$50-99 Crayfish
- \$100-249 Dragonfly
- \$250-499 Bullfrog
- \$500-999 Tippecanoe Darter
- \$1000-2,499 Box Turtle
- \$2,500 and above River Otter

- I am interested in becoming a volunteer.
- I am interested in Planned Giving or Endowment Gifts.

Please make checks payable to the Harpeth River Watershed Association. The HRWA is a 501(c)(3) organization and all donations are tax deductible.



The Harpeth - *it flows through our lives*

The Harpeth River flows through some of the most archeologically and historically significant areas in Tennessee. The 125-mile long river, with over 1,000 miles of tributary streams, drains nearly 870 square miles of agricultural, forested and suburban landscapes.

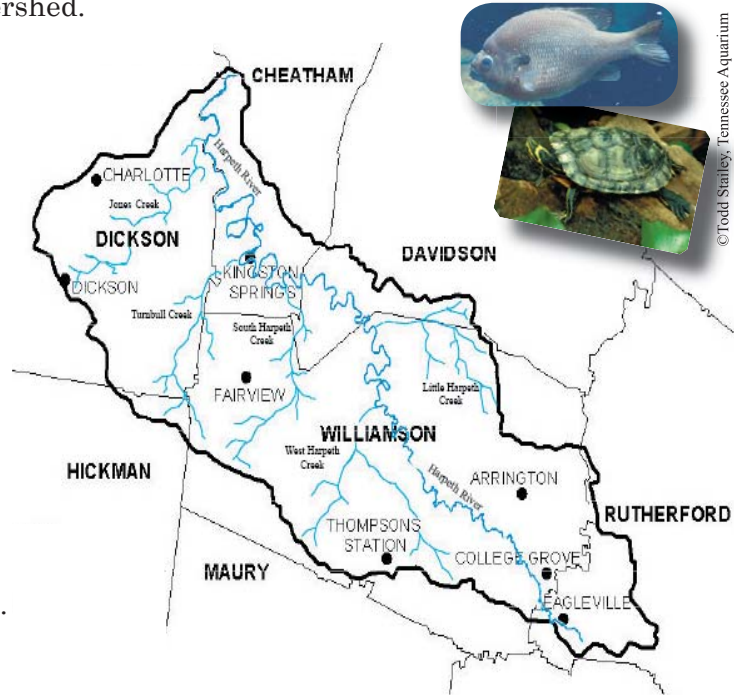
The Harpeth River Watershed Association is dedicated to protecting the ecological health of the Harpeth and providing expertise in statewide conservation policy. Our work leverages the scientific and technical training of our staff and advisors with the efforts of a diverse group of volunteers.

We need your support to ensure that the Harpeth remains healthy for everyone who lives, works or plays in the watershed.

Outdoor enthusiasts enjoy the river's peaceful beauty. The river supports a wide variety of wildlife including fish, crayfish, mussels, reptiles and amphibians. The Harpeth is one of 69 unique freshwater river systems of the Southeast which contain a level of biodiversity rivaling that of rainforests or coral reefs.

Nearly one-third of the watershed is located in one of the fastest growing regions of the country- Williamson County. Pressures from development, failing septic systems, sewer plant discharges and certain agricultural practices combined with the low flow conditions in the summer have caused 375 miles of assessed sections of the river to fail to meet all state water quality standards. (TDEC 2006 303(d) List)

With community support, we can restore, maintain and improve access to a biologically important river in the heart of one of the fastest growing regions in the U.S.



©Todd Stanley, Tennessee Aquarium

Member Benefits

Your membership supports our efforts to protect the river we all enjoy. As a member you will receive:

- ◆Free or discounted family-fun events to explore the watershed.
- ◆Newsletters and E-news updates to keep you informed about the issues affecting your river.
- ◆Family-friendly volunteer opportunities to make a difference in your community.
- ◆T-shirts, posters and discounts on other HRWA gear.

Volunteer Opportunities

Volunteers are a vital part of our success. There are many ways to take an active role in community education and protecting the health of your watershed.

- ◆River Restoration Corps
- ◆Ambassador Volunteers
- ◆Volunteer Scientists
- ◆Adventure Volunteers
- ◆Administrative and Special Event Volunteers



Contact us for a volunteer brochure and application or visit our website for details.