

Stewards of the White Oak River Basin

2003-07-23 QUARRY LAKES

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2003-07-23, Paddling The Quarry Lakes.



We had planned to paddle the New/Northeast Creek from Camp Johnson but it was too windy. So we changed to an inland paddle on the Quarry Lakes. Estes Thompson and Bob Jordan of Associated Press phoned and wanted to join us. They did and I will leave the story of this trip to them. It was a wonderful and enjoyable trip. They were surprised at how much fun we have picking up trash!

The participants were: Missy Tenhet; Ken Court; Dale Weston; Tom Hill; Larry Wayne; Pam Bader; Jack Eddy; Joanne Somerday and the writer and our two guests. These folks come from Jacksonville, Cary, Oriental, Kinston, Emerald Isle and Swansboro. Our guests were from Raleigh.

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We declared these lakes and the entire White Oak River to be cleared of all man made trash and litter last November. This was after two years of work cleaning up the entire White Oak River. Observe the huge volume of trash we found today. We have got to stop this very bad habit we Americans have of discarding everything we don't want right of the spot wherever we are.

We are just getting started this year. Our emphasis this year is on prevention. If no one litters there will not be any litter. Just, please, help us, just stop littering! I have never met a litterer yet! Someone is doing it. Look at the volume from these lakes alone on this small section of the White Oak alone.

The entire White Oak River Basin as named by North Carolina includes the Intra Coastal Waterway, our beaches, and all rivers and roads from The New River in the West to Core Sound in the East. This is where we live, work and play. We can and must make it clean and keep it clean year round. .

Most all campaigns are focused on September this year. NCDOT for State Roads, Big Sweep on September 20th for four hours. Many organizations and their volunteers are joining in and cooperating with emphasis on prevention -- DON'T LITTER --. Our slogan is "We will fight litter".

Our date to attain this goal is September 20th. Please contact those you worked with last year. Get some friends to help too. Together we can do it.
Elmer

I know I am preaching to the choir here. I have written it so it can be used by the press as a press release or a letter to the Editor. We need to reach everyone to make it work. Please rewrite it as you wish to get the word out to all. I will be glad to rewrite anyway you wish me to. Please help us to reach everyone to stop the Trashing of America.

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Stewards of the White Oak River Basin
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