



## BLACK WARRIOR RIVERKEEPER, INC. Official Press Release

September 22, 2004

For immediate release:  
Birmingham, Alabama  
Tuscaloosa, Alabama

Alabama's Black Warrior Riverkeeper program, a citizen-based environmental non-profit organization, recently received from Honda Marine a donation of two Honda AquaTrax® personal watercraft to be used in patrolling the Black Warrior River and its larger tributaries. These personal watercraft are used to look for illegal polluters, respond to citizen complaints, and take water quality samples.

The AquaTrax is the personal watercraft model that got it all started for Honda. The AquaTrax F-12 is both powerful and efficient, with a revolutionary 1235cc four-stroke engine that meets California Air Resources Board (CARB) 2004 and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) 2006 emissions standards. The Black Warrior Riverkeeper program sincerely thanks Honda Marine for its commitment to cleaner bodies of water through cleaner and more efficient Honda watercraft and marine engines.

Honda Senior Manager Tom Riggle said, "The health of America's waters must be the concern of every citizen. We at Honda intend to do our part." Four-stroke engine technology pollutes far less than two-stroke marine engines, and Honda Marine is leading the way in this field. Honda produces a line of extremely clean, quiet, and fuel-efficient 4-stroke outboards from 2 hp to 225 hp. Honda is the leading manufacturer of four-stroke outboard engines and has been producing these motors for over 37 years. Experience counts, and Honda has sold 4-stroke outboard motors in the United States for thirty years—beginning long before other manufacturers admitted their advantages. All of the engines already meet EPA emissions regulations for the year 2006, and many also meet the more stringent CARB standards for 2008. The Honda AquaTrax are the first personal watercraft to employ four-stroke technology.

The Black Warrior Riverkeeper program advocates compliance with environmental laws. Our full-time Riverkeeper researches polluters, patrols the watershed, analyzes discharger's permits, and responds to citizen complaints. As a result of our patrols and research, the Black Warrior Riverkeeper organization has become aware of dozens of polluters who we know, or suspect, are breaking the law. When necessary, we enforce federal and state laws to bring polluters to justice by filing civil lawsuits.



Black Warrior Riverkeeper monitors the Black Warrior River and its tributaries. As the Riverkeeper, the organization takes all reasonable steps to curtail illegal pollution. As citizen plaintiffs under the Clean Water Act, this organization acts as private attorneys general to sue illegal polluters when ADEM turns a blind eye, as they so often do.

The successful plaintiff in a Clean Water Act suit may recover its attorney fees and litigation expenses from the defendant. However, any civil penalties levied against the defendant are paid to the government, not to the plaintiff.

Black Warrior Riverkeeper is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt charitable organization.



FOR MORE INFORMATION:

[www.honda-marine.com/](http://www.honda-marine.com/)  
[www.honda-marine.com/homenv.htm](http://www.honda-marine.com/homenv.htm)

[www.blackwarriorriver.org](http://www.blackwarriorriver.org)

OR Call or E-mail using the contact info below:

CONTACT:

Nelson Brooke (Riverkeeper): (205) 288-0223 NBrooke@BlackWarriorRiver.org

Mark Martin (Chief Prosecuting Attorney): (205) 592-6041  
MMartin@BlackWarriorRiver.org

David Whiteside (Founder and Director of Development): (205) 967-0801  
CahabaRiver@aol.com



**BLACK WARRIOR *RIVERKEEPER*®**

P.O. Box 59684  
Birmingham, AL 35259  
www.BlackWarriorRiver.org  
Info@BlackWarriorRiver.org

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The mission of the Black Warrior RIVERKEEPER is to protect and restore the Black Warrior River and its tributaries.