



Black Warrior RIVERKEEPER®



IN THIS ISSUE

Shepherd Bend Mine: Threat to Birmingham Water Supply

Shepherd Bend Mine	1
Patrol Notes	2
Legal Docket	3
Waterkeeper Alliance Wins Mercury Case	4
John Keeling Becomes First Staff Attorney	4
John Kinney Increases Role as Full-time Program Director	5
Board Member Bio: Gina McWilliams	5
Stormwater Pollution Prevention: Citizen Patrols and EPA Guide	5
New Merchandise	6
"About Us" & Donation Form	7
Acknowledgements	8

Shepherd Bend Mine, a proposed coal mine along the Black Warrior River's Mulberry Fork, is right across the river from the Birmingham Water Works Board's drinking water intake. Putting a massive 1,773 acre strip mine adjacent to one of Birmingham's major drinking water intakes is ludicrous. This mine proposes 29 wastewater outfalls into the river and its tributaries.

The entity applying for this mine's wastewater discharge permit through ADEM is Shepherd Bend, LLC. Its Managing Member, Donald M. Baxter, is also the Managing Member of Quinton Mining, LLC, which violated its discharge permit at another mine in the same area over 200 times in 2005 and 2006. ADEM's fine was a mere slap on the wrist. Paying ADEM's meager fines is a small cost of doing business compared to the cost of installing proper pollution controls.

There is every reason to believe permit compliance will be an issue at Shepherd Bend Mine as well. When a coal strip mine violates its permit, high amounts of total suspended solids, or muddy water, and heavy metals such as iron, aluminum, and manganese, among other pollutants, are discharged. If there is a location where a coal mine should be denied a permit, this is it. Our drinking water is too important.

The Mulberry Fork supplies Birmingham with tens of millions of gallons of water each day. Watershed protection is the key component to a healthy water supply, especially for the land immediately adjacent to the water intake. Once watershed protections are lost and pollution is inevitable, chemical treatment of the water becomes necessary. It is much more costly to treat polluted water than clean water. The Birmingham Water Works is concerned about this mine's potential to pollute our water and raise treatment costs.

Property owners on Shepherd Bend who were listed in the permit application are as follows: Ala-West LLC, The University of Alabama, Dr. Heaton, Soterra LLC, Paul Blalock, Nathaniel Key, Ralph Brasfield, John Hollis, and Gail Beard. The University of Alabama owns a large chunk of the proposed area, believed to be near 1,300 acres. We urge these property owners to consider a use which will be more protective of our drinking water supply and local communities. Many locals see opportunities for community revitalization, embracing the river as an asset. Allowing this mine to destroy a major bend of the river would be a devastating blow to such plans.

Native Americans used the river here for centuries while respecting it and the land that drains to it. There are six known archaeological sites throughout Shepherd Bend. The Alabama Historical Commission has therefore asked for continued study of the site for additional cultural resources prior to disturbance of any kind.

Riverkeeper submitted comments on the ADEM National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System wastewater discharge permit during the public comment period. Our comments included a request for an ADEM public hearing on behalf of our members and over fifty individuals in the area. We await ADEM's response to our comments, as well as their decision on allowing a hearing where the public can voice concerns. Should a hearing be denied, ADEM will surely give this mine a permit. We are monitoring this mine's progress closely.



Mine's boundary in black; pollution outfalls in red; water intake to right of the "b" in "Mulberry." Mine map courtesy of ADEM.



Shepherd Bend on the Mulberry Fork. Photo by Nelson Brooke.

DID YOU KNOW?

The Black Warrior River watershed is home to 127 species of fish, 48 mussels, 15 turtles, and many other reptiles and amphibians. There are twelve Federally listed endangered species of animals in the Black Warrior River watershed, including two species of fish, nine mussels, one snail, one reptile, and one amphibian.

Nelson Brooke's Black Warrior RIVERKEEPER® Patrol Log

Here is a chronological summary of just a few of the many activities that Nelson Brooke, our staff Riverkeeper and Executive Director, performed recently as watchdog and spokesman of the Black Warrior River watershed. To report pollution, call (205)458-0095, e-mail: nbrooke@blackwarriorriver.org, or use the new "Report Pollution" feature on our website: www.blackwarriorriver.org.

December 13: Gave a presentation on coal mining and its impacts to the river to a packed room of concerned citizens at Union Grove Baptist Church in Barney near Cordova. The meeting's focus was the proposed Shepherd Bend Mine (see p. 1), so I showed them the map and talked about the permitting process and citizens' rights. Over 50 people signed our request for a public hearing with ADEM so we can voice concerns about their plan to give the mine a permit across from Birmingham's Mulberry Fork drinking water intake.

December 28: Helped a citizen file a formal complaint with the proper agencies about stream bank work being done along Village Creek at the Roebuck Golf Course. Improper fill material was being used to attempt stabilization of the stream bank, but was actually contributing to the problem rather than helping. Special concern and quick action was needed because this part of Village Creek joins with the spring run from Roebuck Springs, home to the endangered Watercress darter. This rare and brilliantly colored fish is an endemic species that lives only in the Black Warrior River watershed.

January (all month): Collaborated with Hanceville volunteer/member Ryan Stephens, who has stepped up to apply local pressure on the Hanceville Water Works & Sewer Board for their continuous dumping of raw sewage into Mud



Muddy water pours into the Black Warrior River from Mill



55 gallon barrels in Midfield continue to release pollution near Valley Creek. Photo by Nelson Brooke.

January 17: Patrolled around Tuscaloosa and Northport on the ground to get a closer look at damage being caused by construction sites we documented on the Jan. 9th flight.

January 22: Checked on the 55 gallon barrels in Midfield hoping they had been removed. They remain, and many barrels' contents are spilling onto the ground. (See Summer 2007 newsletter for more info).

February 17: Documented muddy runoff coming into Village Creek from the Birmingham Airport's runway extension project, from two McCalla developments into Fivemile Creek, and from several Fultondale developments into Black Creek and Five Mile Creek.

February 20: Surveyed coal mines on the Mulberry and Locust Forks with pilot Chip Harrison. On the Mulberry Fork I took aerial photos of Shepherd Bend, and documented muddy water from Red Star Mine and Quinton Mine. On the Locust Fork, I noted that Sloan Mountain Mine has caused the bank to slump into the river by coming too close.

February 28: John Kinney and I toured NUCOR Steel Tuscaloosa's steel mill with Environmental Manager Eric Larmore. Our goal was to see the facility and learn what they are doing to curb discharges to the river, which have been high in total suspended solids and heavy metals. They are paving the site and have generated an engineering report to address some of the pollution issues. We continue to monitor them.

Creek, a tributary of the Mulberry Fork. Ryan's vigilant efforts produced photos and video of sewage spills, proper reporting to the authorities, and outrage within the paddling community. His work got the attention of the Cullman Times and the Water Works & Sewer Board, and ultimately led to some changes in the way things are being run up there. Volunteers like Ryan make my job a whole lot easier and help us hold polluters accountable.

January 9: Flew with SouthWings' volunteer pilot, Dr. David Mauritsen, over the Tuscaloosa and Northport areas, Hurricane Creek and the Cottondale area, Holt Lake, and Shoal Creek Mine. I was joined by fellow Waterkeeper John Wathen, the Hurricane Creekkeeper. It rained the night before so there was a lot of mud flowing into the river. We documented over a dozen construction sites that were allowing muddy water to leave their sites and enter local streams. These streams were discharging large muddy plumes into the river. Inadequate erosion controls onsite and poor oversight and enforcement by local and state authorities are to blame. Waterkeepers are your local advocate working to hold polluters accountable and keep regulators on their toes.



Nelson Brooke takes a sample of muddy water before it enters Village Creek. Photo by Elizabeth Salter, Alabama Rivers Alliance.

Black Warrior RIVERKEEPER® Legal Docket

Alabama Biodiesel Corporation (Tuscaloosa County)

On August 22, 2007, Riverkeeper filed a lawsuit in U.S. District Court against Alabama Biodiesel for their **unpermitted oil and grease discharges** into an unnamed tributary of Carthage Branch, a tributary of the Black Warrior next to Moundville Archaeological Park. Discharge of pollutants without an NPDES permit is a violation of the Clean Water Act and similar provisions of Alabama law. The discharges occur just upstream of the Moundville public boat launch, where many residents and visitors fish, boat and swim. Riverbend Farms subdivision residents downstream have often complained of oily pollutants in the water affecting their enjoyment of the river. On December 3, 2007, ADEM placed on public notice a Consent Order against Ala Biodiesel, who then filed a Motion to Dismiss our suit. Riverkeeper contested Ala Biodiesel's Motion with a Brief in Opposition on December 12, alleging that the Consent Order was not commenced in time to block violations in the lawsuit, that the Consent Order is not brought under state law comparable to appropriate provisions of the Clean Water Act, and that **ADEM has not diligently prosecuted Ala Biodiesel**. We await the judge's decision.



Next to Moundville Archaeological Park and recreation areas, Alabama Biodiesel illegally discharges oil and grease. Photo by Nelson Brooke. Flight provided by SouthWings.org.

BARD V. SWMA (Jefferson County)

The Business Alliance for Responsible Development (BARD) has sued Storm Water Management Authority (SWMA) in the Jefferson County Circuit Court in an action that, if successful, could **imperil SWMA's continued existence**. SWMA is a local agency protecting citizens and property from the litter, sediment and petrochemicals that rain washes into waterways. BARD's plan to limit SWMA's activities would be **a critical blow to Jefferson County's water quality**. Riverkeeper and the Cahaba River Society, as the two watershed groups covering the entire area of Jefferson County, joined together to intervene in the suit on behalf of SWMA because polluted stormwater from irresponsible development is one of the largest problems in both the Black Warrior and Cahaba River watersheds.

In January 2008, Judge Tom King, Jr. of the Jefferson County Circuit Court issued a stay of the case and will hold a status conference on March 28, 2008 to determine appropriate future courses of action. The purpose of the stay is to allow ADEM to reissue SWMA's permit and for EPA to conclude its routine audit of SWMA. The stay will also help clarify the status of all pertinent issues after the City of Birmingham has decided to withdraw from SWMA. Please contact the City at 205-254-2277 to oppose their plans to withdraw.

Birmingham International Airport (Jefferson County)

Riverkeeper initiated legal action to prevent stormwater violations at the Birmingham Airport's runway extension project. This massive construction project, which began around May 2002, has **disturbed approximately 243 acres**. Stormwater runoff from much of this area has been inadequately contained or treated during most of this time. As a result, Village Creek runs reddish-brown with muddy water every significant rainfall, exacerbating scenic degradation and ecological concerns. Riverkeeper determined that Best Management Practices (BMPs) for erosion control and sediment control, required by state regulation, have been inadequately designed, implemented and/or maintained by the contractors. Pollutants have gone as far downstream as Bayview Lake, where sediment islands are forming in the lake.

Riverkeeper filed suit on April 3, 2007 against the Birmingham Airport Authority and construction companies for their part in this neglect. The Defendants filed Motions to Dismiss our lawsuit, as they claim ADEM's Consent Order fixes the problem. Their collaboration with ADEM does not appear to be successful in preventing pollution, however, as lab results of Riverkeeper's water sampling downstream of the airport **continue to reveal high levels of turbidity**. Riverkeeper is attempting to reach an amicable settlement of the lawsuit and a solution of the problem. Proceedings on the motions to dismiss have been briefly postponed pending completion of settlement negotiations.

Duck River Dam Proposal (Cullman County)

Riverkeeper joined Alabama Rivers Alliance, the Friends of the Mulberry Fork River, Wild South and three individuals to file an action in U.S. District Court challenging the Duck River dam permit, which was issued by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers on November 9, 2006. In the action filed September 10, 2007, Riverkeeper and the other plaintiffs contend the permit should not have been issued because **the Environmental Assessment the Corps prepared was defective on many levels**. The Duck River is a major free-flowing tributary of the Black Warrior River's Mulberry Fork, and a beautiful destination for kayaking, canoeing, and observing wildlife. The Plaintiffs will file motions for summary judgment by March 31, 2008.

Praco & Pumpkin Center Mines (Jefferson and Walker Counties)

Riverkeeper filed a lawsuit in U.S. District Court against Cherokee Mining, LLC on July 27, 2007 for violations of the Clean Water Act at the company's Praco Mine and Pumpkin Center Mine. We uncovered **410 violations** of the mines' permit for discharges with **unacceptable levels of iron, manganese, total suspended solids, and low pH (acidity)**. The mines discharged the polluted water to tributaries of the Black Warrior River's Locust Fork. Yet again, ADEM stepped in with an inadequate Consent Order on September 24, 2007 and Cherokee Mining subsequently filed a Motion to Dismiss our lawsuit on October 11, 2007. After briefing, Judge William Acker ruled in our favor and dismissed the Defendant's Motion to Dismiss! The Defendant have appealed to the Eleventh Circuit Court of Appeals.

WATERKEEPER® ALLIANCE Wins Pivotal Mercury Decision

In March of 2005, the EPA announced its intention to institute the Clean Air Mercury Rule, which the agency called its “first ever rule to reduce mercury emissions from power plants.” The rule, according to the EPA, sought to reduce mercury emissions from electric utility sources by nearly 70% from 1999 emission levels. The total annual tonnage of mercury allowed to be emitted from power plants throughout the US would be capped at a level specified by the EPA to be gradually reduced over an eight year period beginning in 2010. The mechanism for achieving these reductions was to be a so-called “cap and trade” system wherein credits representing increments of the target annual quantity of mercury would be distributed to individual sources. The system would allow power plants that are unable (or unwilling) to immediately reduce the amount of mercury in their air emissions to buy credits from other plants around the country that emit less mercury.

On the surface, the net reduction of mercury emissions sought by the rule would appear to be beneficial to public health. However, the rule has been mired in controversy since its announcement almost three years ago. Soon after the rule was announced, 14 states, dozens of Native American tribes, organizations representing registered nurses and physicians, and numerous environmental groups including the Waterkeeper Alliance, joined together to challenge the EPA’s rule in court. The plaintiffs are concerned primarily with EPA’s erroneous determination that the rule would mean “that it is neither necessary nor appropriate to regulate power plant mercury emissions under section 112 of the Clean Air Act.” They argue that the Clean Air Act’s safeguards against toxic pollution will be much more effective at reducing mercury pollution without the exclusion for power plants. Plaintiffs also challenged the rule based on the fact that the “cap and trade” system would not require reductions of mercury emissions from all power plants, creating a loophole whereby the worst polluters would be able to delay compliance with the rule by purchasing emission credits. This system would create hotspots of mercury pollution, including Alabama, and according to a press release by Earthjustice, “would have taken effect well beyond dates mandated in the Clean Air Act.”

On February 8th Waterkeeper Alliance, along with the other plaintiffs, won a major decision in D.C. Circuit Court declaring the EPA’s mercury rule illegal. The court wrote that the defendant’s “explanation deploys the logic of the Queen of Hearts, substituting EPA’s desires for the plain text of [the Clean Air Act].” This means the EPA will be required to continue to regulate power plant mercury emissions under the Clean Air Act and is now obligated to develop Maximum Achievable Control Technology standards for their emissions.

The D.C. Circuit Court’s rule is particularly important for Alabama and the Black Warrior River watershed, as some of nation’s most prolific emitters of mercury operate on the banks of the Black Warrior. According to data from 2005 published by the Environmental Integrity Project, Alabama Power Company’s Miller Steam Plant was third on the list of America’s dirtiest power plants in terms of total mercury emissions, releasing more than 1,595 pounds of mercury to the atmosphere that year. Alabama Power’s Gorgas and Greene County Steam Plants came in at 12 and 34 on the list, respectively.

Alabama Power’s coal-fired steam plants were also some of the dirtiest in the country in 2005 in terms of pounds of mercury released per million MWh of energy produced. The Greene Plant, located on the bank of the main stem of the Black Warrior, came in at number 5 on that list, with Gorgas and Miller Steam Plants coming at 8 and 32 respectively. Ideally, the decision will mean that Alabama Power will be forced to implement mercury controls at these plants in a more timely manner, preventing the Black Warrior River from becoming more of a hotspot for mercury pollution than it already is.



Alabama Power’s Miller Steam Plant on the Black Warrior’s Locust Fork: ranked third nationally in mercury emissions.
Photo by Nelson Brooke. Flight provided by SouthWings.org.

John Keeling: New Full-time Staff Attorney

John J. Keeling has joined Black Warrior Riverkeeper as our first full-time Staff Attorney starting March 4. John is a native of Gadsden, Alabama where he developed a zeal for the outdoors. This enthusiasm has lead him to camping adventures in over 20 of our national parks, ornithological trips throughout the country, and canoeing explorations down Alabama’s rivers and streams in search of artifacts.

John graduated from The University of Alabama in 2002 with a degree in Commerce and Business Administration. He began practicing law in 2006 after graduating from Tulane University Law School. Before joining Black Warrior Riverkeeper, John spent the last two years practicing law in both state and federal courts while maintaining a successful general law practice in Birmingham. Throughout his schooling and his career, John has consistently demonstrated a commitment to public service by aggressively advocating for parties with few resources.

As Staff Attorney, John will work alongside Mark Martin, who will remain on contract as our in-house Prosecuting Attorney, the position he has filled since 2001. John’s duties include researching legal remedies to pollution issues, assisting with review of pollution permits, recruiting and assisting legal volunteers and interns, collaborating with outside attorneys on cases, working on settlements and litigation, and much more. John will help us continue to enforce the Clean Water Act, while utilizing other statutes, with the goal of protecting water quality, wildlife, recreation, and public health in the Black Warrior River watershed.



John Keeling atop Mount Mitchell.

John Kinney Increases Workload as Full-time Program Director



John Kinney worked part-time as Black Warrior Riverkeeper's Legal Program Coordinator throughout 2006 and 2007 before starting a full-time job as Program Director in January 2008. As Program Director, John will maintain his duties as Legal Program Coordinator, which include assisting Riverkeeper Nelson Brooke with the patrol program. He will also take on the additional tasks of helping Director of Development Charles Scribner administer outreach programs and event planning, and will give presentations to schools and civic organizations. John graduated from the Altamont School in Birmingham before graduating from the University of Vermont with a Bachelor of Science degree in Environmental Studies in 2002. He is currently attending classes at the University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB) pursuing a Master's degree in Environmental Engineering.

John Kinney samples Mud Creek downstream of the Hanceville Wastewater Treatment Plant's outfall. The plant's illegal discharges of raw sewage contribute to algae blooms (top & bottom left corners). Photo by David Whiteside.

Board of Directors Spotlight: Gina McWilliams

Gina McWilliams is the co-owner of two healthcare consulting firms with over 25 years of experience in this industry. Gina enjoys as much time as possible on her property on Burnt Cane Creek on the Mulberry Fork of the Black Warrior River, near Birmingham's Mulberry Fork drinking water intake facility. Gina loves the outdoors enjoying birding, hiking, paddling and fishing. Her special interests include studying the wildflowers and Native American culture indigenous to the Black Warrior River watershed. Gina received her undergraduate degree from the University of Alabama.

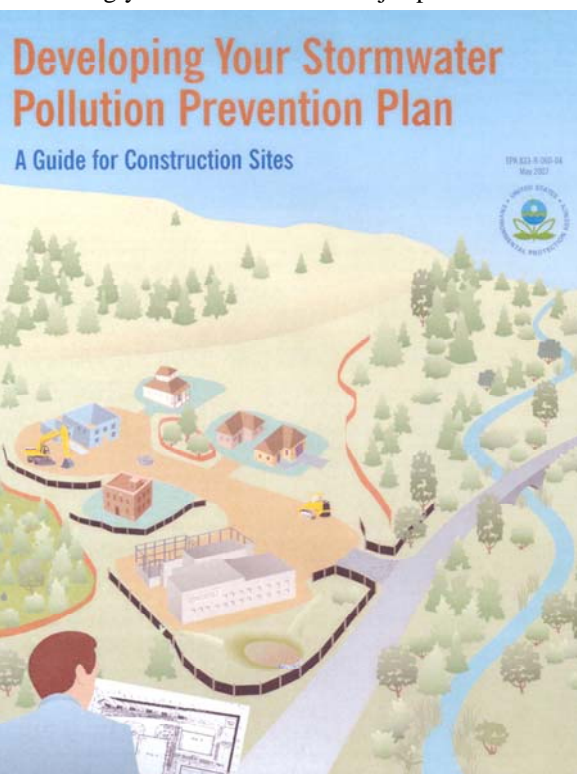
Gina currently serves as the Vice President for Black Warrior Riverkeeper's Board, having completed a previous term as Treasurer. She has provided incredible guidance to our staff on such areas as fundraising, strategic planning, canoe trips, and pollution investigations. To learn about our other Board members, visit: www.blackwarriorriver.org/board.html.

Gina McWilliams, Vice President, observes abundant wildlife on Burt Cane Creek, a Walker County tributary of the Black Warrior's Mulberry Fork. Photo by Elisa Mejia.



Stormwater Pollution Prevention for Construction Sites

Pollutants in stormwater runoff are substances that accumulate on paved or impervious surfaces during dry periods and are washed into waterways by rain. Stormwater runoff, a prominent example of which is erosion and sediment pollution from construction sites, has increasingly become one of the major pollution sources diminishing water quality throughout the Black Warrior River watershed.



Our Riverkeeper, Nelson Brooke, patrols the Black Warrior watershed for construction sites with stormwater problems. Citizens can assist Nelson in this effort by reporting and photographing significant and ongoing pollution from construction sites (or any other pollution source). Please call 205-458-0095 or use the new "Report Pollution" feature on our updated website, www.BlackWarriorRiver.org.

Black Warrior Riverkeeper also hopes to minimize pollution from construction sites by spreading the word about the Environmental Protection Agency's new Stormwater Pollution Prevention Guide for Construction Sites. EPA's *Developing Your Stormwater Prevention Plan: A Guide for Construction Sites*, is an easy-to-read reference for construction site operators who require National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit coverage for their stormwater discharges. The information in this guide explains the basic principles of developing and maintaining an effective stormwater pollution prevention plan (SWPPP).

According to the EPA, the Guide can be used at most construction sites in any state. It accommodates the range of knowledge about stormwater pollution prevention among operators and assumes the reader will obtain a copy of the appropriate NPDES Construction General Permit and use both documents to develop a SWPPP.

In addition to the Guide, construction operators can find a customizable SWPPP Template (Microsoft Word format) to help you start writing your SWPPP. Also available is an Inspection Form (Microsoft Word) that you can use in conjunction with your site map to conduct your regular inspections. The website also offers "model" or "example" SWPPPs to which you may refer during the SWPPP development process. For electronic guide copies, SWPPP Template, and sample Inspection Forms, visit www.epa.gov/npdes/swpppguide. For printed copies call the EPA at 800-490-9198 and reference document # EPA-833-R-06-004.

Black Warrior RIVERKEEPER® Merchandise

To order these and other items in support of Black Warrior Riverkeeper, please visit <http://www.blackwarriorriver.org/shop.html>

or contact Charles Scribner at 205-458-0095 or cscribner@blackwarriorriver.org

All prices below include shipping & sales tax.

Prices are even lower if you buy at our office or events — shipping fee removed.

Riverkeeper Long Sleeve T-shirt (Charcoal)

Available in S, M, L, XL, 2XL. Small color logo on left chest, large logo centered on back (pictured). **\$18**



Riverkeeper Short Sleeve T-shirt (White)

Available in S, M, L, XL. Small logo on left chest, large logo centered on back (pictured). **\$15**



Riverkeeper Decal

Logo with adhesive on back. Durable. Great on bumpers or windows! (4in x 4in). **\$1**

Knight & Hale® GAME CALLS

Knight & Hale Video: Ultimate Whitetail Season VI
Join Harold Knight, David Hale, and *Hank Williams, Jr.* on 10 hunts for some big ol' bucks! VHS. **\$12**

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Features turkey hunting lessons from Knight and Hale, and the handy Field Guide gives you the stage the birds you're hunting are in depending on the date. Includes hunting tactics. VHS, cassette, and field guide. **\$17**

Knight & Hale Turkey Bag

This blaze-orange Turkey Transport Bag allows you to safely pack your turkey out of the woods. Durable and washable. **\$6**



Dr. Bronner's Magic Soaps

Organic, biodegradable, concentrated, and highly rated. Great for home or outdoor use! 4oz bottles available in Peppermint, Eucalyptus, or Unscented. **\$7**

About Black Warrior RIVERKEEPER®

Black Warrior Riverkeeper's mission is to protect and restore the Black Warrior River and its tributaries. We are a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization dedicated to improving wildlife habitat, recreation, and public health throughout the largest river watershed fully contained within Alabama, America's leading state for freshwater biodiversity. Monitoring waterways, educating the public, and holding major polluters accountable has made us an important proponent of clean water in our patrol area, the entire Black Warrior River watershed.

Founded in 2001 by David Whiteside, our full-time staff includes Nelson Brooke—Executive Director & Riverkeeper, John Keeling—Staff Attorney, John Kinney—Program Director, and Charles Scribner—Director of Development & Newsletter Editor. We also benefit greatly from the services of in-house Prosecuting Attorney, Mark Martin. Alabama's 2007 Conservation Organization of the Year, Black Warrior Riverkeeper is governed by a Board of Directors and is a proud member of Waterkeeper Alliance. Call 205-458-0095 or email info@blackwarriorriver.org to report pollution or discuss volunteering, donating, or events. Learn more at www.BlackWarriorRiver.org.

About WATERKEEPER® ALLIANCE

The first Riverkeeper patrol boat was launched by military veterans and fishermen who mobilized in 1966 to challenge polluters on the Hudson River. That Riverkeeper's contributions to the Hudson's amazing recovery has inspired the creation of 162 locally funded and controlled "Waterkeeper" organizations on waterways across the world. Waterkeepers (including Alabama's Choctawhatchee Riverkeeper, Hurricane Creekkeeper and Mobile Baykeeper) patrol local waterways, respond to citizen complaints, and enforce environmental laws.

Waterkeeper Alliance was founded in 2000 to connect and support local Waterkeeper organizations, while allowing them full control over their finances and administrative decisions. Waterkeeper Alliance offers legal, scientific, and administrative advice, provides networking opportunities, and often advocates for issues common to multiple local Waterkeepers (such as mercury pollution — a major issue in the Black Warrior River watershed). Learn more about Waterkeeper Alliance at www.Waterkeeper.org.



MEMBERSHIPS / DONATIONS

Please complete and return with check to:
Black Warrior Riverkeeper
712 37th Street South
Birmingham, AL 35222



NAME(S) _____

ADDRESS: _____ CITY, ST, ZIP _____

PHONE(S): _____ EMAIL(S): _____

SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____

If you enjoy the Black Warrior River, its tributaries, or its Sipsey, Mulberry, or Locust Forks, please tell us how and where:

___ Plicate rocksnail (Leptoxis ampla) - endemic snail on federal Endangered list.....\$25

___ Watercress Darter (Etheostoma nuchale) - endemic fish on federal Endangered list.....\$50

___ Vermilion Darter (Etheostoma chermocki) - endemic fish on federal Endangered list.....\$100

___ Flattened Musk Turtle (Sternotherus depressus) - endemic reptile on federal Threatened list.....\$250

___ Black Warrior Waterdog (Necturus alabamensis) - endemic amphibian, federal Threatened list candidate.....\$1000

___ Other Dollar amount.....\$ _____

___ In-kind donation (List donated goods or professional services): _____

___ Volunteer time (List hours and type of volunteering): _____

___ Stock (Please call Charles Scribner at 205-458-0095 for easy instructions).

(Any gift above) In Memory of: _____

(Any gift above) In Honor of: _____

Name & address to notify of memorial / honorary gift: _____

Black Warrior Riverkeeper is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt charitable organization. Your contribution is tax deductible to the extent allowed by law. No goods or services of monetary value will be provided in exchange for contributions. To donate by credit card or to purchase merchandise (shirts, bumper stickers, hunting/fishing gear, Dr. Bronner's Magic Soaps, etc.) please contact Charles Scribner at 205-458-0095 or cscribner@blackwarriorriver.org



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Musical Stars Donate Signed Items to Black Warrior Riverkeeper for Waterkeeper Alliance's Online Auction (April 15-29)

Black Warrior Riverkeeper has procured two excellent auction items on which the public can bid during Waterkeeper Alliance's Earth Day Online Auction (April 15-29 at www.charitybuzz.com). Our first item (pictured below) is a group of 6 CDs signed by these acclaimed and generous artists: **Drive-By Truckers, The Flaming Lips, Michael Franti & Spearhead, Talib Kweli, The Tragically Hip, and Umphrey's McGee!**



Our second item is a Dream Fan Package from **Umphrey's McGee**. The package includes 2 tickets to a concert in 2008 (plus After Show or Meet & Greet passes), 3 signed CDs, 2 signed lithographs, 1 signed poster, and a hooded sweatshirt! Thanks to the bands, **David Whiteside (Founder)** for procuring the donations, **Waterkeeper Alliance** for helping us raise funds through their auction, and **Charitybuzz.com** for hosting the auction. Please bid!

Architecture Works Generously Hosts Our Second Annual Advisory Council Meeting (May 1)

For nearly two years, Black Warrior Riverkeeper has been assembling and consulting an amazing **Advisory Council**. These highly-credentialed volunteers represent several fields that often intersect with our work, such as public health, engineering, business, law, politics, education, outdoor recreation, public relations, and science. Our growing list of Advisory Council members now includes over eighty esteemed experts in various occupations as well as diverse locations throughout the Black Warrior River watershed. Black Warrior Riverkeeper staff consults these advisors on an as-needed basis. Additionally, the Advisory Council convenes at the annual meeting to provide an opportunity to network among themselves, learn more about our progress, and share additional advice about situations affecting the Black Warrior watershed. Our Second Annual Meeting will take place in Birmingham on May 1st from 6-8pm (including dinner), generously hosted once again by **Architecture Works**. Thanks to **Milo's Famous Teas** for donating natural tea brewed in the Black Warrior watershed!

Eco-Friendly Newsletters Printed on Fox River Paper's 100% Post-Consumer Recycled Paper

We raised our printing expenses to switch to Fox River Paper's "80# Text" paper, which is 100% post-consumer recycled. We utilized the "Environmental Calculator" on www.foxriverpaper.com to project our newsletters' environmental savings over the course of one year:



1048.16 lbs wood ~ 1476.96 gal water ~ 1.52min BTUs energy ~ 316.16 lbs emissions ~ 168.76 lbs solid waste