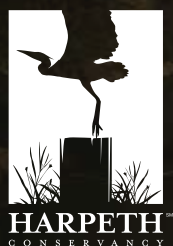


We *are* the river. United we *are* the solution.



VOICES of the HARPETH

Desmond Lake Photography

SUMMER 2019

T A B L E O F C O N T E N T S

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT & CEO

Summer is a fantastic time to enjoy Tennessee's natural treasures – its rivers! However, hot summer conditions combined with low flows and too much nitrogen and phosphorus pollution can lead to excessive algal growth and even harmful algal blooms. These blooms can cause fish kills, contamination of drinking water supplies, and drastic drops in tourism as Florida and Ohio have experienced. HC is taking the lead in tackling this national pollution challenge – NUTRIENT POLLUTION – in Tennessee.

See inside for details on the successful conclusion of our 5-plus year effort to ensure that the largest single sewer plant on the Harpeth, owned by the City of Franklin, is maximizing the removal of nutrients from its current facility and has built in the capability to do much more with the new sewer plant expansion. Our efforts also launched a large multi-partner pollution study and plan that has been underway since 2015 to determine what the Harpeth river can ultimately handle so that water quality improves to meet state-required standards. This effort to develop a stakeholder-led nutrient reduction plan for an entire river is the first in Tennessee.

The rivers of Tennessee and their watersheds ARE the outdoors that are valued by everyone for fishing, hunting, hiking, paddling, tourism, and much more. The secret is now out about these incredible natural treasures as more major Fortune 500 companies expand or relocate their headquarters here. As a result, since 2002 **over 260,000 acres of vital farmland has been permanently lost to development around the Nashville region alone.** Thus, we are focusing our efforts to help shape the region's growth to protect what brings people here.

Building on our 20 years of success, we have created a multi-year plan to expand our capacity to engage communities around all of Tennessee's rivers to develop solutions and champion widespread support for clean drinking water and healthy ecosystems for rivers that Tennesseans expect and deserve. As we have from the start, we will continue to work with landowners, businesses, agencies, officials, community leaders and others to build consensus on solutions and put them in place. Your involvement is essential. Check inside for the many ways that you can be part of the solution!

Dorie Bolze, President & CEO



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**7 of the 8 most
biologically
diverse rivers
in North
America
flow through Tennessee.**

Tom Thomson Photography



BE RIVER RESPONSIBLE

Our Be River Responsible: Don't Be CrappieSM Campaign response has been tremendous!



In 2018, we distributed **over 1,000 biodegradable bags** through outfitters and at river access points. This year, our focus is on promoting self-led cleanups, installing river signs, and awareness to encourage trash cleanup while people are enjoying Tennessee's rivers.

Microplastic Particles: A RIVER COMPARISON

A recent survey determined that over **18,000 microplastic particles** can be found in a cubic meter of water **from the Tennessee River** and almost half (48%) of that plastic is polyethylene – commonly used in plastic food packaging and shopping bags.

Did you know that the Tennessee River is one of the most plastic polluted rivers IN THE WORLD?



River	Number of Microplastic Particles per Cubic Meter (m3) of water
Rhine	200
Kinzig	800
Yangtze*	9,000
Tennessee	18,000

Sampling particles from 25–500 microns
*Wang et al. 2017 (50–500 microns)

Trash and plastics can now be found in every corner of the globe. We need to do our part to prevent litter from traveling from the Harpeth River to the Mississippi River and eventually to the Gulf of Mexico.



HCA Healthcare with Harpeth Conservancy on a Harpeth River cleanup in May

RIVER CLEANUPS

We organize **3–5 cleanups annually** that are funded in part by the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) and Bonnaroo Works Fund. If your company is interested in participating, let us know! Harpeth Conservancy can organize a 10-person group cleanup for \$1,000. We also encourage people to **do their OWN cleanups**, contact us to learn how. Our ultimate goal is to educate people so trash stays out of our rivers and cleanups aren't necessary.

- Organize your own river cleanups or tree plantings! And submit your cleanup photo into our contest! Details on page 3!
- Plant native species!
- Join us and other volunteers at our restoration events throughout the year.
- Always pick up after your pets and dispose of waste in the proper bin.
- If your property borders a river, stream, or creek:
 - Leave a buffer by not mowing to the water's edge
 - Request a Be River Responsible sign for your property

STREAM RESTORATION & REFORESTATION



L.L. Burns Park in Kingston Springs during reforestation in 2013 (left) and 2019 (right). Our reforestation efforts have helped some of the most damaged areas recover from the 2010 flood.

BACK TO PRE-FLOOD CONDITIONS – A DECADE'S WORTH OF WORK

In May of 2010, torrential rainfall led to catastrophic flooding that devastated Middle Tennessee. Large forested areas were completely wiped out when floodwaters left unprotected river banks along the Harpeth. Harpeth Conservancy has been working for 9 years to restore and reforest these river banks by removing harmful invasive species and planting native trees to stabilize river banks and feed our local wildlife. Thanks to the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency (TWRA) and others, we are continuing these efforts into 2019.



2019 Weed Wrangle – 40 volunteers removed invasive plants and planted native seedlings in Warner Park.



On March 2nd, Harpeth Conservancy participated in the **2019 Weed Wrangle** with the Garden Club of Nashville, and it was a huge success!

Restoration is not only about revegetating our stream corridors, but also removing harmful invasive plants such as honeysuckle, Chinese privet, autumn olive, English ivy, and winter creeper. By replacing these invasive plants with native species, we are creating a higher quality habitat to support our local wildlife.



Volunteers planting native plants at Weed Wrangle

Spring 2019 season:
70+ volunteers; 900+ trees planted

RIVER CLEANUP CONTEST

This summer kicked off our first community-wide cleanup contest!



We are giving out prizes to anyone within the state of Tennessee that removes trash and litter from our waterways. Each month we will award four winners!

How To Participate: (1) Remove trash from a Tennessee waterway, (2) take a photo of the item you want to submit to the contest, and (3) share it on Facebook or Instagram – tag us @harpethriver. Or email us at info@harpethriver.org.

Everyone has a chance to win fantastic prizes from Mountain High Outfitters, Jackalope Brewing Company, Nashville Zoo, River Queen Voyages, REI, Groove Life, and more!

LITTLE HARPETH RIVER FEST

- Saturday, August 10, 2 – 5 p.m.
- Edwin Warner Park, Shelter 11
- Free Food, Family Friendly, and Open to the Public
- Lesson on the Harpeth with the Nashville Zoo at Grassmere
- 2019 River Steward Award Ceremony

Support by: Colonial Pipeline, Edible Nashville, International Paper, Waste Management, MTEMC

WORKING ON FARMS

In 2018, we installed **1,300 feet** of cattle exclusion fencing and stabilized **2 livestock heavy use areas** to reduce erosion, improve water quality, and improve animal cleanliness and health.

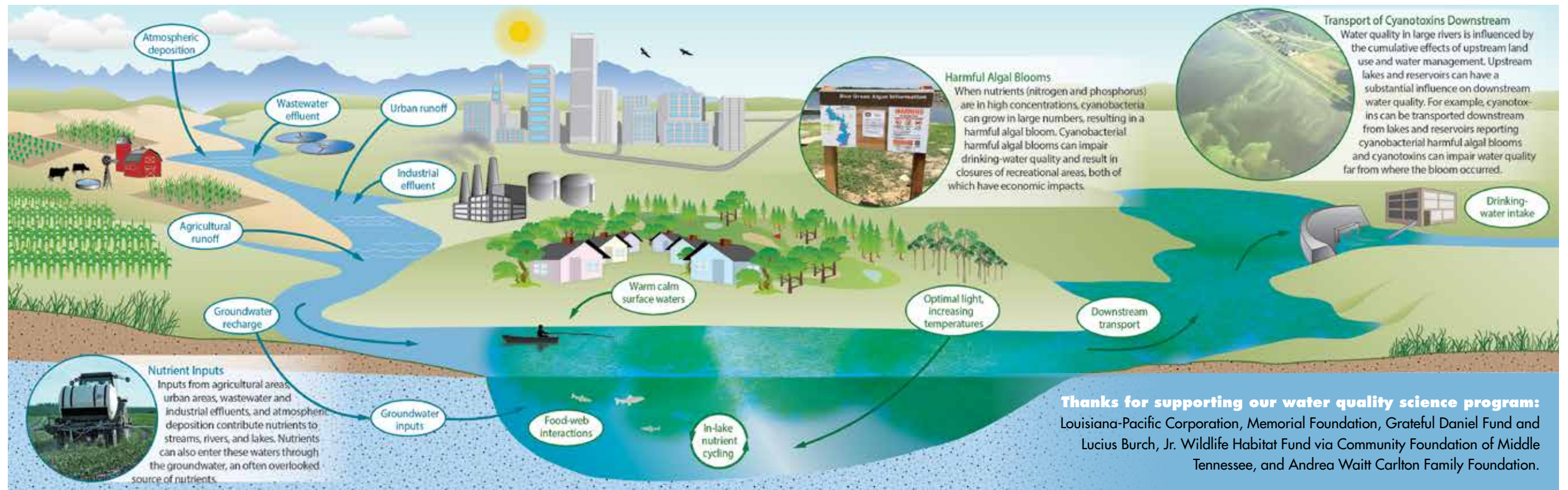
With a new state grant from the TN Department of Agriculture, we will continue to restore and protect the Harpeth's headwater streams in Eagleville by implementing projects that reduce stormwater runoff within the town.

Harpeth Conservancy provides SCIENCE-BASED conservation for the rivers of Tennessee

HC IS LEADING THE EFFORT IN TACKLING NUTRIENT POLLUTION IN TENNESSEE

Nutrients, specifically phosphorus and nitrogen, are essential building blocks for aquatic life. These nutrients support the growth of algae, which are an important food source for fish. Unfortunately, excessive nutrient pollution can lead to the growth and proliferation of harmful algal blooms. Harmful algal blooms can deplete oxygen levels and produce dangerous toxins. In partnership with Austin Peay State University, we have identified over 180 species of algae in the Harpeth River including species that are commonly found in harmful algal blooms.

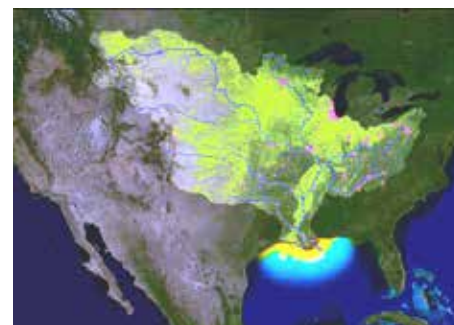
Nearly 60% of the Harpeth River does not meet Tennessee standards for water quality due, in part, to excessive amounts of these nutrients. Our goal is to reduce the nutrient levels within the Harpeth watershed to reduce nuisance algal growth and to prevent the occurrence of harmful algal blooms.



How nutrient pollution impacts our watershed. Source: U.S. Geological Survey

NUTRIENT POLLUTION IN TN AFFECTS OUR COASTAL AREAS

Elevated nutrient levels in water bodies stimulate an overgrowth of algae, which then sinks and decomposes. The decomposition process consumes oxygen and depletes the supply available to support healthy marine and other aquatic life. In an article from *USA Today* last year, it was explained that, "Less oxygen dissolved in the water is often referred to as a 'dead zone' because most marine life either dies or, if they are mobile such as fish, leaves the area. Habitats that would normally be teeming with life become, essentially, biological deserts. Dead zones occur in many areas of the country, particularly along the East Coast, the Gulf of Mexico, and the Great Lakes, but there is no part of the country or the world that is immune. The second largest dead zone in the world is located in the U.S., in the northern Gulf of Mexico."



Tennessee is the **ninth** largest contributor of nutrients among the **33** states draining into the Mississippi. Of those Tennessee rivers draining to the Mississippi, **42%** of stream miles and **99%** of lake acres assessed are nutrient-impaired.¹

1. Source: <http://www.msrivercollab.org/wp-content/uploads/DecadesofDelayMRC-Nov2016.pdf>, p.61

CONDUCTING AND FUNDING WATER QUALITY AND ALGAE STUDIES FOR THE HARPETH POLLUTION REDUCTION PLAN

A primary goal of our Science and Clean Water program is reducing nutrient pollution in the Harpeth River to prevent harmful algal blooms in our own rivers as well as limit our contributions to the Dead Zone in the Gulf of Mexico. In 2015, HC helped launch an in-depth water quality study in the Harpeth with local, state, and federal organizations. In 2018, with Louisiana-Pacific Corporation and Memorial Foundation support, we collected water quality data at 4 locations along the Harpeth River and funded consultant experts to measure organic pollution levels. These data are being used to establish a Nutrient Reduction Plan for the Harpeth River.



We distributed over 50 soil testing kits last year!

HARPETH CONSERVANCY IS TAPPED AS NATIONAL PARTNER!

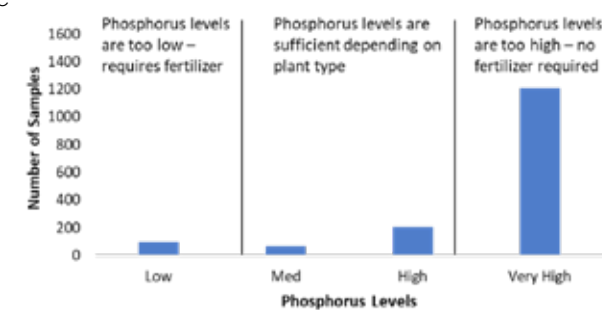
We are helping the Tennessee Department of Health (TDH) test Tennessee's One Health Harmful Algal Bloom System (OHHABS). OHHABS is a national program developed by the Center for Disease Control to report harmful algal bloom events and exposures. OHHABS is a voluntary reporting system that will be used to better understand harmful algal blooms in our state. The OHHABS system will be beta tested in Tennessee this summer by TDH, Harpeth Conservancy, and others.

FERTILIZING – DOING MORE HARM THAN GOOD?

A study by the University of Tennessee Institute of Agriculture indicated that most lawns in the greater Nashville region have VERY HIGH levels of phosphorus in soil samples. This excess phosphorus will eventually wash off your yard into nearby streams and rivers, contributing to nutrient pollution in Tennessee.

By using lawn fertilizers with zero phosphorus you can reduce our nutrient pollution!

Phosphorus Levels in Soil Samples from Lawns in Williamson County



DID YOU KNOW? University of Tennessee Institute of Agriculture offers soil testing kits so you can find out exactly what type of fertilizer is best for your lawn, garden, or property. Email info@harpethriver.org to find out more.

BECOME A CITIZEN SCIENTIST



Water Reporter is a mobile app that allows citizens **LIKE YOU** to help monitor the health and water quality of rivers and streams in just 3 EASY steps:

1. Download the **FREE** app from your Android or iPhone store!
2. Join the Harpeth Conservancy Group!
3. Snap photos of things that look suspicious, add related hashtags, and add your picture to the Harpeth Conservancy Group so your images come to us!

Find out more at www.harpethconservancy.org/water-reporter

Our goal in 2019 is to have at least 250 of you being our eyes on the rivers of Tennessee.

CLEAN WATER POLICY AFFECTS YOU!

TENNESSEE'S COMMUNITIES ARE INTERCONNECTED WITH WATERWAYS

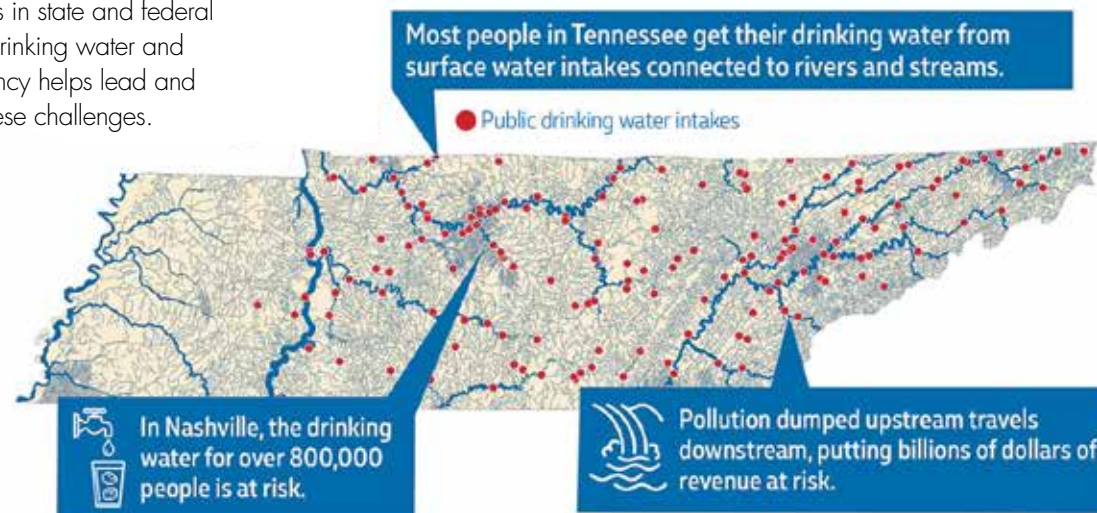
A number of proposed changes in state and federal regulations threaten our clean drinking water and waterways. Harpeth Conservancy helps lead and provide expertise to address these challenges.

FEDERAL REGULATIONS – HC is helping to lead efforts in Tennessee to oppose efforts to repeal and replace the Waters of the United States (Clean Water) Rule. Removal of protections that have been in place for 50 years would imperil drinking water supplies, lower water quality, and lead to filling of wetlands to facilitate land development. **The proposed changes remove protections for and would put at risk more than half of the stream miles in the United States, including the drinking water for three of every four Tennesseans.**

TENNESSEE REGULATIONS – Harpeth Conservancy is at the helm of statewide clean water policy, including 2 staff members in leadership positions. Jim Redwine, Vice-President & COO, was appointed by Governor Haslam as a representative of Environmental Interests for the Water and Wastewater Financing Board. Dorie Bolze, CEO, has led stormwater management work for 20 years, and is the current Chair of the Williamson County Stormwater Appeals board.

HC staff coordinate a statewide coalition called Tennessee Water Groups (TWG). Significant effort has been focused on preparing analyses, providing expert comments, and citizen input at public hearings on proposed changes that would weaken key aspects of several Tennessee water quality regulations and permitting programs. The proposed rule changes violate provisions of Tennessee law that "...the people of Tennessee ... have a right to unpolluted waters..." and would "grandfather in" existing, already degraded conditions.

The state also significantly revised its Stream Mitigation Guidelines which provide a system to implement the proposed regulatory changes. Our concerns with these changes include that they would provide incentives to portray stream conditions as worse than they actually are, so that fewer mitigation credits are required and streams can be further degraded.



RECREATIONAL MANAGEMENT



Tennessee's explosive growth is having negative effects on our waterways. The increase in anglers and recreational users literally have them bumping into each other.

Harpeth Conservancy participated in several meetings, submitted comments, and proposed alternative language for the proposed regulations to help find solutions to manage increased use of TN's waterways. Efforts included testifying before the TN Wildlife Resources Commission in Memphis in January.

Harpeth Conservancy will continue to be at the forefront of these efforts. Our experience with the Harpeth, one of the most heavily recreated rivers in the State, should prove invaluable in helping to find amicable solutions to these important issues.

Over **500,000** people use the Harpeth River State Park area alone! The Harpeth River is one of the most highly recreated rivers in the state.

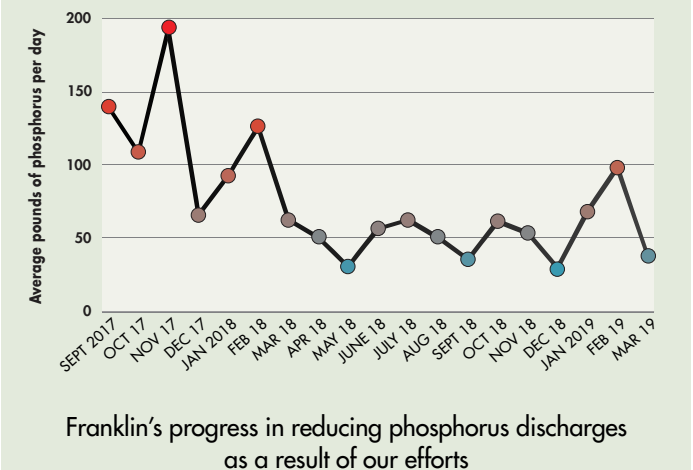
IMPROVING WATER QUALITY IN THE HARPETH RIVER

GREAT NEWS! Our efforts to clean up the discharges from the City of Franklin's sewage treatment plant are having an effect.

As a result of your support, which funded analysis by national experts, Franklin's sewer permit now contains an action level that requires Franklin to report to the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC) when its total monthly phosphorus discharge exceeds a threshold and then work to improve its operations to reduce total phosphorus to below that action level.

In January 2018, Franklin triggered the permit's action level with discharges of 128 pounds per day and started efforts to optimize the current sewer plant's operations. As a result, phosphorus discharge levels have been reduced about 30% to 50 pounds per day from its 5-year average of 72.5 pounds per day. We commend the City of Franklin for their efforts and public commitment in April 2018 to maintain current phosphorus discharge levels with the expansion of the sewer plant. Based on Franklin's progress to date, in March 2019, Harpeth Conservancy and Franklin jointly dismissed their respective appeals of the 2017 state sewer plant discharge permit. We will continue to monitor and report on Franklin's results.

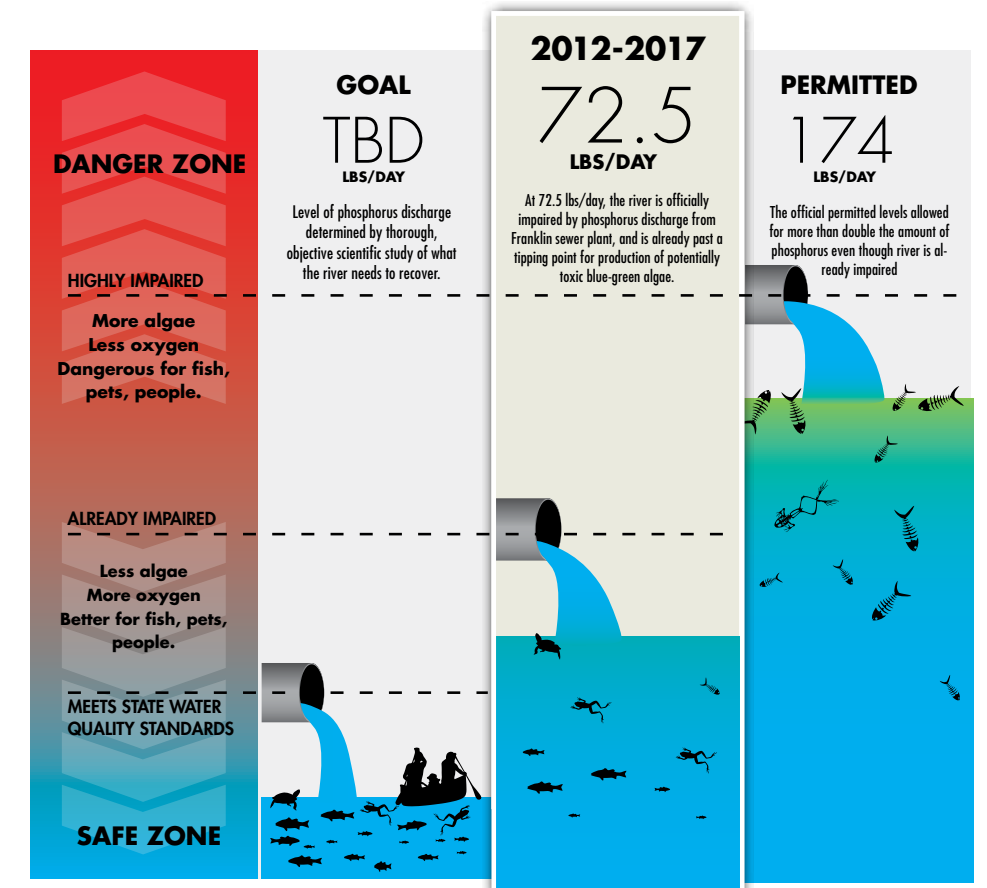
FRANKLIN'S PROGRESS REDUCING PHOSPHORUS



WHERE WE'RE GOING – A STAKEHOLDER-LED POLLUTION REDUCTION STUDY & PLAN

Although we're making progress, the Harpeth River is still impaired by phosphorus and other pollutants. We will continue to work for a stakeholder-led pollution reduction study and plan (called a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL)). A TMDL is a plan for restoring a polluted water body. The plan identifies the maximum amount of a pollutant the waterway can handle to recover and meet state water quality standards.

We look forward to working with TDEC and the others to create a structure for this TMDL that includes all communities and stakeholders in a steering committee supported by experts. We aim to foster a process that involves all affected parties in collecting and understanding the data, determining fair and cost-effective solutions, monitoring results, and maintaining long-term leadership throughout the river system. The Harpeth River stakeholder-led TMDL will be the first of its kind in Tennessee, and we are eager to make our river community a showcase for the entire region.



How much phosphorus the river can handle still needs to be scientifically determined.

COMMUNITY EVENTS & BENEFITS

DID YOU KNOW?

- Last year we **attended 30+ community events**
- Reached and educated **150,000+ (2,000+ of those were youth!)**

To fulfill our vision, we strive to meet and inform people out in the community through school programs, professional presentations, fairs, and local events. Have a cool event we should attend or speak at, want to help us work a table, want to host a fundraiser for us? Contact our office!

UPCOMING: August 1



Cumberland Kayak is donating \$10 to us for those who join the Sunset Kayak Float. They will also give a discount rate of only \$30/person. Only 20 spots available!

Here is a small sampling of community events we have participated in:

PATAGONIA

Nashville Grand Opening in the Gulch

BIG GREEN FAIR

at Percy Priest Elementary

CARING FOR THE COMMUNITY FAIR

with HCA Healthcare

FRANKLIN RIVER FEST

at Christ Community Church

NASHVILLE NIGHT FARMERS' MARKET

where people who like fresh, local produce support clean water through our local gardens and farmers



Harpeth Conservancy is proud to be the exclusive partner with South Yuba River Citizens League (SYRCL) for the Wild & Scenic Film Festival in Middle Tennessee.

FALL 2018 – BELCOURT THEATRE

Our Fall screening at The Belcourt Theatre was a record turnout with almost **150 attendees**. It was perhaps no coincidence that we added "Water and Brimstone," a film by Demetria Kalodimos, local Award-winning journalist and film maker (with 16 Emmys)!



Dorie Bolze and Demetria Kalodimos at The Belcourt Theatre for the Fall 2018 screening

SPRING 2019 – FRANKLIN THEATRE

A new line-up of **8 short films** related directly to Harpeth Conservancy's work. Topics ranged from nutrient pollution to the importance of Wild and Scenic River designation and smaller wildlife like newts! Also featured were **3 contest-winning films from Battle Ground Academy students**:

- **1st Place:** "Kim Says Don't Be Crappy" by Ray McHenry and Sally Kate Zajt
- **2nd Place:** "Save the River" by Ethan Horrar Ishan Naik, and Ellis Stafford
- **3rd Place:** "Be Happy Not Crappy" by Russell Nicoll and Ray McHenry

Special Thanks to our sponsors of Wild & Scenic Film Festivals:

Cumberland Kayak, Fido/Bongo Java Barbara J. Mapp Foundation, Middle Tennessee Electric Company/Sharing Change, Mississippi River Network/1 Mississippi, Nantahala Outdoor Center, Paddle Dog Adventures, Padgett Business Services, PLA Media, Puckett's Boat House, Rock City Construction, Vanderbilt University Medical Center, and Village Real Estate/Village Fund.

Thanks to our co-promotional partners and door prize donors this year: Merridee's Bread Basket, Paddle Dog Adventures, PieOlogy, Puckett's Boat House, and Groove Life.

Plan to join us on November 5th at The Belcourt Theatre for our Fall 2019 Wild and Scenic Film Festival!

HARPETH CONSERVANCY NAMED BATTLE GROUND ACADEMY'S '18-'19 INSTITUTE OF EMPHASIS!



Students have been busy sampling and studying natural waterways on their upperschool campus, creating Be River Responsible films for our Wild and Scenic Film Festival, and cleaning up the Harpeth in Franklin!



BGA students after a river cleanup!



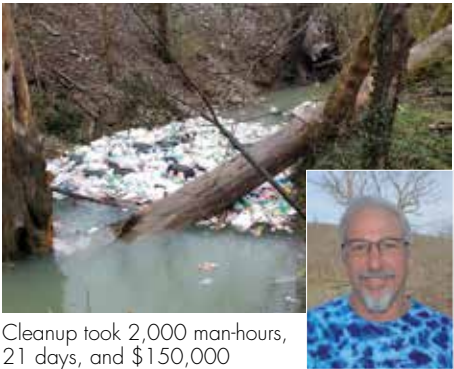
Cleaning up the Little Harpeth with Brentwood Noon Rotary

BRENTWOOD NOON ROTARY

Harpeth Conservancy was honored to participate in the Brentwood Noon Rotary's 14th annual Little Harpeth Cleanup with over 100 volunteers!

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHTS

DEE PLUNKETT has been volunteering with us since the beginning. He got involved because he witnessed the Harpeth deteriorate for many years. Participating in the first water study almost 20 years ago gave him an opportunity to take action and to make a difference. Plunkett says, "I LOVE the water quality studies – what could be better than treading down to the river at midnight and titrating a water sample by headlamp?" He has also been a great River Swing volunteer, as well as someone on whom we call for any last minute projects!



Cleanup took 2,000 man-hours, 21 days, and \$150,000

GLENN REMICK, a city commissioner for Kingston Springs, was the driving force behind the incredibly thorough cleanup of a truck accident near the intersection of Highways 70 and 249 that spewed 80,000 pounds of household waste into the highway culvert that washed straight into the Harpeth River. He rallied TDEC who contracted the terrific work of American Environmental Services.

Over 150 Volunteers have given over 600 hours of their time to support our work for clean water this year alone!

VOLUNTEERS



Students volunteering at River Swing

It takes **HUNDREDS** of volunteers to accomplish our goal of clean water and healthy rivers in Tennessee. To all those who participate in cleanups and restoration projects, River Swing, our many outreach events, and in the office – **WE THANK YOU!**

THANK YOU TO ALL OF OUR VOLUNTEERS!

- Battle Ground Academy Students
- Belmont students
- David Lipscomb students
- Hospital Corporation of America (HCA/HealthTrust) employees
- Janney Montgomery LLC staff members
- Garden Club of Nashville
- Paddle Dog Adventures staff and friends
- Sarah Cannon Cancer Center staff
- Vanderbilt SPEAR team
- Whole Foods Team members
- And many more!

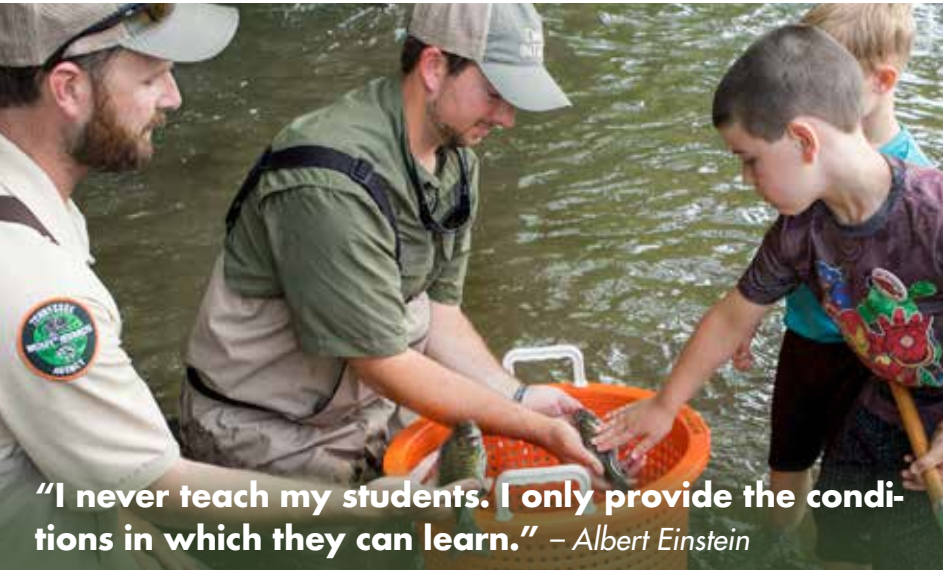
Clean water and healthy
ecosystems for rivers in
Tennessee championed by
the people who live here.

20

Celebrating **20** years
of success.



Rivers in the Southeastern U.S. are the THIRD most biodiverse in the world!



"I never teach my students. I only provide the conditions in which they can learn." – Albert Einstein

P.E.N. PALS

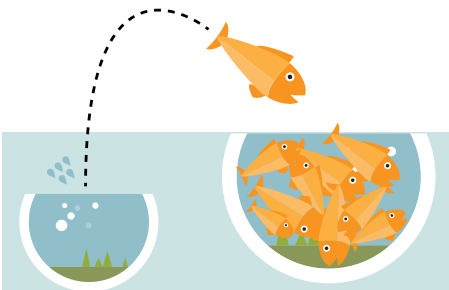
PEN Pals (People Exploring Nature Pals) camp is a program created by Metro Parks and Friends of Warner Parks that provides underserved children from Nashville area community centers opportunities to experience nature and exposure to S.T.E.M. applications, many for the first time. Through the camp, Harpeth Conservancy offers water quality lessons to hundreds of children every summer. Providing this guidance about the natural world to youth here in Tennessee helps create a true and lasting respect for our local environment.

Thanks to Barbara J. Mapp Foundation and Middle Tennessee Electric's Sharing Change Grant for supporting our educational programming.

LESSONS ON THE HARPETH

In its second year, Lessons on the Harpeth has helped educate over 100 people out on the river itself. Partnering with the Tennessee Wildlife Resource Agency (TWRA) and the Nashville Zoo at Grassmere, families learned how experts collect and identify fish, aquatic arthropods, and other creatures living in the water. **Look for these 2019 Lessons on the Harpeth:**

- Electrofishing with TWRA: June 1
- Aquatic insects with the Nashville Zoo August 10
- Birding and/or Bees with local experts – Upcoming
- Mound Bottom– nationally significant archaeological site at the Harpeth River State Park – Upcoming



80+ people are moving to Middle TN **EACH DAY!** There is an increasing need for current and next generations to be mindful of the natural world and to be stewards of it. Our outreach and education programs create and supplement unique opportunities to experience the natural world in new ways and learn the value of protecting it.

CITIZEN ACTION GUIDES

Our Citizen Action Guides are available and ready for a school or community center near you! These education tools are an invaluable source of information for youth about our local waterways.



Thanks to: Nashville Predators Foundation, Barbara J. Mapp Foundation, and The Community Foundation of Middle TN for providing dedicated funds.

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Harpeth Conservancy is committed to help train the next generation of environmental leaders. We are proud that many former employees are working and leading environmental efforts throughout the country. We need students, interns, and externs in fields such as environmental or aquatic science, biology, sustainability, water resource policy, those with GIS/GPS skills, environmental law, marketing and social media. Visit www.harpethconservancy.org/about/jobs to learn more and apply.

ACADEMIC PROJECTS

- Tennessee State University**
Thanks to PR veteran, **Professor Aileen Katcher**, one of her student groups created a campaign around our efforts to reduce plastics and pollution. We are looking to implement some of their ideas in a Go Strawless Campaign!
- Austin Peay State University**
Briana Soto selected Harpeth Conservancy for a graphic design project. She did a considerable amount of work on our Rally for Rivers Campaign.
- Lipscomb University**
Patrick Garner completed his M.S. in Sustainable Practices with a capstone project analyzing data on the effects from the removal of the Harpeth lowhead dam project from 2012.

HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

Harpeth Conservancy will be hosting **MacKenzie Higgins**, a student in the Honors STEM Research Course at Harpeth Hall School. MacKenzie will work on an independent research project this upcoming school year.

MacKenzie is a rising senior at The Harpeth Hall School. She is the president of both the math club and the math and science peer tutoring program. Outside of school, MacKenzie is a member of the Montgomery Bell Academy cheer team and a part of a competitive dance team.

JOB SHADOW: **Sam Lawrence**, a senior at Christ Presbyterian Academy, job shadowed Sarah Haltom, Samantha Estes, and Mercedes Baker this spring. Lawrence helped scout sites for upcoming restoration and reforestation projects and was briefed on fundraising and financial aspects of running a nonprofit.

LAW STUDENT EXTERNS

Belmont University Law School Fall 2018 Term

Michael Jacobs focused on nutrient pollution and sewer plant optimization issues.

Bennett Heidelberg focused on land use and stormwater issues.



WE ARE EXCITED ABOUT OUR SUMMER 2019 INTERNS!

- (left to right)
- **Matthew LaRue** is a law student at Vanderbilt, focusing on energy and environmental law. He enjoys staying active, healthy, and spending time outdoors.
 - **Knox Perry** is currently a sophomore studying environmental science and history at Oberlin College in Ohio. He is a decathlete on the track team and loves spending time outdoors where you can often find him fishing for bass and trout.
 - **Mitchell Smith** is a junior at Xavier University in a 3-2 master's program with Duke University to study Environmental Management. He was a Business Professionals of America finalist, published research on watershed habitat quality, and has traveled to 31 countries!
 - **Seth Adelsperger** is a senior at Belmont University studying environmental science and mathematics. He is from Indiana where he was high school valedictorian. He stands 6'11" and plays for the Belmont Bruins men's basketball team.
 - **Hannah Black** is a rising senior at the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga studying environmental science. She is from Spring Hill and has fond memories growing up exploring the Harpeth.
 - **Matthew Silverman** (*not pictured*) is a rising senior at The University of Michigan majoring in environmental studies. He worked with us the summer of 2018, and we are thrilled to have his help again this summer.



on opportunity now **Kaeden Ekadi**, a recent graduate of John Overton High who is attending Lipscomb University this fall as an Animation major, joined us this summer. He assists the Development team with events and creates graphics for campaigns. Opportunity NOW (ON) is the mayor's youth employment initiative, working to provide young people ages 14–24 in Davidson County access to employment. The initiative was created based on recommendations from the Mayor's Youth Violence Summit as a way to connect youth with opportunities in the community.

1 Mississippi is an outreach campaign to encourage citizens to embrace the importance of the Mississippi River through education and inspiration. The campaign is supported by the Mississippi River Network, a coalition of 53 organizations dedicated to creating a healthier Mississippi River by working for the well-being of the land, water, and people. The Mississippi River is a critical source of water for 18 million people, a diverse habitat for wildlife, the backbone of our economy and a rich part of our heritage. We have been working on the 1 Mississippi campaign by encouraging people to become River Citizens and make simple lifestyle changes that will benefit the River. **Help us protect the Mississippi by becoming a River Citizen!** www.harpethconservancy.org/make-a-difference/river-citizen



HARPETH CONSERVANCY TEAM



Left to Right: Sarah Haltom, Samantha Estes, Mercedes Baker, Ryan Jackwood, Haylee Waddey Hall, Jim Redwine, Dorie Bolze, Candy Ayala

NEW FACES AT HARPETH CONSERVANCY

We are happy to welcome the new members to the team as fulltime staff since our last publication!

Ryan Jackwood, Ph.D.

Director of Watershed Science and Protection



Ryan joined the team in March of 2019. He provides strategic direction for our science-based programs and manages our restoration and outreach programs. Ryan is originally from Ohio where he earned a B.S. degree from Ohio State University and an M.S. and Ph.D. from the University of Toledo where he researched issues with water quality and harmful algal blooms on Lake Erie. He enjoys running and backpacking in his free time.

Mercedes Baker

Development & Communications Coordinator



Mercedes began as an intern for HC after her junior year at University of Tennessee, Knoxville. After graduating with a B.A. in Anthropology, she became our Development & Communications Coordinator. She now works with membership, fundraising, donor events, and our database. She also helps with grant writing, communications, advocacy, and community education. In addition to environmental advocacy, Mercedes enjoys martial arts, kayaking, and exploring Nashville's many local offerings.



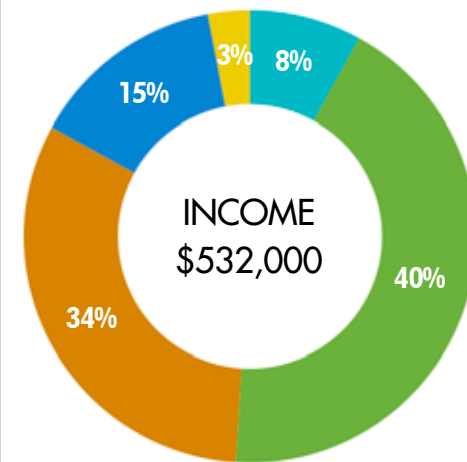
VANDERBILT LAW SCHOOL – Pathways to Success

Robert Abrams, Esq. A graduate from Wheaton College in Norton, MA., Vanderbilt Law School ('18) and member of the D.C. Bar, Rob worked with us for 6 months starting in Oct. 2018 as part of Vanderbilt Law School's Public Service Pathways Program (PSP). The program offers paid, post-graduate fellowships to those who want to work in public service or government. While at HC, Rob was extensively involved in

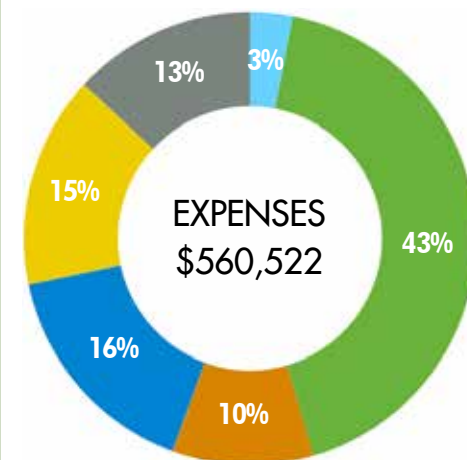
Clean Water Act and pollution reduction plan issues. We are excited that Rob is now working as an attorney with US EPA's Office of Site Remediation Enforcement in Washington, D.C., helping to assure compliance with superfund (hazardous waste) cleanup laws. Thanks much to both Rob and the Vanderbilt Law School!

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Unaudited FYE 2019



- River Swing & Other Events
- Foundations
- Corporate
- License Plate, Earned income, Other
- Individual Giving



- Science & Restoration
- Community Engagement
- Development
- Administration
- Clean Water
- Rural Land/Land Use

See our annual audits and financial statements online at our Giving Matters profile (givingmatters.com)

JOIN US... BECOME A MEMBER

For information about our membership, www.harpethconservancy.org/about

AMERICORPS PROGRAMS

AmeriCorps is a voluntary civil society program supported by the U.S. federal government, foundations, corporations, and other donors engaging adults in public service work with a goal of helping others and meeting critical needs in the community. AmeriCorps members create a lasting, positive change.

We are grateful to have AmeriCorps members serving alongside us this year. (From left to right) Samantha Estes, Sarah Haltom, and Candy Ayala have become part of our family, challenging us and supporting us towards growth while building capacity through their varying roles.



Samantha serves as the Restoration Project Coordinator until the end of August 2019. Samantha works on the Be River Responsible campaign, focusing on river cleanups, tree plantings, and the inaugural community wide river cleanup contest. Originally from the suburbs of Philadelphia, she recently graduated from Berry College in Georgia where she studied Environmental Science with a Biology focus. If you attend a cleanup event there is a good chance you may meet her furry sidekick, Aspen!

Sarah joined the team in August 2018 for a one-year term as the Community Outreach Coordinator. She coordinates outreach efforts through community events, social media and environmental education campaigns. She is originally from Jackson, TN and earned a B.A. in Biology from Hendrix College in Conway, Arkansas. She is passionate about connecting others with Tennessee's natural world and enjoys hiking, photography, and spending time with her pets.

Candy is serving a one-year term focusing on Marketing and Communications. Her experience in an advertising agency in NYC is proving invaluable as she is creating templates and guidelines to use when her term is complete. She is revamping our website, leading our social media efforts, and handling a large portion of our graphic design. Candy received her B.A. in Journalism and Mass Communications from the University of South Carolina, Columbia.

JOIN THE AUGUST 2019 AMERICORPS TEAM WITH US!



Dorie Bolze worked with Hands on Nashville (HON) to create the program that brings 20 AmeriCorps positions to provide capacity building for 6 environmental organizations in Nashville. HON manages this large new program. Harpeth Conservancy is again hosting 3 positions to start in August. Visit our "Job Opportunities" page to learn more about the positions available and how to apply. **Know any good candidates?**

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Darrell Waltrip Automotive Group

WHERE ARE LAST YEAR'S AMERICORPS VISTAS?

Molly Warner – is a field biologist & botanist at SWCA Environmental Consultants in Salt Lake City, Utah – allowing her to enjoy her climbing hobby in her free time.

Kaki Comer – is a graduate student in Public Policy at Duke University.

Madeline Bule – is the Development Coordinator and leads cleanups at our partner organization, American Rivers, in DC.

RIVER SWING 2018



John (JoJo) Hermann and friends

Agenta and Brownlee Currey along with **Kathryn and Christian Currey** once again hosted a magical evening under the stars at their River Circle Farm. A delicious buffet was served by **Puckett's Restaurant**. Carrie DuRard and Kimberly Douglas co-chaired a fantastic auction that raised almost \$30,000 and featured unique river experiences like a VIP Canoe trip for 12 with private access points and more! **Lipman Brothers** generously provided the beverages for the evening including the Old Hickory Mule specialty drink. The highlight of the evening was the entertainment – **Joe Andrews of Old Crow Medicine Show** assembled an incredible group of musicians including **Ben Cameron from The Camerons** and local economist and favorite, **Tommy Landstreet**. He is as good on the washboard as he is with the Laffer Curve. Then, the jam continued when **John Hermann from Widespread Panic** took over the keyboard. *Thanks to all who attended, sponsored and donated to our largest event of the year!*



Co-Chairs Christian & Kathryn Currey and Nikki Boston



Kelly Frazier, Nancy Bunting, Leslie and John Dabrowiak



THANKS TO OUR 2018 SPONSORS

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RIVER SWING 2019

SAVE THE DATE

River Circle Farm – Currey Family Farm

Co-Hosts: Agneta & Brownlee Currey, Kathryn & Christian Currey and Patti & Buck Williams

Tickets: \$200 through September 14
or \$250 after September 14
Sponsorships and tables are available.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2019

Sponsorships for 2019 are now available. If you are interested, please contact hayleehall@harpethriver.org.

Our Harpeth Protection Society Members, River Swing Sponsors and Table Hosts will receive invitations to join us on **August 22nd at Gruhn Guitar** with bites from Acme Feed & Seed and The Southern Steak & Oyster.



Thanks to all of these folks for selecting Harpeth Conservancy to be the beneficiary for fundraisers:

THE WILD COW selected us as the Charity of the Month and donated over **\$400**

PIEOLOGY hosted a Community Night in April for Harpeth Conservancy

CUMBERLAND KAYAK donated **1%** of their July proceeds to Harpeth Conservancy

FRANKLIN SOUL donated **10%** of April proceeds for Earth Month

PUCKETT'S BOAT HOUSE hosted a Catfish Fry on the Predator's Opening Game Day. All tickets benefited Harpeth Conservancy – OVER **\$500** was raised

RALLY FOR RIVERS 2018

“Do unto those downstream as you would have those upstream do unto you.”

Thanks to YOU, our generous donors, individuals contributed over **\$150,000** during our end of year campaign to support our clean water program efforts. **YOUR ACTIONS and YOUR SUPPORT MAKE A DIFFERENCE!**

HARPETH PROTECTION SOCIETY



John Dinkins, Heidi Hartman, John Murfee, and James Conner



Dani Kates, Dorie Bolze, and Tracie Walker

The Harpeth Protection Society recognizes annual membership donors whose gifts are \$1,000 or more. In the fall of 2018 an Appreciation Party was held for our HPS members and River Swing Sponsors. Mary and Hank Brockman, along with Tom Morales and Jennifer Masley, co-chaired the event hosted by **Woolworth on 5th** and sponsored by Franklin Synergy Bank.



THE BIG PAYBACK & GIVING TUESDAY
Giving for clean water

#GIVING TUESDAY A heartfelt thank you for the people who chose to

support Harpeth Conservancy during one of these officially promoted days of giving (though we think every day is a great day to give)! These two days of giving generated almost \$15,000 in 2018, and we hope to exceed that amount in 2019.



\$10,000+

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World of Coca-Cola
Mr. Leonard Wright

Contributions listed above include cash and in-kind donations between 4/1/18 – 3/31/19



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