

**Pigeon River Fund  
Fall 2019 Awards**

**Nine Grant Awards Totaling \$262,155**

*Since 1996, the Pigeon River Fund has invested \$7,617,250 in projects addressing water quality in Haywood, Buncombe, and Madison counties. Members of the PRF Advisory Committee are appointed by the Secretary of the NC Department of Environmental Quality (NCDEQ). CFWNC administers the grant program under a contract with NCDEQ as required by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission license that established the Fund in 1995 as settlement for the utility's continued diversion of water from the Pigeon River to power the Walters Power Plant in Haywood County.*

**American Rivers was awarded \$30,500** to support the second and final phase of design, engineering, and permitting of the Beaverdam Creek dam removal project in Canton, NC.

**Asheville GreenWorks was awarded \$25,000** to decrease the amount of litter, pollution and erosive material that flows into our waterways and to increase awareness about protecting these resources, mainly through support to the Youth Environmental Leadership Program.

**The Environmental Quality Institute was awarded \$40,000** to help fund its VWIN and SMIE programs, as well as its AmeriCorps Project Conserve position, all of which support volunteer stream monitoring throughout the Pigeon and French Broad River basins.

**Haywood Waterways Association was awarded \$50,000** to continue coordinated community efforts to address water quality issues, implement the Haywood Watershed Action Plan and increase public appreciation of water resources through educational programs and publications.

**Haywood Waterways Association was awarded \$17,655** toward the costs of repairing failing septic systems for low-income homeowners. Projects are identified by the Haywood County Environmental Health Department.

**Mountain Valleys Resource Conservation & Development Council was awarded \$40,000** for various projects, including continued work with the Ivy River Partnership, youth education programs, and the purchase and installation of a Trash Trout Junior to collect litter in a local stream.

**Mountain Valleys Resource Conservation & Development Council was awarded \$12,000** to permanently decommission the old package sewage treatment plant behind Laurel Elementary School located on Shelton Laurel Creek in Madison County, and to create a Septic Fund for Ivy River Partners to deploy across the county to eliminate straight pipe sewage and repair failing septic systems.

**North Carolina Arboretum Society was awarded \$22,000** to complete the transformation of a sediment catch basin into an innovative stormwater wetland complex by converting part of a parking lot to permeable pavers.

**Southern Appalachian Highlands Conservancy was awarded \$25,000** for survey costs to purchase the 448-acre Chestnut Mountain Park property in eastern Haywood County, formerly known as the Canton Motorsports property. The acquisition of this tract will permanently protect Wildlife Resources Commission designated Trout Waters and nine miles of stream.