



**NEW RIVER WATERSHED ROUNDTABLE  
QUARTERLY MEETING  
November 3, 2021 | 10:30 AM to 12:00 PM**

**Zoom + In-person**

**Minutes**

1. Welcome and Introductions
2. The Ancient New..... Tom Hansell, App State  
Tom Hansell is a filmmaker, author and artist who creates work that explores relationships between energy, community, and nature. Tom’s work includes microscopic photography, in river installations of magnified images, a 2017 sculpture of river trash, an art piece utilizing film and trash, as well as, a Trash Trout motion picture show. His project, The Ancient New, is a community-based arts project working to help people better understand their connection to the river, through storytellers, artists, musicians, etc. The three-phase project will launch Summer 2022. Phase: 1. Build new relationships, 2. Public presentations, 3. Project dissemination. His next steps are to connect with possible collaborations across the New River Valley, including audiences, existing events and park spaces, as well as to identify river problems that impact us. Crowd sourced suggestions include: FOPC and FOCL, Trash Trout partnership in Christiansburg, Glencoe Museum, Moss Arts Center, Selu, sedimentation, fishing, aquatic invasive species hydrilla, muscle salvage, Matt Close biology professor at Radford University, Wildwood Park Summer Series, bringing back the New River Paddle Craft Fishing Tournament. If you have other ideas please reach out to Tom at [hansellts@appstate.edu](mailto:hansellts@appstate.edu). Trash Trout [link](#).
3. ReNew the New ..... All  
589 participants, removed 114 tires and 9815 pounds of trash across the NRV  
-Montgomery County – 79 volunteers collected 2640 lbs of trash and 47 tires  
-Giles County—270 volunteers collected 4000 lbs of trash and 36 tires  
-Floyd County—80 volunteers collected 100 lbs of trash and 31 tires  
-Pulaski County—20 volunteers collected 75 lbs of trash and 0 tires.
4. New River Water Watchers Report.....Suzanne Joyner/Cathy Hanks  
Cathy Hanks shared that the NRC hosted a recertification/training workshop in Pulaski in August. At that time the experienced monitors were officially recertified and we trained two new NRWV monitors: Daniel Smith and Bob Conner. John Copeland monitors a small unnamed tributary of Tom's Creek that runs near his farm. Previously the E.coli numbers were "off the chart." However they have fenced off the cattle and done other improvements and the latest E.coli data was in the proper limits.
5. New River Water Trail..... Nicole

The project hired engineering firm Mattern and Craig to preform boat launch estimates at three locations: Bisset Park, Sheffey Park and Whitethorne. The project received an extension through March and is planning to apply for an ARC implementation grant upon close-out of this grant period. <https://www.engagenrv.org/nrwt>

6. Report Out ..... All

-Claytor Lake Cleanup – Removed 330 x 15 ton roll-offs filled with debris and trash removed from the New River.

-Laurie Buchwald was appointed by the Governor to the Board of Nursing and will return to the NRWR upon completion of her term next year.

-Peak Creek Implementation Plan is hosting a public meeting on January 6, 2022 to receive feedback from the public. Email Cathy Hanks for more details: [cathy@newriverconservancy.org](mailto:cathy@newriverconservancy.org).

-Laura Walters mentioned an interest in water supply sustainability. Kevin Byrd suggested to look at the New River Valley Water Supply Plan. Ciara Harris shared that it is a good opportunity to connect with area farmers. Brook Love shared that Radford has hosted rain barrel workshops and it might be an opportunity for partnership.

-Patricia Colatosti shared that Master Naturalists have teamed up with Save our Streams to perform macro-invertebrate monitoring off of Towne Branch in Christiansburg.

-Sheri Strenz painted the first stormwater mural in the Town of Pulaski, a project of Friends of Peak Creek. More info and beautiful mural image [here](#)

-New River Symposium ..... Nicole

Save the Date: April 10-12 // New River Gorge National Park

--New River Documentary will rebroadcast: ..... All

Wednesday, November 24th at 10PM

Friday, November 26<sup>th</sup> 7PM

Sunday, November 28th at 8PM

**Meeting Dates**

January 26<sup>th</sup>, 2022

April 27, 2022

July 27, 2022

Oct 26, 2022