

*****[NEWS FROM THE HAW RIVER](#)*****

**The Haw River Canoe & Kayak Company – Electronic Update
February 2007**

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***** "Celebrate the Haw River" Spring Break Paddle *****

Exactly 25 years ago, a man named Chuck Brady (later to become an astronaut) filled a jug with water from the Haw River's source and paddled the entire river to its confluence with the Deep River. At the end of his trip, he poured the water back into the river, symbolically demonstrating that the river would someday flow clearer and cleaner than it did at that time. That same year, the Haw River Assembly was formed and has worked tirelessly to make Chuck's dream come true.

Now, in 2007, Matt Steible, an Elon University student, is duplicating that historic paddle, right down to the same jug. He hopes to continue to raise public awareness to the need to both conserve and protect the Haw River for now and for future generations. His paddle will begin on March 16 and conclude March 25. There are a range of activities and events associated with this paddle in which the public is invited. For additional information, go to www.myspace.com/phoenixpaddler.

*****Clean-Up-A-Thon - How You Can Help Clean Up the River*****

The Clean-up-Thon is an annual trash pick up on the Haw River and at Jordan Lake. On March 17th, teams of volunteers will pick up trash along the riverbanks & creeks, at bridges, on islands and adjacent to lake shorelines.

For 17 years, this event, created and sponsored by the Haw River Assembly, has put to work hundreds of volunteer. The volunteer effort makes the river a cleaner place for all of us to enjoy while protecting wildlife from the dangers of trash and improving water quality.

You can support this effort in two ways. Businesses and individuals are asked to sponsor the local volunteer teams with a donation of \$25.00 or more. The money raised will be used to support two Haw River Assembly programs, the Learning Celebration for Schools and Haw River Watch. The second way you can be involved is to become one of the many volunteers. For more information or to get involved, please either call the Haw River Assembly at 919/542-5790 or send an e-mail to info@hawriver.org.

***** Schedule of Courses & Trips for March & April *****

If you are interested in a paddle course or a guided trip, you can find a schedule on our website (www.hawrivercanoe.com) on both the Instruction and Guided Trips pages. A brief listing of activities for March and April are listed below:

Date Activity

March

3	Full Moon Paddle
4	Haw River to Swepsonville
10	Canoe & Kayak Classes*
17	Clean-up-Thon Stargazing Float
18	Swepsonville to Saxapahaw
24	Paddle & Potluck
31	Sunset Paddle

April

1	Haw River to Swepsonville
7	Canoe & Kayak Classes* Paddle Dinner with Benjamin Winery & Vineyard
14	Introductory Paddle @ Bynum Paddle Dinner with Grove Winery Stargazing Float
15	Swepsonville to Saxapahaw
21	Pedal & Paddle
28	Full Moon Paddle

*Classes include Quick Start for Canoe & Kayak (3 hrs.), Introduction to Canoeing (8 hrs.) and Introduction to Recreational Kayaking (8 hrs.)

***** Chatham Conservation Partnership *****

For several months, a group of representatives from state and local governments, non-profit conservation organizations, environmentally friendly businesses and interested individuals have been meeting to organize and give support to a new and heightened interest in conserving what is special about Chatham County. The strategy is simple. The group would like to identify important lands and waters needed to protect special natural areas and species while also giving attention to important farmlands, timberlands and other special open spaces like parks and trails. The group calls itself the Chatham Conservation Partnership.

Something else has recently happened that will help protect what is special about the County. The Board of Commissioners has created an Environmental Review Board made up of professionals with expertise to assist it in reviewing the potential environmental impacts of the many development projects that have come to the county in recent years and are expected to come in the future. Since some of the members of the Chatham County Partnership are also on the Environmental Review Board, it seems almost certain that the Haw River will get a proper review as the county continues to attract businesses and people who prefer a more rural lifestyle.

***** Guide & Instructor Training *****

We are still looking for individuals that might be interested in guiding, instructing and handling rentals. These are part-time positions that are geared for mostly weekend work. There will be a lot of flexibility in who works where, when and how much.

Realizing that not everyone who might be interested in these positions will feel qualified, we will be offering this spring a guide/instructor/rental operator orientation and training program. So, if you think you might enjoy

being involved with our paddlesports business, don't let your current skill and experience be a deterrent. Give us a call (336/260-6465) or send us an e-mail message(info@hawrivercanoe.com) if you think you might be interested. We will be happy to send you the appropriate job description(s) and discuss possibilities.

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