

PROCLAMATION OF THE ASHE COUNTY  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS IN SUPPORT AND  
RECOGNITION OF AUGUST AS CLEAN RIVER MONTH

**Whereas**, nestled in the Blue Ridge Mountains and home to the New River, Ashe County is truly fortunate to have such natural wonders; and

**Whereas**, many generations have experienced the wonder and beauty of our New River (“The New”). Those who paddle, fish, camp, swim, or pause to marvel at its wonder understand the richness of a New River experience. We share a bond that is deep as it is wide, as swift as it is placid, as simple as it is majestic. These are the experiences that have enriched the lives of our generation and generations before us. They are what nourish our resolve to protect and preserve The New for the next generation and those to follow; and

**Whereas**, in Ashe County we realize that our community must be stewards of this natural wonder. It is in this light that we, the Board of Commissioners of Ashe County, proclaim the month of August to be Clean River Month in Ashe County, striving to protect The New in our County as we build the next generation of stewards who will protect it going forward; and in support of this proclamation the County will:

- Work with Keep Ashe Beautiful and the New River Conservancy, as well as other organizations, to provide developmental programs and activities that will further increase our awareness of The New’s offerings and treasures as well as its needs, as we learn and embrace our stewardship responsibilities.
- Develop an overall communication/involvement campaign to let residents and visitors know how they can become involved to protect The New.
- Encourage property owners with river frontage to safely conduct river cleanup efforts from the banks and in-river from the river area bordering their property, and deposit this river debris on designated pickup locations.

- Provide promotional and logistical support for organizations/groups that organize/sponsor in-river cleanup events during the month of August.
- Provide promotional materials encouraging kayakers, tubers, canoers and floaters to pick up debris and trash during their trips on The New and deposit it in the provided containers at designated takeout locations.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Ashe County Board of Commissioners hereby proclaims August as Clean River Month and encourages all residents and businesses to do their part in helping to keep the New River clean.

**Adopted this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of September 2024 in Ashe County, North Carolina**

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Todd McNeil, Chairman

Ashe County Board of Commissioners

Attest:

By:

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# CLEAN RIVER COLLECTION BAGS

**August is Clean River Month in Ashe County!!** Help us make it cleaner as you enjoy the river today!

- **Take** a mesh bag as you start your float
- **Collect** river debris as you go – (glass, plastic, cans, etc.)
  - Also use for your own trip debris
  - Be safe – only collect what you can handle safely
- **Deposit** in the collection area (located at public launch / take-out areas)
- **Let us know** of any large objects – email [keepashebeautiful@gmail.com](mailto:keepashebeautiful@gmail.com) with general location & type of object
- **Give yourself a pat on the back!** By helping make the river cleaner you have become a steward of the **NEW RIVER**. Come back & enjoy Ashe County's New River!



# From a Sketch to Reality

