

# NCPIRG



NORTH CAROLINA PUBLIC INTEREST RESEARCH GROUP & NCPIRG EDUCATION FUND

# Annual Report

# Fiscal Year 2004





# FROM THE DIRECTOR

Elizabeth Ouzts, State Director

*In 1998, after working with NJPIRG for a year, I came home to my native North Carolina to work for a clean environment, consumer protections and a strong democracy. When I began, I was the lone NCPIRG staff person, focusing on a single campaign to clean up factory hog farms.*

*Thanks to members and supporters like you, in the last six years we have grown our membership, our staff, and the number of campaigns and projects we take on to advance the public interest. We have more than 6,000 members and offices in Charlotte, Raleigh, and Chapel Hill. We frequently advocate before the Governor's office, the General Assembly, the Attorney General, and the Department of Environment and Natural Resources. And over the years, we've tallied up an impressive list of results: from winning cuts in power plant pollution to expanding patients' rights before HMOs, to securing funds for the protection of the state's key forests, farmlands, and state parks.*

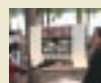
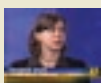
*Out of all the progress we've made, our top-notch staff excites me most. Michelle Kucerak, an experienced advocate who formerly ran the state PIRGs' campus network of environmentally minded students, now works for fair drug prices, corporate accountability, and campaign finance reform in the state legislature.*

*Our Environmental Attorney Christine Wunsche came to NCPIRG from the UNC School of Law. Before joining our staff, she interned with our coalition partners at the NC Conservation Network and the Southern Environmental Law Center. Christine's focus is to ensure protection of the state's last, great waterways.*

*Breanna Peterson rounds out our Raleigh staff. As part of her two-year fellowship with NCPIRG, Breanna will be working in the upcoming year to build support statewide for our environmental and democracy programs.*

*Outside Raleigh, we have even more talented individuals to make the organization tick. Kirsten Collings, a graduate of N.C. State and most recently Green Corps, the field school for environmental organizing, is directing our Chapel Hill citizen outreach office, and Shane Bechtold, a UNC Chapel Hill graduate from Winston-Salem, works in our field office in Charlotte.*

*As we look forward to the upcoming year, we're poised for more success for the public interest. Thank you for all of your support in getting us to where we are today.*



Cover Photos: Elizabeth Ouzts appears on Channel 11, Channel 11; Mark Edsell meets with Congressman Miller, Staff Photo; Christine Wunsche talks with Channel 14, Staff Photo; North Fork First Broad River, Ken Taylor.

# SAVING OUR OPEN SPACES

## Lawmakers supported protecting open spaces

But NCPIRG's research showed need for more aggressive protection programs

North Carolina can spend an extra \$45 million on protecting open spaces, thanks to a law backed by NCPIRG and approved by state legislators in July. NCPIRG worked with legislative leaders, the Trust for Public Land, the Conservation Trust for North Carolina, and others to pass this legislation.

Following the measure's approval, Gov. Easley authorized the purchase of 2,915 acres to expand Lake James State Park.

North Carolina has lost 1.9 million acres to development in the last 20 years, with a projected loss of another 2.4 million acres by 2022, according to "Losing Our Natural Heritage," released in September 2003.

"North Carolina has more than its share of natural beauty," said Elizabeth Ouzts, NCPIRG director and one of the report's authors. "But out-of-control development is ruining our landscape, replacing forests and farmland with strip malls and big-box stores."

Preserving forests, farmlands, and other land provides extensive economic and quality-of-life benefits, according to "The Value of Open Space" released by NCPIRG in June.

"North Carolina's forests and farmlands are important to Tar Heels' quality of life, providing clean drinking water and recreation



*If current development rates continue, farmland in the Triangle and in rural Western North Carolina will vanish in the next 20 years.*

opportunities," said Carole Lawler of the North Carolina Travel and Tourism Coalition. "It also makes good economic sense to protect these areas: they are critical to the travel and tourism industry, one of the state's largest economic engines."

On the federal front, NCPIRG urged the state's congressional delegation to reject Bush administration efforts to log more of our national forests.

NCPIRG will continue advocating for funding for and preservation of open spaces during the next legislative session.

## Our Mission

NCPIRG is an advocate for the public interest. When consumers are cheated, our environment is threatened, or the voices of ordinary citizens are drowned out by special interests, we speak up and take action. We uncover threats to public health and well-being and fight to end them, using investigative research, media exposés, grassroots organizing, advocacy and litigation. NCPIRG's mission is to deliver persistent, results-oriented activism that protects our environment, encourages a fair, sustainable economy, and fosters responsive, democratic government.

## In Their Own Words



**Breanna Peterson**

Field Associate

*"Despite a powerful developer lobby, NCPIRG has successfully fought to help increase funding for open space preservation and expand Lake James State Park."*

# DEFENDING CLEAN WATER

## North Carolina's waterways faced greater threats

NCPIRG worked to protect pristine rivers and opposed federal efforts to allow more pollution

In early 2004, NCPIRG launched the Carolina Rivers Project to protect North Carolina's last remaining unspoiled rivers and streams.

From the Little Tennessee River Basin in the West to the Tar-Pamlico River Basin in the East, North Carolina is home to breathtaking rivers, lakes and streams, used and enjoyed by millions for drinking water, fishing, swimming and recreation. Unfortunately, these waters are at risk.

In the last 20 years, the state's developed land increased 82 percent, leaving acres of newly cleared and paved surfaces too close to waterways. These parking lots, roadways and other impervious surfaces are acting as swift conduits for oil, gasoline and other pollutants into rivers and streams. As a result, polluted runoff is the largest source of the state's water pollution.

"Given the state's incredible growth," said Christine Wunsche, NCPIRG environmental attorney, "it's no surprise that 80 percent of the pollution in North Carolina's coastal waters comes from runoff."

Fortunately, North Carolina has laws that protect pristine waterways in the face of development. But when state officials have attempted to follow the law, a few powerful developers, intent on building

along the water's edge, have fought them every step of the way. For example, last summer developers severely weakened legislation that would have protected many waterways from polluted runoff.

"North Carolina is home to some of the nation's last great waterways, from the rapids of the mountains to the sounds of the coast," added Wunsche. "But these rivers are at risk of severe degradation from poorly planned development."

### 75 Waterways Need Protection

Polluted runoff has already impaired more than 1300 miles of rivers and streams across the state. According to



*Our state is home to many stunning rivers, but out-of-control development is putting even the most pristine waters, like the Tar River, at risk.*

NCPIRG research, at least 75 waterways statewide remain untouched by the ills of development, but lack the protections they deserve under North Carolina law.

NCPIRG is working with Concerned Citizens of Rutherford County, Pamlico-Tar River Association, and other local groups to convince the Department of Environment and Natural Resources to give eight priority waters the protections they merit.

This summer, NCPIRG worked with these groups to file petitions to reclassify the Eno River, the Tar River, and the North Fork First Broad as "high quality" or "outstanding resource" waters. New classifications will protect these waters by requiring more stringent stormwater controls, limiting new pollution discharges, and creating buffer zones that filter pollution around the waters' edges.

These rivers play an important part in the lives of many North Carolinians. As the heart of the Eno River State Park, the Eno River provides a sanctuary where people can canoe, fish, and hike. The Tar River is also an essential resource for Edgecombe County and Tarboro, providing drinking water, transport of goods, and a place for recreation.

NCPIRG is also urging the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) to commit to reclassifying the other 67 pristine rivers and streams that need protection.

NCPIRG delivered postcards from nearly 4,000 citizens urging the same to Bill Ross, DENR Secretary, this summer.

“Protecting our high quality waterways guarantees safe drinking water, recreational opportunities, and a healthy economy,” continued Wunsche. “North Carolinians deserve healthy rivers and streams for generations to come.”

### Defending Clean Water Rules

Despite pressure brought to bear by agribusiness, last winter a special stakeholder group maintained that factory hog producers could not store waste more than

being polluted, developed and destroyed.

In early 2003, the Bush administration tried to remove Clean Water Act protections from many U.S. waters. By narrowly defining what falls under the Clean Water Act, this policy would threaten thousands of miles of streams, millions of acres of wetlands and hundreds of lakes and ponds by allowing polluters and developers to contaminate, fill or destroy the waters. Even the Bush administration acknowledges the policy could remove 20 million acres of wetlands from protection.



*Christine Wunsche, NCPIRG's environmental attorney, talked with a Channel 14 reporter about fish advisories and water pollution in North Carolina.*

19 inches below the top of the waste pit. NCPIRG and others argued that allowing factory hog producers to store more waste would increase the risk of the pits bursting or overflowing, threatening the state's waterways with nutrient pollution that has been linked to fish kills and blue baby syndrome in infants.

### Federal Rule Changes

While NCPIRG was working to protect our waters from the effects of development, water quality was also threatened by changes at the federal level. Across the country, many waters are at risk of

During the 2004 legislative session, NCPIRG urged state leaders to adopt strong polluted runoff protections. At the federal level, NCPIRG worked throughout the congressional session to urge the state's delegation to support the Clean Water Authority Restoration Act, which would expand the definition of waters, and restore protections to our seasonal streams, wetlands, lakes and ponds. Supporters include North Carolina Representatives, Brad Miller and David Price. NCPIRG will continue to press for protection of our waterways at every level.

## Research

In order to document water pollution problems in North Carolina and develop policy recommendations, NCPIRG published several reports in 2003 and 2004.

“Troubled Waters,” an analysis of Clean Water Act permit violations found that more than 80 percent of industrial and municipal facilities across North Carolina exceeded their Clean Water Act permit limits between January 2002 and June 2003 and polluters in North Carolina reported 2075 exceedances of their Clean Water Act permits during the 18-month period, ranking the state third in the country for most violations.

For this full report and others, visit [www.ncpirg.org](http://www.ncpirg.org).

## In Their Own Words



**Christine Wunsche**

Environmental Attorney

*“The best part of working on the Carolina Rivers Project is meeting all the local community members, riverkeepers, fisherman, and recreational tour guides whose lives are intertwined with the health of the rivers.”*

# CLEARING THE AIR

## North Carolina led in combating air pollution

NCPIRG fought power plant pollution, mercury contamination, and automobile pollution

Under the federal Clean Air Act, a state that suffers from air pollution coming from other states can petition the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to force those states to reduce emissions. In 2003, NCPIRG met with the Attorney General's staff and generated hundreds of public comments to demonstrate citizen support for filing such a petition—as the next step towards clearing the air in North Carolina.

Thanks to these efforts and those of Environmental Defense, Southern Environmental Law Center, and others, in March 2004 Attorney General Cooper and Governor Mike Easley petitioned the federal government to clean up power plants in 13 states: Alabama, Georgia, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, Maryland, Pennsylvania, West Virginia, Kentucky, Indiana, Ohio, Illinois and Michigan. North Carolina is the first state in the South—one of the regions hardest hit by pollution from coal-burning power plants—to file such a petition.

A U.S. Environmental Protection Agency analysis shows that North Carolina's action would eliminate 4.8 million tons of soot-forming sulfur dioxide pollution and 1.5 million tons of smog-forming nitrogen oxide emissions from power plants in the Southeast and the Midwest.

### No More Mercury

In addition to smog and soot, power plants are also the largest industrial sources of mercury pollution.

On December 4, 2003, NCPIRG, and coalition partners released "Toxic Neighbors." The study showed power plants in North Carolina emitted more than 78 million pounds of toxic chemicals—including 2,956 pounds of toxic mercury—into the air in 2001, more than electric utilities in any other state.

"Toxic pollution from power plants is dangerous, widespread and largely pre-



NCPIRG's Elizabeth Ouzts appeared on Channel 11 to discuss automobile pollution in North Carolina.

ventable," said Elizabeth Ouzts, NCPIRG director. "The EPA should require power plants to install the best available pollution controls, which would reduce the hazardous pollution documented in this report by 90 percent."

Mercury pollution is one of the most poisonous forms of air pollution. After it is emitted, mercury settles in rivers and lakes and accumulates in the tissue of fish. Pregnant women place their unborn child at risk for brain damage and developmental delays by consuming these fish. State officials have issued fish consumption advisories for bodies of water south and east of Interstate 85 – covering two-thirds of the state.

Requiring controls that dramatically reduce mercury emissions would go a long way towards solving the state's mercury problems. In a recent study, levels of mercury found in largemouth bass and other wildlife in the Everglades had declined 80 percent since state and federal agencies required that municipal and medical waste incinerators reduce mercury emissions.

### The Clean Cars Bill

Though the last three decades have ushered in increasingly tough limits on auto pollution, more cars being driven more miles have largely offset those gains. North Carolina's population has jumped nearly 60 percent since 1970 and in roughly the same time period, the number of miles driven in the state has grown three times as much. As a result, automobiles are responsible for 41 percent of the hazardous air toxics released into North Carolina's air and 30 percent of the state's smog-forming pollution.

A March 2004 NCPIRG report found that the problem could get worse. “More Highways, More Pollution,” found building new roads would do little to alleviate traffic congestion over time and likely would exacerbate already severe air pollution problems. According to the report, cities with the most highways tend to have the worst air pollution from cars and trucks. Among large cities, Charlotte ranked seventh for the most air pollution from cars and trucks, per capita.

While roads continue to be built, the vehicles traveling on them could produce

## Bush Administration Policies

At the federal level, the Bush administration attempted to weaken the Clean Air Act in 2003, by proposing to gut the New Source Review program, recommending weak standards for mercury pollution, and pressuring Congress to approve a broad rollback of clean air protections.

NCPIRG members showed up to testify against the Bush administration’s proposals to allow more mercury pollution. NCPIRG State Director Elizabeth Ouzts testified at the Environmental Protection Agency’s hearings in February saying,



*Anna Aurillio, Legislative Director in NCPIRG’s Washington, D.C. office challenges the Bush administration’s weak mercury pollution proposals at a Mother’s Day rally.*

less pollution. NCPIRG’s August 2003 report “Ready to Roll” showed that auto manufacturers are producing and selling cars now in other parts of the country that are 90% cleaner than those available for sale in North Carolina.

NCPIRG worked with leaders in the state legislature to introduce a Clean Vehicles Bill, which would make more clean cars available to consumers, reducing the state’s smog pollution by as much as 12 percent and toxic air pollution by 14 percent beyond reductions from current laws.

“The proposal is far too weak and far too slow—and the Bush administration even had the audacity to recommend we stop categorizing mercury as a toxic substance. That change would allow some power plants that emit this chemical off the hook entirely.”

NCPIRG advocates cutting power plants’ mercury emissions by 90 percent by 2008, a position previously supported by the EPA, but abandoned by the Administration in favor of the current more industry-friendly proposal.

## Coalitions

Some of the many groups NCPIRG teamed up with in 2003-2004:

- AARP
- Budget and Tax Center
- Coalition for Responsible Lending
- Common Cause for North Carolina
- Concerned Citizens of Rutherford Co. Corp. for Enterprise Development
- Democracy North Carolina
- League of Women Voters
- Neuse River Association
- NC Assoc. of Student Governments
- NC Committee to Defend Health Care
- NC Center for Voter Education
- NC Coastal Federation
- NC Conservation Network
- NC Environmental Defense
- NC Justice and Community Development Center
- NC Sierra Club
- NC Travel and Tourism Coalition
- Pamlico-Tar River Foundation
- Self-Help Credit Union
- Southern Environmental Law Center
- Trout Unlimited
- Trust for Public Land

## In Their Own Words



### Emily Figdor

NCPIRG’s Clean Air Advocate in Washington, D.C.

*“Air pollution in North Carolina is threatening the health of millions of people. NCPIRG is working in Raleigh and in Washington, D.C. to advocate solutions to these problems.”*

# STANDING UP FOR CONSUMERS

## New research shed light on credit report errors and unsafe products

NCPIRG fought identity theft throughout the state and spoke out for consumers' rights

### Consumer Privacy/Identity Theft

President Bush signed legislation on December 4, 2003 that permanently prevents cities and states from enacting most financial privacy laws stronger than those put in place by the federal government.

NCPIRG opposed the measure—a revision of the Fair Credit Reporting Act—because of the limit on states' rights, even though the final law included a large package of PIRG-backed reforms such as the right to a free credit report annually.

“Consumers finally gained important new rights to fight identity theft and clean up credit bureau mistakes, but at the unacceptably high price of unfair, permanent limits on states' rights,” said Ed Mierzwinski, NCPIRG's consumer advocate in Washington, D.C.

Mierzwinski had testified as one of only three witnesses at the final Senate hearing on the issue. He spoke on behalf of 11 leading consumer, privacy and civil rights groups at the hearing, and urged lawmakers to uphold states' authority to enact stronger protections—especially since the best provisions in the new federal law were borrowed from state laws.

NCPIRG has been working with other consumer groups to identify options for states to address the issue of identity theft and consumer privacy within the limits placed on them by the new federal law.

On June 17, 2004, NCPIRG released a national survey, “Mistakes Do Happen: A Look at Errors in Consumer Credit Reports” that found that 79 percent of those surveyed had some type of error in their credit reports. Serious errors, which could result in denial of credit, were found in the credit reports of one out of every four survey participants.

“When it comes to credit reports, what you don't know can definitely hurt you,” warned NCPIRG Advocate Michelle Kucerak. “Credit reports should tell a true story about a consumer's trustworthiness. Mistakes can have a devastating impact on a person's life.”

NCPIRG cautioned consumers to check their credit reports for errors and criticized the credit reporting agencies for slowing

down consumer access to free annual credit reports. North Carolinians will not be able to receive a free credit report until some time after September 2005. Consumers on the west coast are the first to receive these free reports this year.

NCPIRG used the credit report error survey results to push for stronger identity theft protections and is working with state lawmakers to introduce legislation next year.

### Unsafe Toys

More hazardous toys have been removed from store shelves thanks to NCPIRG's 18th Annual survey of unsafe toys published on November 25, 2003.

The Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) informed NCPIRG's Washington, D.C. Consumer Advocate Ed Mierzwinski that the agency would take compliance action on “at least six” of the toys found to be hazardous.

Despite Passage of the 1994 Child Safety Protection Act, NCPIRG found toys with choking and poison hazards and excessive noise that could deafen children.

### Insurance Reform

Insurance companies, experiencing a drop in their profits because of their own unwise investments, have long sought to line their pockets by capping awards to victims of medical malpractice. NCPIRG opposed these efforts again in 2003, and lawmakers continued to reject insurance companies' efforts. During a special legislative session in September 2003, the Senate rejected an anti-patient proposal and the General Assembly did not take



*Michelle Kucerak, NCPIRG's public interest advocate, appeared on Channel 17 offering advice on how to fix credit reports.*

the issue back up again in the spring, thanks in part to NCPiRG's efforts.

Insurance companies pushing the bill claim that financial awards to victims of medical malpractice were causing rising insurance premiums. However, research shows that capping malpractice awards in other states has not helped to slow skyrocketing insurance rates. In fact, some states that have not capped awards have done a better job of keeping rates down.

In July 2004, state lawmakers passed an NCPiRG-backed law that prohibits

serted Michelle Kucerak, NCPiRG's public interest advocate.

### Health Care

In 2003, NCPiRG staff met with the Department of Health and Human Services, urging its support for a bulk-buying pool for prescription drugs that would dramatically lower the cost of medications by allowing agencies and individuals to pool their purchases. Drug costs are rising three times as fast as overall health care costs, and in five years we could be paying double what we pay now.



*Ed Mierzwinski released "Mistakes Do Happen: A Look at Errors in Consumer Credit Reports" in Washington, D.C. while Michelle Kucerak released the findings at a Raleigh news conference.*

homeowner's insurance companies from unfairly treating policy inquiries as if they were claims. Insurance companies alleged that a consumer who calls to ask about their policy is more likely to file claims in the future and therefore is more of a risk.

"Consumers should be allowed to freely seek coverage information about their policy without having to fear that their phone call might make it more difficult for them to purchase insurance at a future date, cause their rates to go up, or subject them to cancellation," as-

NCPiRG released a report called "Paying the Price" in the summer of 2003 which showed that uninsured consumers in the Triangle area pay 77 percent more for 10 common prescription medications than the federal government pays. NCPiRG used the report to push for bulk-buying pools in North Carolina.

In the coming months, NCPiRG's Michelle Kucerak will continue to promote a state bulk-buying program and will push for other solutions to lower the cost of prescription drugs for North Carolinians.

## Solutions

NCPiRG successfully lobbied state legislators to protect North Carolina's open spaces by approving legislation to allow purchase of \$45 million worth of land for preservation.

NCPiRG and other open space advocates highlighted a March 2004 survey showing that even in tight budget times, 59 percent of North Carolina voters support funding protections of forests, farmlands, and other open spaces.

NCPiRG also pointed to its 2003 report, "Losing Our Natural Heritage: North Carolina's Disappearing Open Spaces," which found that in the past 20 years, North Carolina lost 1.9 million acres of forests and farmland to development.

## In Their Own Words



**Michelle Kucerak**

Public Interest Advocate

"Every day, the work that I do with NCPiRG helps to improve the lives of North Carolinians, whether it's working to expand health care or helping to prevent identity theft. This means a lot, especially when I think about the future of my son and other families in North Carolina."

# REVITALIZING DEMOCRACY

## Lawmakers debated measures to reform local campaign finance

NCPIRG registered thousands of new voters and called for reforms to encourage fair participation in elections

This past legislative session, a key House committee debated a bill that would allow local governments to establish public financing programs for local elections.

“Spending for local contests has soared across the state, discouraging voters and reducing the number of candidates who can even consider a run for office,” stated NCPIRG Advocate Michelle Kucerak. “Some local governments want to solve the problem by creating local public financing systems, but they need permission from the General Assembly to do so.”

A bi-partisan group of Senators, NCPIRG, AARP, Common Cause, and Democracy NC all backed the legislation in 2004. It failed when the statewide developers’ association, called the NC Homebuilders Association, lobbied against it. We will work to advance the bill again in 2005.

In late 2002, partially due to the efforts of NCPIRG, lawmakers passed the nation’s first public financing program for statewide judicial candidates. Beginning in 2004, candidates for the N.C. Supreme Court and Court of Appeals can receive substantial aid from a new Public Campaign Financing Fund in exchange for accepting strict spending and fundraising limits. Of the 16 candidates in 2004, 12

agreed to the limits and have qualified for public financing.

### Mobilizing New Voters

Today’s youth are volunteering in record numbers, but are the least likely age group to turn out on Election Day. Minority populations, meanwhile, are too often either registered in low numbers or systemically turned away from the polls. As a consequence, candidates for political office rarely address issues of the

most importance to young people or minorities.

To break this cycle of mutual neglect and mistrust, NCPIRG worked with the Youth Vote Coalition and campus groups to register 2,000 18-24 year-olds to vote in the 2003 local elections.

In 2004, NCPIRG launched the Community Voters Project, which aimed to register and mobilize 150,000 minority voters across the country for the 2004 elections. By the end of the fiscal year, the Raleigh Community Voters Project had already registered 6,000 voters, and was on pace to register 27,000 by the state’s deadline.

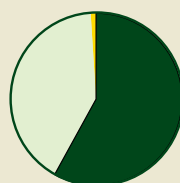


Mark Edsell and Elizabeth Ouzts share a light moment with Congressman Brad Miller during their meeting. As a state senator, Brad Miller sponsored campaign finance legislation to require retired legislators to wait a year before becoming lobbyists.

### Financial Information

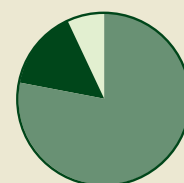
Charts reflect combined financial information for NCPIRG Citizen Lobby, NCPIRG Education Fund, and NCPIRG’s citizen outreach programs

#### FY04 Income



Citizen Contributions **58%**  
Grants **41%**  
Other **1%**

#### FY04 Expenses



Program **78%**  
Fundraising **15%**  
Administrative **7%**

# NCPIRG SUPPORTERS

Your generous support enabled our work

Citizen support is the cornerstone of NCPIRG and NCPIRG Education Fund. Thousands of North Carolinians supported NCPIRG by making membership contributions in Fiscal Year 2004. The following members were particularly generous in backing the organization's advocacy. Names that appear in italics denote NCPIRG Public Interest Partners. These members provide stability to the organization through our monthly giving program.



Patrons supported NCPIRG with contributions of \$500 or more or are Public Interest Partners giving \$40 or more each month.

Suzanne Eismann  
Katharine Hewitt  
Fred Peterson  
Doug Phelps  
Janet Proctor  
Michael Tiemann  
Lorin Willis

Sponsors supported NCPIRG with contributions of \$250 to \$499 or are Public Interest Partners giving \$20 to \$39 each month.

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Thomas Bacon  
Allyson Banas  
Julie Barnes  
Richard Beasley  
Hope Brown  
Paula Brown  
Maurice Burse  
Mark Cates  
Gina Chapman  
Gordon Clay  
Kirk Cochran

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*Sue Martin*  
*Nancy M. Mattox*  
*Joellen Mcdonnell*

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*George Smart*  
*Jacque Spell*  
*Nathaniel Spence*  
*Neil Stephens*  
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*Seth Tice-Lewis*  
*Gary Tiller*  
*Maggie Vanover*  
*Tom Warfield*  
*Celeste Watson*  
*Duane David Webb*  
*Edward Weeks*  
*Kevin Weil*

## Foundations

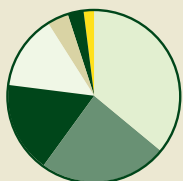
North Carolina Public Interest Research Group Education Fund (NCPIRG Education Fund), a 501 (c)(3) organization, conducts research and public education on emerging public interest issues. Contributions to NCPIRG Education Fund are tax-deductible. The following foundations and individuals have given their support to NCPIRG Education Fund:

- The Beldon Fund
- Educational Foundation of America
- Energy Foundation
- Fred Stanback
- Julian Price Family Foundation
- Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation

## Planned Giving

Members who include NCPIRG in their will leave a legacy of activism on behalf of North Carolina's consumers and will ensure the future health of our state's democracy and environment for decades to come. For more information about including NCPIRG in your estate and major giving plans, call (800) 841-7299 or e-mail [plannedgiving@ncpirg.org](mailto:plannedgiving@ncpirg.org).

## FY04 Program Expenses Breakdown



Clean Water <b>36%</b>	Consumer <b>4%</b>
Land Use/Open Spaces <b>24%</b>	Democracy <b>3%</b>
Factory Farm Pollution <b>17%</b>	Health Care <b>2%</b>
Clean Air <b>14%</b>	

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# 2004 Annual Report

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