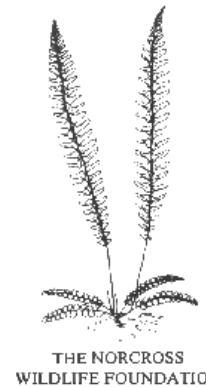
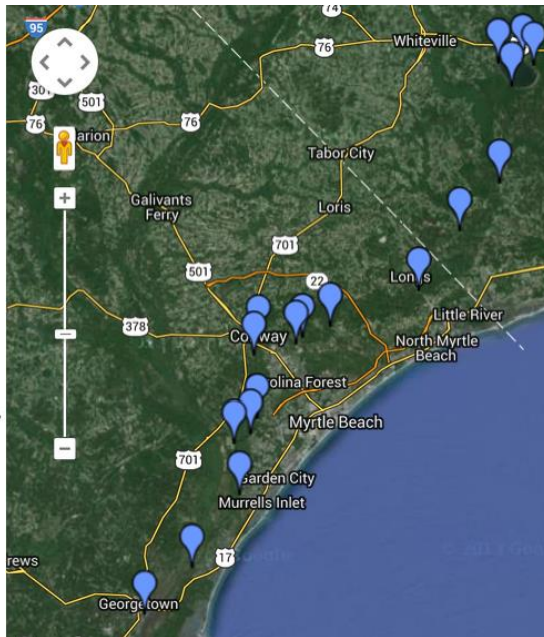
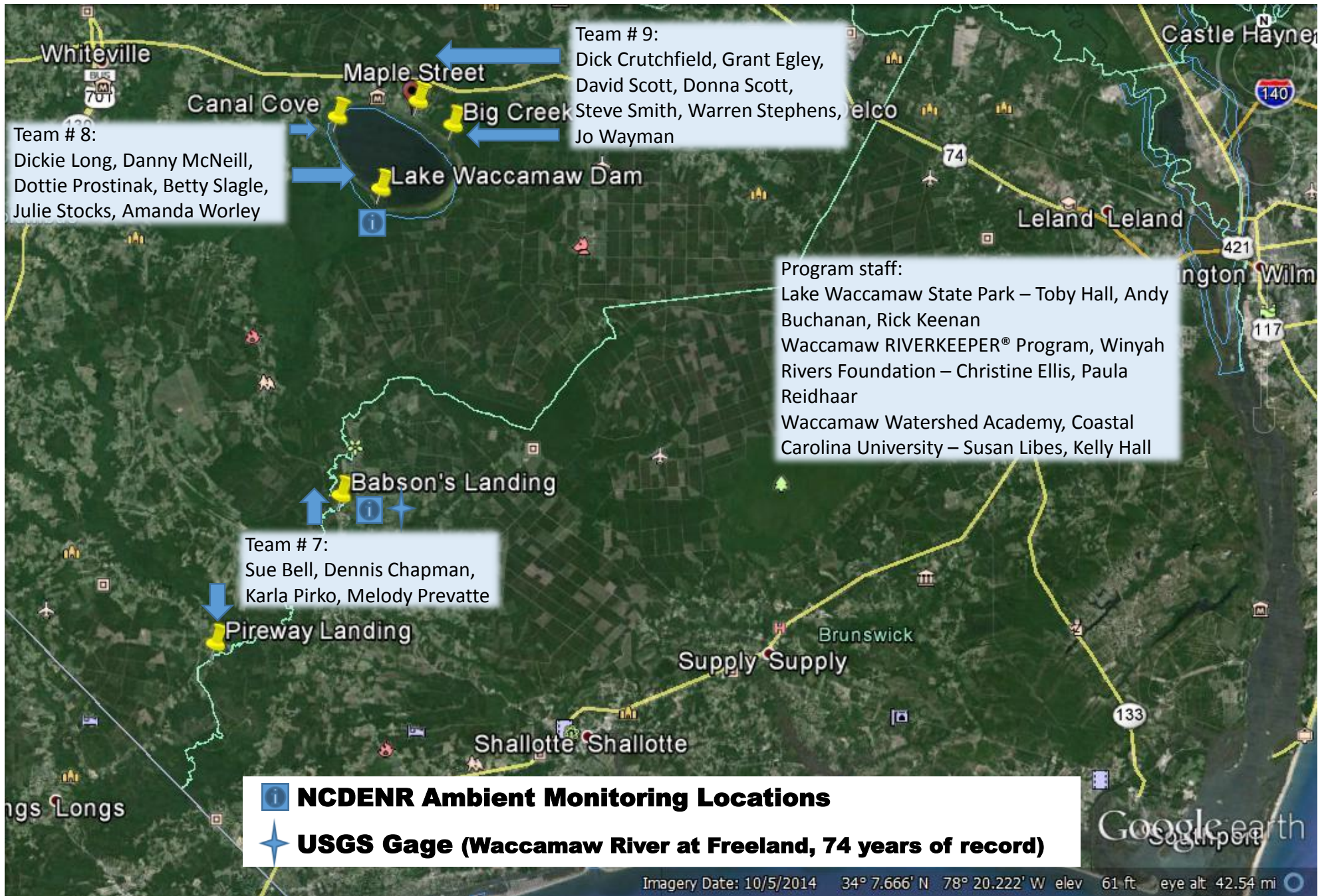


WACCAMAW  
WATERSHED  
ACADEMY



# March 9, 2015 NC Volunteer Recognition Luncheon





**Team # 8:**  
 Dickie Long, Danny McNeill,  
 Dottie Prostinak, Betty Slagle,  
 Julie Stocks, Amanda Worley

**Team # 9:**  
 Dick Crutchfield, Grant Egley,  
 David Scott, Donna Scott,  
 Steve Smith, Warren Stephens,  
 Jo Wayman

**Team # 7:**  
 Sue Bell, Dennis Chapman,  
 Karla Pirko, Melody Prevatte

**Program staff:**  
 Lake Waccamaw State Park – Toby Hall, Andy  
 Buchanan, Rick Keenan  
 Waccamaw RIVERKEEPER® Program, Winyah  
 Rivers Foundation – Christine Ellis, Paula  
 Reidhaar  
 Waccamaw Watershed Academy, Coastal  
 Carolina University – Susan Libes, Kelly Hall

**i NCDENR Ambient Monitoring Locations**  
**★ USGS Gage (Waccamaw River at Freeland, 74 years of record)**

**Our NC Team**

*Lake Waccamaw  
 Teams #8 & #9  
 have collected  
 >75 data sets/site*

*Waccamaw River  
 Team #7 has  
 collected  
 >42 data sets/site*

*As compared to  
 >200 data sets/site  
 in SC (>2900 at  
 Murrells Landing!)*

**All of our volunteers are awesome!**

**Here are some of the accolades our NC volunteers have received!**



STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

PAF McCrory  
GOVERNOR

March 17, 2014

Waccamaw Water Quality Monitoring Project Volunteers  
Ms. Jo Wayman  
2726 Bella Coola Road  
Lake Waccamaw, North Carolina 28450

Dear Volunteers:

The State of North Carolina is proud to congratulate you on receiving the Governor's Award for Volunteer Service in the Group/Team category. Your commitment to service has helped make our community a better place, and your spirit of giving will be remembered by those you serve.

Since 1979, this prestigious award has been bestowed upon citizens who exhibit the tradition of volunteerism that is at the heart of community service in our state. Recognizing the needs of others and working to improve those circumstances strengthens us all, and your dedication sets an impressive standard for volunteer service. I hope your success will inspire more volunteer enthusiasm in other areas of need.

North Carolina's greatest strength is our people. Ann joins me in commending you for your achievement as outstanding volunteers. Thank you for all you have given to those around you.

Sincerely,

*Pat McCrory*  
Pat McCrory

# WACCAMAW OUTDOORS

Volume V Issue XI

January 2015

FREE

The Ultimate Resource For Outdoor Adventurers!

FREE

## Jo Wayman receives the Waccamaw RIVERKEEPER® Joy Pinson Award for Exceptional Service to the Waccamaw River

By Christine Ellis



Volunteer Team #9 includes (L-R) Warren Stephens, Steve Smith, Jo Wayman, David Scott, Rick Keenan, Andy Buchanan.

Jo, a resident of Lake Waccamaw, NC, is a founding member of the volunteer water quality monitoring program in the North Carolina portion of the Waccamaw watershed. Since 2011, Jo has taken a leadership role in this important citizen science project. She coordinates many of the activities necessary to maintain the water sampling equipment and supplies, is the team leader for the volunteer team that samples at two sites at Lake Waccamaw, programs and analyzes both the turbidity and bacteria samples not only for her team but for the other lake teams and, at two sites, uploads sampling data into the online database, troubleshoots issues that occur from time to time and coordinates with the program adminis-

trators at the Waccamaw RIVERKEEPER® Program, Coastal Carolina University's Waccamaw Watershed Academy and Lake Waccamaw State Park.

Jo's contributions to the program have been exceptional since 2011 and have resulted in its success over the past years. Jo was recognized by Paula Reifshart, Waccamaw Riverkeeper, Christine Ellis, River Advocate and the Board of Directors of Winyah Rivers Foundation at our recent River Celebration event held in Conway, SC. A plaque that bears Jo's name is proudly displayed in the RIVERKEEPER® office along with previous years' recipients. In addition, Jo received her own plaque commemorating this

honoree. It is proudly displayed at the Visitor Center at Lake Waccamaw State Park. Jo's commitment to the Waccamaw watershed is much appreciated by Winyah Rivers Foundation, its Board of Directors, staff and members, as well as the Volunteer Water Quality Monitoring Program's administrators at Coastal Carolina University's Waccamaw Watershed Academy and at Lake Waccamaw State Park, and many others!



Jo in the lab at the State Park includes (L-R) Andy Buchanan, Jo Wayman, Tilly Hall

Congratulations and thank you Jo Wayman for protecting clean water and healthy habitat in the Waccamaw watershed and for her support of the Waccamaw RIVERKEEPER® Program of Winyah Rivers Foundation.

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WACCAMAW OUTDOORS

April 2015

## Longtime Waccamaw RIVERKEEPER® Board Member, Rebecca Westbrooks, honored with the Order of the Long Leaf Pine

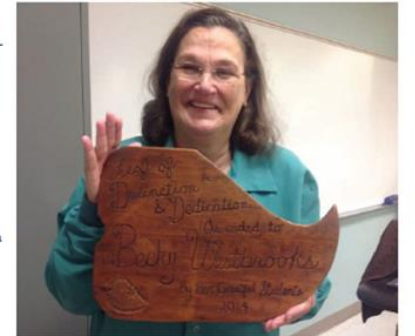
On Friday, February 27th, 2015, Rebecca Mark Westbrooks received the Order of the Long Leaf Pine at a function held in the presence of many local and state dignitaries at the new North Carolina Museum of Natural Sciences in Whiteville, NC.

The Order of the Long Leaf Pine is among the most sought after and valued awards conferred by the Governor of North Carolina and is presented to outstanding North Carolinians who have a proven record of service to the State. See <http://longleafpinesociety.org/> for more information.

Born in Tennessee, Rebecca grew up on the Mark West family farm overlooking the Cumberland River. Her

earliest memories are connected with farm activities, livestock, wildlife and wildflowers. In her youth, she spent many hours exploring the woods and limestone bluffs above the floodplain of the river.

Rebecca attended Austin Peay State University in Clarksville, TN, graduating with a B.S. degree and a double major in biology and chemistry. She received an Interdisciplinary Master of Science degree in Biology/Botany and related fields from the University of South Carolina. Her lifelong devotion to education began with teaching in public schools in Tennessee, Kentucky, South Carolina and North Carolina. In 1999, Rebecca began teaching at Southeastern



Community College in Whiteville, NC where she taught a wide array of courses including biology, botany, microbiology, human anatomy & physiology, freshman orientation, earth science, environmental science, environmental health, environmental law, water quality, wetlands science, environmental biology, management of wastes, and horticulture. During her tenure, she developed several college level programs including Environmental Science Technology, Invasive Species Management Training, and Agricultural Biotechnology. In December 2014, Rebecca retired from Southeastern Community College. Upon her retirement, the Rebecca M. Westbrooks Teaching Laboratory was designated in the Carrette Technology Center.

Beloved by her students, she was also presented with an award from the members of the College's Environmental Action Club, having served as their faculty sponsor for many years. In the words of one of her former students, "I was so

blessed to have her as my teacher. And I am equally blessed to be able to call her my friend." Perhaps foreshadowing the Governor's award, the students presented Ms. Westbrooks with the "Leaf of Distinction and Dedication" award.

Rebecca has received many professional awards and honors over her career including being appointed by the Governor of North Carolina as a Board Member of the North Carolina Museum of Natural Sciences in the summer of 2014. It was at that institution's opening of its new facility in Whiteville that Rebecca received the prestigious Order of the Long Leaf Pine.

As a longtime member of the Board of Directors of Winyah Rivers Foundation (Waccamaw RIVERKEEPER® Program) and a strong supporter of our mission, we are so pleased for and proud of Rebecca and thank her for all her environmental education and conservation efforts in the Waccamaw watershed.

Congratulations Becky!