



NEUSE RIVER

Neuse River

History of Neuse River:

Flowing through 7 counties from the Piedmont down to the Atlantic Ocean. Neuse River ranges approximately 275 miles long reaching many populated cities such as Raleigh, Durham, Goldsboro, Smithfield, and New Bern where it meets up with the Trent River before reaching the Pamlico Sound.

The Neuse River has always been depended upon as a major source of transportation between the Atlantic Ocean to inland North Carolina, initially by Native Americans and later by settlers as early as 1584, where two English sailors commissioned by Sir Walter Raleigh to discover the *New World*, when traveling they discovered the river at a New Bern site.



Issues surrounding the Neuse River:

Neuse River has been hit hard with public health concerns with the on going issues surrounding Falls Lake down to recent fish kills found in the Pamlico sound. As recent as September 2009 a fish kill was found down towards New Bern with an estimated 8.5+ million fish killed. Scientist who also witnessed an estimated 50,000 fish kill back in 1997 confirmed that little to no oxygen was present in deeper water.

Algae growth, similar to that found in Falls Lake, seem to be the thing to blame. The Environmental Protection Agency and U.S. Department of Agriculture also back up these claims. Not only does this create a quick death for many fish and wildlife but this can potentially become a health concern for many residents who benefit from the river resources.

Protecting the Neuse River

Many grass root organizations are leading the way to help preserve and restore the Neuse River basin. Many state organized events, in conjunction with the ongoing Falls Lake Project, are being established to increase awareness and develop better management practices to prevent pollution causing these major fish kills and potentially harming public health.



Learn More

NEUSE RIVERKEEPER

<http://www.neuseriver.org/home.html>

WIKIPEDIA NEUSE RIVER

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Neuse_River

FALLS LAKE STAKEHOLDER

<http://www.fallslakestakeholder.org/>

NC DIVISION OF WATER QUALITY

<http://h2o.enr.state.nc.us/>