

They 'swept up' the New

Written by

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September's Big Sweep, a nationwide effort to clean up the country's rivers and streams, brought out more than one hundred volunteers in Watauga County on September 8.

Volunteers fanned out over 19 miles of the county's New River and tributaries, gathering 5,580 lbs of trash. Some interesting items pulled from the River were: car parts, a stove, 88 tires, a portable toilet seat and a kiddie playset. This year, the Department of Transportation provided color-coded trash bags so that volunteers could sort and recycle. Approximately 20% of the weight of the trash was recycled. Volunteers will be recognized at noon tomorrow during the Kraut Creek Festival in downtown Boone. The sweep was organized in cooperation with the National Committee for the New River.