



Who is CFRA?

For over forty years, the CFRA's defining characteristic has been the diversity of stakeholders

- **Basin-wide** – Founded in 1973 and represents the entire Cape Fear River basin from Greensboro to the Atlantic Ocean near Southport
- **Diverse Stakeholders** - Range of sectors represented include the following
 - o Agriculture
 - o Community-Based Organizations
 - o College/University
 - o Industry
 - o Local Government; Utilities
 - o Citizens
- **Unbiased** - Unlike advocacy groups, CFRA does not take positions on policies but offers information and education

CFRA's Mission

CFRA strives to maintain and improve the quality of life in the Cape Fear River Basin by encouraging smart management of the river, its tributaries, and adjacent land use from a basin-wide perspective.

What does CFRA do?

- **Public Education and Outreach, Stakeholder Engagement**
 - o Annual Meeting: Provides an incredibly unique platform for stakeholders from very different sectors to share updates and efforts with their colleagues.

Why it Matters: It is one of the few opportunities for citizens, agriculture, government, industry, community based organizations, citizens, and academia to gather in one place to discuss mutual interests and concerns. The meeting provides attendees with factual information, enables opportunities for collaboration, facilitates involvement and relationship building, which are all critical to finding successful solutions.
 - o Public Forums: Enables gatherings in each sub-basin with the same diversity of audience. The forums include presentations, poster sharing, and surveys of attendee interests and priorities.

Why it Matters: Education and awareness is the beginning of stewardship and shifting the cultural mindset of citizens in the basin. It also provides an opportunity for research to be shared to a broader audience than would be reached at the annual meeting.

- **Special Projects**

- Leadership in Problem Solving: CFRA has been involved in the development and initiation of numerous projects and programs over its 44 year history (see success stories below). The board continues to identify needs and coordinate solutions on an as needed basis.

Why it Matters: There is no other organization that has the ability to bring such a diverse perspective to solve basin-wide issues.

Successes Stories – A snapshot

- Online Water Quality Data Repository
- Government Official Survey
- Scholarship Endowment
- Water Quantity Model Development
- Water Quality Monitoring Program
- Locks and Dams Fish Passage
- Climate & Land Use Resiliency Planning
- Social Science and Other Research
- Education & Collaboration

What's next for CFRA?

Future challenges include increased competition for drinking water, increased development of natural habitat, and water quality issues such as nutrient enrichment and emerging/unregulated contaminants.

New and ongoing projects include:

- **Online Data Repository** – Upgrade online water quality database so it is compatible with current software platforms.
- **Nutrient Criteria** - Increase education and encourage engagement on Nutrient Criteria Development in the Cape Fear so local officials and citizens understand how nutrient criteria will impact utility rates, land use planning and development patterns.
- **Emerging Contaminants** - Increase education on unregulated/emerging contaminants. Such as 1-4 dioxane, bromide, and perfluorinated compounds (e.g., GenX), which have been found in the Cape Fear River.
- **Fish Passage** - Continue efforts to increase fish passage at Lock and Dam 2 and 3 while protecting existing potable water supplies.

How can you help?

- Check out www.cfra-nc.org
- Attend & participate
- Become a member
- Spread the word

Membership Level	Annual
Individual	\$25
Local Government	
Population < 5,000	\$250
Population 5,001 – 20,000	\$500
Population >20,000	\$1,000
Non-Profit Organization	
All Volunteer	\$100
Employees 1-10	\$250
Employees 11 - 500	\$500
Employees >500	\$1,000
Private Business	
Employees 1-10	\$250
Employees 11 - 500	\$500
Employees >500	\$1,000
Sustainable County – Prorated equations – Contact for	

Success Stories:

- **Provided Leadership in Developing Online Water Quality Data Repository**

What: Upper, middle & lower river basin associations upload water quality data that can then be queried and graphed.

Why it Matters: This database provides ease of access and analysis of data that was not otherwise available without specific request to NCDEQ.

Status/Need: Updates are needed to the database to keep this service viable in the future

- **Conducted Industry Leader Survey**

What: Survey of water managers performed in 2016 to determine varied perspectives about supply availability as well as challenges and solutions to water quality

Why it Matters: Understanding the variations in perceptions helps focus education efforts

- **Scholarship Endowment**

What: A \$25,000 endowment was created to provide annual scholarships to students living in or attending college in the Cape Fear Basin

Why it Matters: Fostering the next generation of water stakeholders is vital to sustainability

- **Water Quantity Model Development**

What: CFRA is the umbrella organization used in development of the first water quantity model of the Cape Fear River

Why it Matters: The model was used by the State of North Carolina for planning and water allocation

- **Water Quality Monitoring Program Initiative**

What: CFRA provided seed money and leadership in the development of the basinwide water quality monitoring program conducted by the three sub-basin associations

Why it Matters: Understanding water quality is critical for development of programs and strategies to ensure clean water. We now have almost 20 years of water quality data available for analysis and water quality management and planning

- **Locks and Dams Fish Passage Solution**

What: CFRA worked to find a solution to fish passage that also would protect existing drinking water intakes preserve the reliability of existing drinking water supplies

Why it Matters: Restoring fish passage is critical for endangered species. A vibrant fishery would be an economic boom for local economies. However, hundreds of thousands of citizens rely on water obtained from intakes located behind the dams. It is critical that we find a solution that will meet both objectives

- **Climate Resiliency Planning**

What: CFRA participated in local planning efforts including the Cumberland County Climate Adaptation Plan and the City of Fayetteville River Front Land Use Development Plan.

Why it Matters: Local planning is critical to protecting the riverine ecosystem. Climate adaption minimizes future infrastructure costs and protects public safety. Increasing access to the river improves public awareness of the value of the river

- **Research**

What: CFRA has funded research to include benthic and fish studies in the lower Cape Fear; water quality data collection in the lower, middle and upper Cape Fear; non-point pollution source identification, and development of a nutrient trading framework in the upper Cape Fear

Why it Matters: Research is critical for better understanding how to manage the river

- **Ongoing Education & Website Development**

What: CFRA has conducted more than 50 workshops that have touched over 4,500 attendees on issues ranging from water quality and quantity to the historical significance of the river in founding the State of North Carolina. CFRA's online presence has been developed via our website and includes links to recreational and educational information

Why it Matters: It is critical our citizens and local officials are educated on the value of the river and the challenges we face in ensuring adequate, clean water for our region.



Cape Fear River Assembly

Serving the Cape Fear River Since 1974

[LINKS](#)

[FORUMS](#)

[EDUCATION](#)

[CONTACT](#)

[ABOUT CFRA](#)

[HOME](#)

[WATER QUOTES](#)

[RECREATION](#)

[PRESENTATIONS](#)

[OUR RIVER](#)