



Current Events

The Newsletter of the Arkansas Stream Team

Volume 6 Number 1

January - March 2002



Earth Day 2002

Stream team regional coordinators all had Earth Day activities going and assisted with several others around the state. Of course, the "real deal" is to do Earth Day everyday. Remember, we all live downstream so let's take care of Mother Earth.

Local Troop Returns to the St. Francis River

Scout Troop 231 from West Memphis returned to the St. Francis River on February 23rd to continue their hard work. They covered an area of a ½ mile and were able to remove a ton of debris, which included one trailer and two rusted cars. Hats off to the St. Francis Stream Team! With their continued dedication, the habitat continues to be improved.

CLEAN-UP FLOAT ON LITTLE MAUMELLE RIVER

The Sierra Club of Central AR had their first Stream Team float on the Little Maumelle River on February 2nd. To prepare volunteers for the float clean up, on January 29th they spent some time learning about the program and they were shown photographs of three previous Stream Team projects. Four students from the College of the Ozarks, along with thirteen other volunteers, took part on the float trip. Using canoes and a warm welcome from Pinnacle Mountain State Park staff, the team covered an area of five miles, collecting ten bags of litter and monitoring water quality. They had a great time and have already scheduled another clean up in May. Keep up the great work!

HHS Receives Stream Team Grant



Courtesy of the Times Dispatch

Steven O'Neal, Stream team Coordinator for the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission, shows Hoxie High School students, Shantel Prater(from left), Alicia Phillips and Courtney Vance, some of the equipment that is being purchased with a \$1,400 grant the school received from the commission. Most of the money will be used for water testing, supplies and equipment, and the remainder will be used for nets, waders, and identification books. This will give the students hands-on experience in testing the water quality of area creeks and rivers. Debby Rogers, a science teacher at HHS, applied for the grant.

The Save Our Spring River Stream Team revised the billboard it maintains on HWY 63 north of Hardy due to legislative changes that were in effect since last summer. SOS Secretary Ruth Reynolds said, "We could not have revised the billboard without the generous help of Pete Reilly, who donated the use of scaffolding." SOS Secretary Ruth Reynolds adds finishing touches to the new message.



Courtesy of the Villager Journal

The Save Our Spring River Stream Team Continues Monthly Monitoring

The SOS continues to monitor water quality on the Spring River. Their work has aided in the campaign to save the Spring River's Ozark Hellbender and in riparian land preservation. We greatly appreciate their hard work on following water quality in the Spring River, one of our real gems of a stream! Listed below are two water chemistry summaries from two different test sites from the Spring River for the year 2001.

SAVE OUR SPRING RIVER Water Chemistry Summary 01/01 thru 12/01 Test Site #2- Griffin Bridge												
	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November (see notes)	December
Parameters:												
Sample Date	1/27/2001	2/25/2001	3/31/2001	4/30/2001	5/25/2001	6/30/2001	7/25/2001	8/25/2001	9/28/2001	10/27/2001	11/24/2001	12/22/2001
Rainfall (inches) sppr.	trace	1	1	0	>1	<1	<1	<1	<1	1	0.5	1
Weather Conditions	partly cloudy	clear/sunny	partly cloudy	warm/sunny	sunny/clear	cloudy	cloudy/humid	clear/sunny	sunny/dry	clear/cool	clear/sunny	clear/cool
Time (24hour)	13:45	12:30	9:05	10:15	10:45	8:30	10:50	7:05	9:15	11:20	10:20	11:15
Water Temp (Celsius)	9	15	15	13	20	15	20	22	19	15	15	14
Air Temp (Celsius)	12	17	20	20	21	26	28	26	21	15	17	7
Dissolved Oxygen (mg/L)	12.6	10.5	10.5	10.2	10.5	10.2	9.5	7.8	9.8	10.4	10	10.5
Oxygen % Saturation	107	no data	115	110	118	130	105	80	no data	no data	no data	100
pH	7.4	7.9	7.5	7.5	8.1	7.7	7.9	8.5	8.5	8.2	8.5	8
Nitrate	0.4	0.9	0.5	0.5	0.8	0.8	0.6	1.2	1.8	0.3	1.1	0.3
Conductivity	380	no data	375	380	450	365	425	450	436	482	410	465
Phosphates	0.04	0.05	0.06	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.16	0.2	0.2	no data	0.2	0.5
Phosphorous	0.01	0.03	0.03	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.06	0.05	no data	0.06	0.16
Turbidity (FTU)	3	no data	2	3	3	3	3	2	3	4	3	3
Fecal Coliform (colonies per 100 ml)	41	320	110	92	157	102	143	TNTC *	499	123	240	130
Ecol Present	positive	positive	positive	positive	positive	positive	positive	positive	positive	positive	positive	positive

No data available for February or October.
 * TNTC = colonies too numerous to count.
 ** August fecals retested 9/27 with count of 583
 *** No oxygen saturation data for September or November

Notes: October - No data on phosphates & phosphorous due to faulty chemical reagents
 November 2001 - collection site changed to Clay Yeager property on South Fork (above the confluence w/ Spring River)
 July: High algae growth present on rocks (appr. 98% coverage)
 August: Low flow conditions with large amounts of algae growth and decaying organic matter
 September - 99% coverage of algae on rocks, high quantity of leaf & organic matter at edges of stream.

SAVE OUR SPRING RIVER
Water Chemistry Summary
01/01 thru 12/01
Test Site # 1 - Hardy Beach

	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
Parameters:												
Date of Sample	1/27/2001	2/25/2001	3/31/2001	4/30/2001	5/28/2001	6/30/2001	7/25/2001	8/25/2001	9/28/2001	10/27/2001	11/24/2001	12/22/2001
Rainfall (inches) approximate	trace	1	1	0	>1	<1	<1	<1	<1	>1	0.5	1
Weather Conditions	partly cloudy	sunny/clear	partly cloudy	warm/sunny	sunny/clear	cloudy	cloudy/humid	clear/sunny	sunny/dry	clear/cool	clear/sunny	clear/cool
Time (24Hour)	13:00	11:15	8:15	9:30	10:00	7:45	10:00	8:15	8:10	10:00	9:10	10:00
Water Temp (Celsius)	10	15	15	14	19	15	20	20	19	14	14	14
* Air Temp (Celsius)	12	17	18	18	21	24	28	28	21	12	16	6
Dissolved Oxygen (mg/L)	12.5	9.5	9	9.1	11.9	10.5	12.8	8.5	9.4	12.2	10.5	11
Oxygen % Saturation	110	no data	94	97	130	130	138	90	0	no data	0	108
pH	7.2	8	7.8	7.8	8	7.8	7.6	8.2	8.5	8.2	8.3	8.1
Nitrate	0.5	0.8	0.7	0.8	0.8	0.7	0.7	0.9	1	0.5	1.04	0.2
Conductivity	420	no data	380	385	439	360	439	442	410	490	390	450
Phosphates	0.06	0.11	1.2	1	0.12	0.8	0.12	0.18	0.4	no data	0.09	0.1
Phosphorous	0.02	no data	0.4	0.3	0.04	0.2	0.3	0.06	0.1	no data	0.03	0.03
Turbidity (FTU)	3	no data	1	3	3	2	3	2	3	5	3	3
Fecal Coliform per 100ml	79	287	244	215	123	123	187	458	353	148	185	160
Ecoli Present	positive	positive	positive	positive	positive	positive	positive	positive	positive	positive	positive	positive

* TNIC = colonies too numerous to count
** August locals retested 8/27 with count of 279
***No oxygen saturation data for September or November

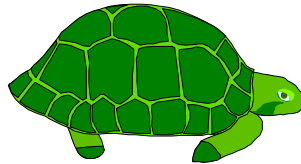
Notes: October - No data on phosphorous & phosphates due to faulty chemical reagents
July: High algae growth present on rocks (appr. 95% coverage)
August: Low flow conditions, observed large amounts of algae growth and decaying organic matter
September - 95% coverage of algae on rocks, much leaf & organic matter clogging sides of stream

Blevins Junior High Receives Stream Team Grant



Blevins seventh grade teacher, Amanda Jester, accepts a \$1,400 grant check from Phil Penny, regional Stream Team coordinator. The grant will allow the students to purchase equipment and adopt a section of the Little Missouri River for a water quality project which will be presented to the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission through the assistance of the Hempstead County Cooperative Extension Service office and the Hempstead County 4-H Clubs.

For those reading a Stream Team newsletter for the first time, Stream Teams are groups of citizens from 6 years old to 96+ who care enough about Arkansas' water resources to form or join a team and adopt a stream or other water body in the state for the purpose of keeping it clean and healthy. Started in 1997, there are now almost 470+ stream teams statewide that carry out a variety of activities in the quest of keeping our state's water more natural. These teams conduct litter pickups, repair eroding stream banks on willing owners' land, plant trees to restore degraded riparian areas, work with local leaders to better manage their watersheds, and a variety of other activities aimed at conserving one of the most valuable of Arkansas' natural resources, its water.



Anyone out there who hasn't already joined this winning team and is interested in joining the Stream Team or learning more about this grassroots way to conserve our state's water resources can contact Stream Team Coordinator, Steve Filipek at the AGFC's Benton office (501-776-0218) or e-mail sfilipek@agfc.state.ar.us. There is no cost to join and classes on how streams work, what animals live in and around them and how a healthy stream functions are offered each year at a reasonable rate.

Helpful Web sites with Conservation Information

EPA-Environmental Protection Agency

<http://www.epa.gov/>

NRCS-Natural Resources Conservation Service

<http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/>

USF&WS-United States Fish and Wildlife Service

<http://www.fws.gov/>

USFS-United States Forest Service

<http://fs.fed.us/>

CTIC-Conservation Technology Information Center

<http://www.ctic.purdue.edu/>

AG&FC-Arkansas Game and Fish Commission

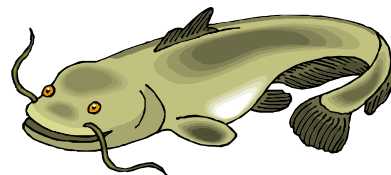
<http://www.agfc.state.ar.us/default.htm>

AACD-Arkansas Association of Conservation Districts

<http://aracd.org/>

ASWCC-Arkansas Soil and Water Conservation Commission

<http://www.state.ar.us/aswcc/>



WE NEED TO HEAR FROM YOU

The Stream Team Staff wants to hear about the activities of the Stream Team Volunteers. If you are holding meetings, conducting workshops, monitoring water quality, holding litter pickups, stabilizing stream banks, etc., we want to know it all. If your team makes the local news, please let us know. The Stream Team Volunteers work really hard and we want to highlight your activities in the newsletter. Your hard work may even be the inspiration for others to get moving and participate.

NEWSLETTER AVAILABLE VIA E-MAIL.

In an effort to conserve resources, Stream Team members with current e-mail addresses were notified of the option to receive the newsletter via e-mail. If you have not received an e-mail notification and would like to receive the newsletter via e-mail, please notify Andrea Daniel at acdaniel@agfc.state.ar.us.



HAS ANYTHING CHANGED?

Please let us know if your address, phone numbers or e-mail information has changed.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip Code: _____

Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____

E-Mail: _____

Mail To: Stream Team Coordinator OR E-Mail To: acdaniel@agfc.state.ar.us
 915 E. Sevier St.
 Benton, AR 72015

The Process of becoming a STREAM TEAM

1. Express an interest and request more information: **Send your name, address, and phone number to:**
STREAM TEAM PROGRAM COORDINATOR
AR Game and Fish Office
915 E. Sevier St.
Benton, AR 72015
2. Sign up. You will get the newsletter and be counted among Arkansas's STREAM TEAM members. This will also get you in the network of those wanting to help out Arkansas' waterways.
3. Adopt a stream. To become more involved in the program, you can adopt a stream. Select a stream that you or your group are particularly concerned about- the creek on your land, your favorite fishing hole, or the stream you drive over every day to work, school or the store, for example.
 - a. inventory your stream with help from STREAM TEAM coordinators.
 - b. decide what you want to do- trash pick-up, habitat improvement, water quality monitoring, or whatever is of interest to you!

Steve Filipek/Andrea Daniel
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