

Stream Team Annual Report

2022

promoting citizen awareness and involvement in river and stream conservation

A Summary of Stream Team Activities

Program volunteers reported over 68,000 hours of volunteer time to our stream resources. We gained 141 new Stream Teams adding to our roster of over 5,100 active Teams statewide. Here are some highlights from 2021:

- ◆ **194 tons of trash were removed from Missouri's rivers and streams.**
- ◆ **454 water quality monitoring trips were completed.**
- ◆ **14,386 trees were planted.**
- ◆ **Over 16,000 volunteers participated**
- ◆ **Over \$1.9 million worth of volunteer labor was dedicated.**

The Stash Your Trash Program targets trash on Missouri streams by providing litter bags to Missouri's float outfitters. There were 149 float outfitters throughout the state participating in the Stash Your Trash Program in 2022; 85 of them offered discounts to Stream Team volunteers in the *Stream Team Float Outfitters Discount Directory*. More than 354,000 red mesh bags were provided to livery business owners to distribute to the public, preventing countless tons of trash from entering Missouri's recreational waterways. An additional 28,400 red and green mesh bags and over 4,400 blue poly bags were provided to Stream Teams in their cleanup efforts.

Stream Team Awards

The Stream Team Ambassador Awards recognize volunteer accomplishments in the Program's three primary goals of education, stewardship, and advocacy, as well as water quality monitoring. The 2022 recipients for activities conducted in 2021 were:

- ◆ **Stewardship: Stacy Arnold**
Stream Team 2926 & 4058
- ◆ **Stewardship: Dennis and Linda Sullivan**
Stream Team 401, 1995, 4660, & 5168
- ◆ **Education: Riley Ryburn**
Stream Team 6314 & 6347 (not pictured)
- ◆ **Advocacy: Jeanne Heuser**
Stream Team 3251 (not pictured)
- ◆ **VWQM: Paul Goodwin**
Stream Team 57 (not pictured)

Trained monitors submitted over 940 data sheets in 2022 that totaled over 4,300 hours and 1,500 participants. Our tiered Volunteer Water Quality Monitoring training structure allows flexibility for citizen involvement while increasing education and use of data collected at each level of training. With the hybrid learning format volunteers are able to learn at their own pace before attending an in-person field training on collection methods.

Water Quality Monitoring Workshops	Number of Field Trainings	Number of Volunteers Trained
Introductory	20	168
Level 1	21	168
Level 2	4	23
Total	45	359



ST3760 - Members of the Grant School Eco Club learn about water quality on their adopted stretch of Flat Branch Creek.



ST6198 - Members of the St. Louis Aquarium Foundation cleanup along the Riverfront of the Mississippi River.



ST674 - Ted Haviland of the Scenic Rivers Stream Team Association teaches a workshop on building your own plywood canoe.



ST6163 - Town Creek in Harrisonville is a lot cleaner thanks to the City of Harrisonville Stream Team.



ST2667 - Members of the City of O'Fallon Stream Team contribute to the Make A Difference Day in Civic Park.



Activity	Participants	Hours	Units	Value*
Adopt-An-Access	6	6	6 agreements	\$171.96
Advocacy	42	312	45 events	\$8,941.92
Agency Project Participation	248	445	137 events	\$12,753.70
Articles Written (newspaper, newsletter, etc.)	2	4	2 articles	\$114.64
Association Activities	57	338	27 events	\$9,687.08
Display at Fairs, etc.	40	322	20 events	\$9,228.52
Educational Projects	1,969	6,668	149 events	\$191,104.88
Forestkeepers (Forest Monitoring)	9	42	18 trips	\$1,203.72
Grant (applied/recieved)	11	105	11 projects	\$3,009.30
Habitat Improvement	591	1,645	71 projects	\$47,145.70
Invasive Species Monitoring	23	50	3 trips	\$1,433.00
Letters (written in support of ST issue)	25	94	23 letters	\$2,694.04
Litter Pickups	8,294	38,102	194 tons of trash	\$1,092,003.32
Media Contacts	4	5	4 interviews	\$143.30
Meetings (held or attended)	503	1,089	610 attendees	\$31,210.74
Mentoring	15	188	15 people	\$5,388.08
Monofilament Recycling Project	3	3	5 ounces	\$85.98
Other Miscellaneous Projects**	641	7,752	51 projects	\$222,172.32
Photo Point Monitoring	2	3	12 photos	\$85.98
Planted Trees	1,051	2,456	14,386 trees	\$70,388.96
Pre-activity Planning	195	502	134 projects	\$14,387.32
Presentations to Other Groups	244	541	30 presentations	\$15,505.06
Rain Garden/Barrel or Green Roof	48	144	3 projects	\$4,127.04
Recruitment (new members)	20	58	21 people	\$1,662.28
Riverwatch/River Observation	12	27	2 projects	\$773.82
Streambank Stabilization Project	6	51	2 projects	\$1,461.66
Storm Drain Stenciling	68	181	304 drains	\$5,187.46
Water Quality Monitoring	1,591	4,304	454 trips	\$123,352.64
Workshops (attended or conducted)	405	3,318	405 attendees	\$95,093.88
Totals	16,125	68,755		\$1,970,518.30

*\$28.66/hour is the 2022 Missouri wage rate for the estimated value of volunteer time (Independent Sector).

**Includes projects like website development, newsletters, scout programs, fundraising, etc.



ST4264 - The River Trash Terminators proudly display their haul from the Niangua River

What's to come ...

Changes ahead! Stream Teams in 2023 will be seeing new staff and changes to existing staff responsibilities to best serve volunteers' needs. Some of our staff who had been with the program for over ten years moved on to new adventures. The long tenures of departing staff speak volumes to the passion and dedication of staff to Stream Team's mission and the quality of volunteers they served. Follow our FaceBook page and visit our website to keep up with current staffing.

The long-anticipated overhaul of the Stream Team database is slated for 2023! This means glitches and errors when entering your activity reports will be a thing of the past. On the volunteer water quality monitoring front, we have reduced the watch time for our online Level 1 videos and we are exploring an interactive online training platform to enhance the online training experience. Looking forward, we will explore ways to make joining the program and getting started as a new volunteer easier.

Volunteerism in the program drastically dropped during the years of the pandemic. So, for 2023 we hope to see more of you getting out and doing good deeds for Missouri streams. And we encourage you to reconnect with fellow Stream Teamers and invite new friends and family into the Stream Team community in the years to come.

It's the volunteers who care for our rivers and streams that make Missouri the beautiful recreation destination we know and love. A big thank you to all our volunteers for the time and energy you've contributed to conserve and restore Missouri waters!

Questions? Please contact us at:

1-800-781-1989

streamteam@mdc.mo.gov or streamteam@dnr.mo.gov

mostreamteam.org

facebook.com/mostreamteams

2022 Fast Facts

During 2022, Stream Teams . . .

- ◆ collected **194** tons of trash.
- ◆ planted **14,386** trees.
- ◆ stenciled **304** storm drains.
- ◆ conducted **454** water monitoring trips.
- ◆ gave **30** presentations to other groups.
- ◆ completed **149** educational events.
- ◆ reported **68,755** total volunteer hours.

33-year Fast Facts

Since 1989, Stream Teams have . . .

- ◆ collected **13,783** tons of trash.
- ◆ planted **398,025** trees.
- ◆ stenciled **21,277** storm drains.
- ◆ conducted **34,462** water monitoring trips.
- ◆ given **3,572** presentations to other groups.
- ◆ completed **6,053** educational events.
- ◆ reported **3,361,621** total volunteer hours.