



2015  
ANNUAL  
REPORT



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Cover Photo: Turnback Creek, a tributary of Stockton Lake by Aaron Scott

Below: Area school children learning about water quality by discovering aquatic critters in South Dry Sac



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Kelly Guenther, Business Manger

Rob Hunt, Watershed Center Coordinator

## OUR MISSION

To sustain and improve the water resources of Springfield and Greene County through education and effective management of the region's watersheds

## OUR SPONSORS

City Utilities of Springfield

Greene County

City of Springfield

## OUR PARTNERS

Drury University

Greene County Soil and Water Conservation  
District

Missouri Master Naturalists Springfield Plateau  
Chapter

Missouri Department of Conservation

Missouri State University

Project WET (Water Education for Teachers)

Springfield-Greene County Park Board

This report covers our fiscal year: January 1-December 31, 2015



## Dear Friends,

Living and working in the Springfield community is a joy and a privilege. Algae blooms, drought, contamination, and climate change impacts plague many communities in our country, and are constant reminders that our local approach of source water protection, planning, and proactive reduction of both point source and non-point source pollution are the best way forward. With this in mind, our community faces it's own challenge of stormwater funding which will need resolution in the coming months. Our mission is as vital and important as ever, and the Watershed Committee of the Ozarks fills an important niche in our water future.

One of the defining events of the year was the move of our office from 320 N. Main Avenue to the C. W. Titus education facility at the Watershed Center. The change in location was spurred by the admirable decision of City Utilities to initiate the remediation of the Brownfield site associated with the old address, which still carries the legacy pollution of a coal gasification plant which once operated there. After a few months at the Watershed Center, we are realizing the multiple positive outcomes of the relocation. The move was a reminder of how supportive our community of sponsors, partners, board members, and volunteers are as they offered assistance with storage space, costs, and organizing before the move. Moving offered an opportunity to simplify, and to focus on the most important aspects of our work and the tools we need to do it. In the "new" space we are experiencing the elevated synergy of having the whole team in one place, which is a wonderful place to work.

This report reflects an effective year, and one in which we have continued to meet and exceed our goals and previous accomplishments. Thank you for helping make this possible, and we look forward to working with you in the future. And lastly, don't forget to take some time to enjoy clean water, whether it is in your glass or gently carrying your canoe.

Kind Regards,



**Mike Kromrey**  
**Executive Director**



## Preface

At the Watershed Committee, our mission focuses the organization and directs the work that we do. The work of watershed protection is complex, but a compass, with four cardinal directions, helps categorize what it takes to achieve our mission. Our north and south represent education and outreach and projects and management. These directions are the real work of water protection. East and west represent funding and people. These are the resources necessary to accomplish the work.

In the center of the compass, the place from which everything radiates outward, is our mission. The accomplishments of 2015 contained in this report are organized in this manner, so our compass can be your guide. Please take joy in these accomplishments because none of this could happen, or is even possible, without supporters like you.





# Education and Outreach

Wonders of the Outdoors Learning Facility (W.O.L.F.) students on a field trip at the Watershed Center

**Education and Outreach** are at the core of our mission. In order to protect our resources, citizens must understand where our water comes from, what can positively and negatively affect our resources, and what actions can be taken to protect them. We strive to connect “kindergarteners through engineers” with the information they need to help keep our water clean and plentiful.

## Watershed Center Education and Outreach

Once again, 2015 shattered previous records for attendance with a 23% increase in program participants at Watershed Center. We have also adopted a new approach to service days, combining volunteer work with reflection and education, modeled after our experiences with the Leopold Foundation. Along with the general fulfillment of community service, we aim to instill in the volunteers a sense of purpose by helping them understand their role in the task of protecting our precious water resources and by connecting them with nature. I am always amazed at what these generous individuals take away when they leave the Watershed Center. One result of this effort has been a great return on investment as students who come out for a single work day make their way back to us as longer-term volunteers. You can see more about their stories in the volunteer section of this report.



Students connect with nature and learn about water resources at the Watershed Center

## Year at a Glance-Education and Outreach

	<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>
<b>Students At The Watershed Center</b>	<b>2,719</b>	<b>3,502</b>
Watershed Center Field Trips	71	86
Volunteer Hours Logged	2,705	1,813
Booths at Community Events	11	13
Jordan Creek Tours	19	20
Blog Posts	65	70

## K-12 School Visits to the Watershed Center

Branson High School	Nixa Middle School
Careers in Conservation	Ozarks West Elementary
Discovery Center of Springfield	Parkview High School
Field Elementary	Pershing Elementary
Gloria Deo Academy	Reeds Spring Intermediate
GO CAPS (Greater Ozarks Center for Advanced Professional Studies)	RISE Homeschool Group
Greenwood Lab Summer School	Rountree Elementary
Halfway Summer School	Sherwood Elementary
HAWK (Honoring Urban Ecosystems and Acting With Knowledge)	SPARC parks program
Hickory Hills Elementary	St. Elizabeth Ann Seaton
Hurley Elementary	St. Joseph Academy
Immaculate Conception	Stockton Middle School
Isiasaki Japan Sister City High School	Summit Preparatory School
Logan-Rogersville Elementary	Watkins Elementary
Mark Twain Elementary	Wilder Elementary
McBride Elementary	Wildwood Summer School
Nixa High School	WOLF (Wonders of the Ozarks Learning Facility)



## Jordan Creek Tours

We continue to offer a unique educational experience with our Jordan Creek tours, walking members of our community through the big box culvert that forms the artificial cave running through downtown Springfield. In an educational experience like nothing else, we can clearly see the many complex relationships between homelessness, folklore, urban design, local history, and water quality. While a lot of participants come along for the thrill of exploring these concrete catacombs, most leave with a stronger sense of the big picture. As we walk, we point to the wide-open storm drains, familiar from the street, but new and surprising from our vantage point in the creek, clearly demonstrating the fact that stormwater is directly connected to our streams and rivers. While our new headquarter office is no longer located on the banks of Jordan Creek, we are still happy to guide tours for interested groups. Please call 866-1127 or email [rob@watershedcommittee.org](mailto:rob@watershedcommittee.org) for more information or to book a tour.



Rob Hunt took Leaders from the North American Envirothon teams on a Jordan Creek Tour

## Utility Crossing Workshop

2015 was a year of remarkable flooding. In anticipation of numerous repairs to areas where utilities like gas, water, and sewer lines cross waterways, City Utilities, Greene County, the City of Springfield, and Watershed Committee of the Ozarks agreed on the need for training to prepare for making repairs and partnered to bring in national expert Dave Derrick. Mr. Derrick's workshop focused on understanding how rivers and streams work, and practices that can be applied to utility crossing repairs to ensure long-lasting solutions which are also better for the overall health and stability of the stream.

## Medicine Take-Back Event

As part of a nationwide campaign by the DEA, Ozark Area Pharmacy Association hosted two medicine take-back events on Saturday, May 2<sup>nd</sup> and Saturday, September 26, 2015, in collaboration with the Greene County Sheriff's Department, City of Springfield, Watershed Committee of the Ozarks, Community Partnership of the Ozarks, SafeKids Springfield, and local pharmacies. The Watershed Committee of the Ozarks assisted by providing volunteers and local water quality information to participants of the event. The Springfield Fall Medicine Take Back event collected 1,322 pounds of unused medicine. Our region which includes Iowa, Illinois, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska, and South Dakota accounted for just over ten percent of the national total for the fall take back and was the largest amount collected in one single DEA event. Proper disposal of these medications helps to prevent possible misuse while also keeping them from harming our drinking water supply.

## Choose Environmental Excellence Awards

The Watershed Committee of the Ozarks seeks to recognize accomplishments which assist in the Watershed Committee's mission to protect the area's water resources. This year, the Watershed Committee presented its Choose Environmental Excellence award to Fred Palmerton for his lifetime service of involvement with major projects and decisions related to Springfield, Missouri's water resources.



Mike presenting CEE award to Fred Palmerton



## Educational Partnerships

The Watershed Committee of the Ozarks has always worked hard to facilitate partnerships and our educational programs are no exception. With our water friends and many other organizations that support education, we have been able to have our most successful year yet, and we owe a great deal of gratitude to the people and groups including:

Ozarks Technical Community College  
Missouri State University  
Drury University  
Springfield Public Schools  
The Springfield Art Museum  
Careers in Conservation  
Wonders of the Ozarks Learning Facility (WOLF)  
Honoring Urban Resources and Acting With Knowledge (HAWK)  
Springfield Greene County Park Board  
The Botanical Center  
The Discovery Center of Springfield  
James River Basin Partnership  
The City of Springfield Environmental Services  
The Springfield Conservation Nature Center  
Missouri Department of Conservation  
Greene County Health and Human Services  
The State of Missouri Health Department  
The Missouri Master Naturalists, Springfield Plateau Chapter  
Interpreters Coalition



Students from The Discovery Center of Springfield learning about water

The **Homeschool Outdoor Fair** continues to grow in popularity. In the first few years, we often felt that we were reaching out to get just a few families to participate. Now, we have to cap pre-registration at around 300 people and we still end up turning people away. It's been a joy to work with such great organizations as The Springfield Conservation Nature Center, Springfield Botanical Gardens, Springfield Greene County Park Board, Bull Shoals Field Station, and many more.

As in years past, the Watershed Center has played host to **Stream Team Water Quality Volunteer Trainings**. We love having the Stream Team crew out at our site and it is always a joy to partner with them on cleanups and field trips. **Darlene Haun**, a Stream Team superstar, has settled in Springfield and has been a valuable asset helping with school field trips, Watershed Center work days, monthly meetings, and anything else water related. She is an amazing asset to our community and her passion for teaching kids about macroinvertebrates is only matched by her zealous persecution of invasive honeysuckle and grape vine. On top of all of that, the watershed community had the chance to get to know Holly Neil, director of Missouri Stream Team and Watershed Coalition, who presented at the Watershed Center Monthly Meeting and attended Paddle Georgia with Rob.

## Colleges

Local universities and colleges provide many benefits to our community, infusing this Midwestern town with the energy and vigor only available through young, excited, and expanding minds. Our local students often improve the trails that we enjoy at the Watershed Center, teach the kids that come through on field trips, work the invasive species, and spread the message of water conservation and sustainability farther than we ever could on our own. It is always a pleasure to work with these students in the classroom and in the field and we are happy to continue hosting them as they use the Watershed Center as a classroom, learning about streams, forests, and sustainable design.

**Drury University** continues to use the Watershed Center as a classroom for ecology classes. This year, we got the chance to work with them directly on a habitat restoration project. We opened up our wetland by clearing many of the thick-growing box elders. The resulting brush has since been used to block side trails, prevent erosion, and the larger logs now line portions of our trail. For the past few years, we have had the chance to work with the incoming freshman students on a service project, usually involving Jordan Creek which runs near the Drury campus. This project serves as a unique way to engage these new students in the local world of community service and environmental stewardship. Some of these students go on to join the Think Green team at Drury. This group is already self-sufficient with service projects and cleanups, needing only bags and trash pick-up support from us here at Watershed Committee.

**Missouri State University (MSU)** has a program in which students can earn extra course credit for participating in a local organization's work for 40 hours over the course of a semester. We are happy to host two or three of these students each year. Each student offers help in whatever way we need, but they must also complete a project over the course of the time with us. This year, we had a native garden plan drawn up and a big chunk taken out of our honey suckle patch on the glade hillside. Aside from volunteers, the students in the science and education departments stay busy out here learning native plants, macroinvertebrates, and how to teach the Discover Nature Schools Curriculum.



Students from MSU working on trails during a hot August day



Students from MSU Residence Hall Association working on trails during a hot August day



## Website and Media

We strive to reach as many people as possible with current issues, ideas, and topics related to our mission. A high quality website and social media presence have become increasingly important platforms for education and outreach in our society, and we have responded. Here is a summary of WCO's media outreach in 2015:

- Increased Facebook presence and increased “likes” from 538 to 893 during the year (a 40% increase!)
- Wrote over 70 blog articles which were posted on our website and Facebook
- Developed an active Instagram presence with 142 followers, allowing us to post pictures and videos of field trips, fundraisers, and workdays faster.
- Updated our website which increased in users from 5,428 to 6,984, and in views from 21,458 to 24,000 from last year to this year
- Published the WCO Quarterly Newsletter which increased circulation to 350 subscribers
- Created a Public Service announcement highlighting water stewardship actions, in partnership with City Utilities
- Watershed Committee and Mike Kromrey were highlighted in an MSU alumni Video which was posted on the MSU homepage for several weeks
- KSMU story “With Recognized Storm Water Practices, Springfield Hopes to Set Example for Others” story featured Big Urbie projects and Projects Manager, Stacey Armstrong
- KSMU “New Parking Lots Expected to be Better for the Environment” featured Big Urbie project at Government Plaza that replaced the parking lots and added stormwater features such as bioswales and pervious pavement
- KY3 news story “Darr School of Agriculture Using Rainwater Harvesting” featured the Big Urbie Project and Projects Manager, Stacey Armstrong
- KY3 news story “Health Department, Watershed Committee Tests Streams for Bacteria” featuring Projects Manager Stacey Armstrong



Bioswale at City Government Plaza Parking lot



Ryan Schneider with CU and Mike worked together to create another Public Service announcement (and had fun doing it!)



## Monthly Meetings

Every first Friday of the month, the WCO continues the long tradition of gathering community stakeholders together to learn about water-related topics. In spite of the 7:30 am meeting time, over 400 attended in 2015. The meetings also serve as a networking opportunity, and a time for participants to share announcements and upcoming events. These meetings are truly a great tradition of the Watershed Committee, and we are thankful to all our participants and presenters. Our topics for 2015 were:

- **January:** Meeting cancelled in observance of New Year's Day
- **February:** "Stream Team Watershed Coalition Update," Holly Neill, Director
- **March:** "The Big Urbie (Springfield-Greene County Urban Watershed Stewardship Project) Wrap Up," Stacey Armstrong, Projects Manager, Watershed Committee of the Ozarks
- **April:** "Water Protection and Ash Storage Solution," Roddy Rogers, Manager Water Resources Projects, City Utilities of Springfield
- **May:** "Performance Based Water Conservation with WERS," Mike Collignon, Green Builder Association
- **June:** "Sacrificial Clams: Native Mussels and Water Quality," Dr. Barnhart, Missouri State University
- **July:** Meeting cancelled in observance of Independence Day
- **August:** "Roadtrip with a Raindrop," Author Gayle Harper
- **September:** "Trees are the Answer," Casey Jo Kellner, Urban Forester, City of Springfield
- **October:** "Watershed Committee Staff Update," Watershed Committee Staff
- **November:** "National Trends and Emerging Issues in Water Resource Management," Ryan Mueller, Executive Director, Interstate Council on Water Policy
- **December:** "Recent Flood Trends in the Ozarks," Dr. Pavlowsky, Director, Ozarks Environmental and Water Resources Institute, Missouri State University



WCO Monthly Meeting at the Midtown Carnegie Library



Roddy Rogers presenting at the April Monthly Meeting



# Projects and Management

A bioswale designed and installed as part of the Big Urbie City Governmental Plaza Stormwater Retrofit Project

**Projects and Management** is where the rubber meets the road. Source water protection, watershed management plans, stormwater best management practices, and policy recommendations are water protection techniques important to all members of our community. Support from our sponsors allows us to operate and apply for additional resources to fund projects that improve our community's water resources.

## **The Big Urbie: Springfield-Greene County Urban Watershed Stewardship Project**

On May 1, 2011 Watershed Committee of the Ozarks was awarded federal funding through the Missouri Department of Natural Resources Nonpoint Source Implementation (319) Grant to apply stormwater best management practices in Springfield and Greene County. The project included installation of numerous "green" stormwater management practices, monitoring of their effectiveness at reducing and treating pollutants commonly found in urban stormwater runoff, and educating the public about stormwater.

The grant was funded by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency under Section 319 of the Clean Water Act, and was administered by the Missouri Department of Natural Resources. The Watershed Committee of the Ozarks applied for the grant in partnership with the City of Springfield's Department of Public Works Stormwater Engineering Division, Missouri State University's Ozarks Environmental and Water Resources Institute (OEWRI), Greene County Resource Management, James River Basin Partnership, Missouri Project WET, and Ozark Greenways.



## The Big Urbie (continued)

The grant required a match of funds and in-kind services that brought the total value of the project to more than \$1.6 million. In April 2013 WCO was awarded an amendment of an additional \$100,000 grant funds and \$66,667 in matching funds which allowed more stormwater improvement projects to be completed. The total grant award was \$1,100,000 in federal funds and \$769,672 in matching funds.

The Big Urbie grant successfully ended June 15, 2015. In four years with six partner organizations we were able to accomplish a lot of stormwater improvements. A special thank you goes out to all of the Big Urbie grant partners and project partners, many people helped make these projects possible! To view pictures, water quality reports and final report visit [www.bigurbie.org](http://www.bigurbie.org) Here is a summary of the Big Urbie by the numbers:

- 25 Stormwater Improvement Projects
- 9,250 Native Plantings
- 28, 562 Gallons of Rainwater Harvesting Systems Installed
- 998 Water Quality Samples Collected
- 84 Soil Tests
- Estimated 80 lbs./Acre of Nutrients Removed
- 7 River Clean-ups
- 6 Educational Workshops
- 4 Field Days



City Governmental Plaza under construction



20,000 gallon rainwater harvesting system being installed at Missouri State William H. Darr School of Agriculture to provide dust suppression in arena



Detention basin retrofit at Missouri State University campus



## Springfield-Greene County Health Department Sampling

WCO assisted Springfield-Greene County Health Department with collecting their weekly bacteria samples in streams that are public swimming locations during the summer months. After the samples are analyzed, the E.Coli and Total Coliform results are posted on the Health Department's webpage the following day for the public to access. Samples were collected from May 20 until September 1, 2015, and results can be found at <http://health.springfieldmo.gov/2934/Stream-Testing>

## Our Missouri Waters

### Sac River Our Missouri Waters

On May 1, 2015 the Watershed Committee of the Ozarks was selected for leading the Our Missouri Waters (OMW) collaborative effort in the Sac River Watershed by the Missouri Department of Natural Resources. The goal of this effort is to gather local input and identify water resource priorities through community meetings. A local watershed advisory committee will be assembled to identify and develop resources to achieve those priorities. The outcome will be the Healthy Watershed Plan that will help maximize resources and focus watershed priorities. Citizens, community leaders, and elected officials are invited to attend to share how they use their water and what's needed to continue protecting and enhancing the Sac River watershed.

The Sac River Watershed encompasses portions of Cedar, Dade, Lawrence, Greene, Polk, St. Clair, Vernon, Barton, Christian, and Hickory counties and includes the towns of Springfield, Republic, Bolivar, Willard, Ash Grove, Greenfield, Stockton, and Walnut Grove. In an effort to engage members from all these areas within the watershed, informational meetings were hosted in different geographic locations throughout the watershed. Community meetings were held on November 17 in Stockton, December 15 in Greenfield and January 12 in Willard with a total of 140 meeting participants. The Sac River Healthy Watershed Plan will be complete and the project will end May 31, 2016. More information about Our Missouri Waters can be found at [www.dnr.mo.gov/omw](http://www.dnr.mo.gov/omw).



Sac River Watershed Map



Greenfield OMW meeting

## Little Sac Restoration and Improvement Project (LSRIP)

In April 2014 The Missouri Department of Natural Resources awarded WCO a Section 319 non-point source pollution grant for the LSRIP. The **total award of \$428,461** was comprised of \$255,551 Federal funds and \$172,910 in local matching funds. The purpose of the project is to implement best management practices (BMPs) to improve water quality, decrease soil erosion, and improve aquatic life in the Upper Little Sac—a watershed that is very important to our drinking water supply. The project will also include water quality monitoring and nonpoint source/project-specific educational activities. The portion of the Hydrologic Unit Code (HUC) 12 watershed in Greene County (Upper Little Sac River) is the project focus area and includes the following activities:

### Best Management Practices:

- One Demonstration of Longitudinal Peaked Stone Toe Protection Practice (LPSTP) of approximately 850 feet in length
- Three Prescribed Grazing Systems
- Vegetative Buffer Strips (quantity depends on size of practices and funding available)
- Stream Restoration Practices (quantity depends on size of practices and funding available)

### Water Quality Monitoring:

- Weekly samples May through September at a minimum of 5 sites on the Upper Little Sac River and its tributaries by City Utilities of Springfield
- Quarterly samples October through March at a minimum of 5 sites on the Upper Little Sac River and its tributaries by City Utilities of Springfield
- WCO to provide a watershed map marking where monitoring will occur

### Project focused education:

- One project-specific HUC 12 watershed factsheet
- Three developed press releases and newsletters
- One non-point source BMP workshop, one public meeting
- One project webpage, and one project specific sign located at the Watershed Center
- Two canoe tours for county, city and WCO officials to see before and after effects from projects

This project is off to a good start, and we owe a debt of gratitude to our project partners. City Utilities of Springfield is conducting the water quality monitoring portion, the Greene County Soil and Water Conservation Department has been instrumental in providing expertise for the agricultural best management practices, and the Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC) has provided biological monitoring data and cost share support. 2015 saw the completion of the three required grazing systems, and we will be able to do more with the remaining resources. WCO worked with MDC on a riparian buffer expansion project near Fellows Lake, and hosted a Stream Restoration and Stabilization Workshop with national expert Dave Derrick.



LSRIP Target Area



National expert Dave Derrick explaining stream restoration techniques during a workshop funded through the LSRIP grant

## The Hydrilla Project

Hydrilla is a highly invasive aquatic plant. In areas of the U.S. where hydrilla is established, it damages ecosystems, water supplies, and hampers recreational opportunities, which causes great expense to local economies and businesses. Hydrilla was first found in Southwest Missouri in 2012. A landowner in the Pomme de Terre River Watershed contacted The Missouri Department of Conservation for assistance because a plant, which was later identified as hydrilla, had “taken over” his pond. Since then, hydrilla has been found in multiple impoundments, including locations in the Little Sac and James River watersheds.



Eradicating hydrilla from our drinking water watersheds is our goal. A team, led by the Missouri Department of Conservation, and including City Utilities, Greene County, the Army Corps of Engineers, and WCO, cooperates on the eradication effort. The multifaceted approach includes multi-year chemical treatment of infested water bodies, public education and outreach, inspections, and planning.

In 2015, progress was made on many fronts, but the summer floods presented some extreme challenges. The year started off with the Hydrilla Working Group hosting a hydrilla workshop during the Missouri Natural Resources Conference at Tan-Tar-A. It was attended by a variety of resource personnel from around the state. The working group also hosted a hydrilla booth at the Springfield Lawn and Garden Show. Other outreach efforts included crafting two hydrilla fact sheets, one for Stream Teams and the other for the general public.



Tuber monitoring in March revealed that our 2014 treatment efforts were successful in the prevention of new hydrilla tubers. Biomass monitoring also showed that the amount of hydrilla produced in ponds undergoing their second year of fluridone treatment was considerably less in 2015. These results are very encouraging in this long-term battle. On the flip side, the excessive flooding made it difficult to maintain aquatic herbicide concentrations in many of the hydrilla ponds. Staff devoted more time during the summer months monitoring the on-going treatment process to ensure that season-long control was maintained. For many hydrilla impoundments, an additional treatment was required.

The record flooding was also severe enough to remove aquatic vegetation from local impoundments; presenting yet another challenge in our long-term battle. We are hoping that our May and early June treatments kept hydrilla biomass at a level where it was less vulnerable to movement. Only intense inspection efforts in 2016 and 2017 will reveal the full impacts of the 2015 floods.

On a more positive note, City Utilities of Springfield received a **Source Water Grant from the Missouri Department of Natural Resources**. Hydrilla control and outreach efforts in the upper Little Sac and James River watersheds were just some of the items funded with this particular grant. This will definitely be beneficial to our ongoing efforts as City Utilities' staff also investigated and confirmed a new hydrilla location in the upper Little Sac watershed just above Fellows Lake. Staff from the Missouri Department of Conservation intensified inspections in the immediate area of the new find and detected four more impoundments with hydrilla. These ponds will start the five-year treatment process in May 2016. (Contributed by Kara Tvedt, MDC)



## Watershed Center Site Projects

In 2015 we raised money through the first-ever Give Ozarks Day and our Watershed Summer Gala to pay for much needed repairs to the **boardwalk and fishing piers** on Valley Water Mill Lake. Springfield Greene County Parks made the project possible by providing their skilled tradesmen to remove the damaged surface, reinforce the structure, and resurface the deck. Fortunately, mild early winter weather allowed for several productive work days and the main section of the boardwalk that completes the trail loop is completely finished. The fishing piers will be replaced in late winter 2016.

We have also been focusing our attention on **habitat improvement** and **invasive species control** following the guidance of the plans created by the Missouri Department of Conservation. This summer, the Watershed Center Interns were tireless in their pursuit of weedy plants in the micro-prairie in the center of our parking lot. As a result, the scrubby patch is looking better than ever and was sporting several native flower species this past summer. Several volunteers have committed many hours toward the task of habitat improvement, and the results are apparent.

The Missouri Master Naturalists and the Audubon Society have been busy at work continuing to **catalogue and photograph the plants, fungi, birds, lichens, and other wildlife** here at Valley Water Mill. We are working in 2016 to bring all of that information to one place for visitors and web surfers to find easily. This valuable data and information will help us track changes and/or improvements over time.

**Safety and visitor experience improvements** are continuous. Some major mud holes have been filled, branches cleared, and erosion spots patched up. The Springfield Greene County Park Board threw down some buckets full of rock to fix a bad washout near the edge of the lake and the main driveway. Trails have been mulched a couple of times this year, our signs are freshly painted, and look great. We also had the chance this fall to harvest a bunch of native seeds from our Onsite Wastewater Training Center Prairie and the main rain garden in front of our building. These seeds will be used to add more natives to the habitat improvement projects that are underway currently.



Skilled workers from Springfield Greene County Park Board put our new boardwalk together



MSU Bears for Sustainability harvesting native grass seeds for future projects.



# People

The crew from City Utilities volunteering at the Watershed Center for the United Way's Day of Caring

The Watershed Committee of the Ozarks is **People**—people who are dedicated to protecting our water resources now and for the future. Our board, staff, sponsors, volunteers, partners, and supporters are a group of dedicated and dynamic individuals who make our mission possible. This chapter is about those people.

## Staff Development and Professional Involvement

The Staff and Board of the Watershed Committee are dedicated to the betterment of the organization through professional development, networking, and community involvement opportunities. Each staff member grew and flourished over the past year.

Rob Hunt took advantage of several development opportunities in 2015. The biggest event was the epic 95-mile journey down the Ogeechee River for Paddle Georgia in June. Through a partnership with Missouri Stream Team and Watershed Coalition, the Katy Land Trust, Beautiful Missouri, and the Georgia River Network, Rob got to spend a week in Georgia on the tea-black water of one of the snakiest and wildest rivers left in the state. He learned a lot, blogged about the adventure, and will be thinking about possibilities for a similar event in Missouri.



Mike and Mary Kromrey both recipients of the Springfield Business Journal's 40 Under 40 Award



## Staff Development and Professional Involvement (continued)

Rob also made another trip up to Wisconsin to visit the Leopold Shack and learn more about Leopold's Land Ethic. The main purpose was to reconnect with fellow environmental educators from all over the country. It was a very enriching experience for him. Along with the big trips, Rob went to Branson for the Facilitators Conference where he learned more about Project Learning Tree as well as WET and WILD and connected with other facilitators from Missouri and surrounding states. In Kansas City, Rob attended and presented at the Association of Missouri Interpreters where he was awarded Outstanding Interpretive Concurrent Session Presentation. It was a big honor and a lot of fun.



Paddle Georgia

## Rotary District 6080 Group Study Exchange to India

The Rotary Foundation's Group Study Exchange (GSE) program is a unique cultural and vocational exchange opportunity for young professionals between the ages of 25 and 40. The program provides travel grants for teams to exchange visits in paired areas of different countries. For four weeks, team members experience the host country's culture and observe how their vocations are practiced abroad, develop personal and professional relationships, and exchange ideas.

Stacey Armstrong had the unique opportunity to be a member of the District 6080 GSE team that traveled to District 3132 in west central India (the state of Maharashtra) during the month of January 2015. Team members were fortunate to stay in the homes of eight Rotarian host families and travel to eleven cities in and around the host district learning about drinking water, water resources, health care, agricultural crops, education, and local industry. Stacey participated in vocational visits, rotary club presentations, attended the Rotary 3132 District Conference and participated in formal, social, and cultural programs. After returning, Stacey presented at several Springfield Rotary meetings and also gave a public presentation on April 4 at the Watershed Center C.W. Titus Educational Facility about her GSE experience and what she learned about Maharashtra's water resources and culture.



Stacey at Rotary Club Meeting in Solapur with Rotarian host family Rakesh and Ranjita Udgiri



GSE team members from left to right Kate Henschel, Anne Case Halferty, and team leader Melvin Platt at Aurangabad Rotary meeting



## Watershed Summer Gala

We are excited to announce that our second Watershed Summer Gala raised over \$27,000, exceeding our fundraising goal of \$20,000. These funds have helped us make much needed repairs to the boardwalk along the lake at the Watershed Center and will help us keep pace with the growing demand for our education programs. At the event, the food was fantastic, the art was exceptional, and the Springfield Art Museum venue was cool, both literally and figuratively on the hot July Day. Several attendees expressed similar comments: that this event is quickly becoming a favorite because of the opportunity to reconnect with old friends and meet new people with similar interests—and it is laid back and fun. Thank you to our silent auction donors, the sponsors, bidders, and partners and all who attended. Put Saturday, July 16 on your calendar for 2016!



**Watershed Summer Gala Sponsors**

BRONZE








SUPPORTING













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## Give Ozarks Day

The Watershed Committee participated in Community Foundation of the Ozarks (CFO) first ever Give Ozarks Day, a one day online fundraising event for agency partners of CFO. Our goal was to raise funds to help repair the fishing piers and boardwalk at the Watershed Center. We had 54 donors, many of them first-time donors, and raised over \$4,800. This event was a fun, unique way to raise funds for our project and overall was highly successful. We plan on being a part of Give Ozarks again on May 3, 2016 and raise funds for our interpretive signage and trails at the Watershed Center.



Students fishing on the piers at the Watershed Center at Valley Water Mill Park. This picture was used as part of our Give Ozarks Day campaign.

## Volunteering

We have gotten to work with volunteers new and old this year at the Watershed Center. Our excellent workers **Levi Decker** and **Crawford Bassack** knocked out one project after another, keeping the building looking fresh and helping Rob a great deal with recording education and outreach data. Levi even wrote a section of our Summer Newsletter this year!

Our recorded volunteer hours decreased this year because two of our most active volunteers aren't volunteers anymore...they are paid! **Sandi Schulz** took one of our paid education internships that we offered for the first time this year. She is a complete rock star and her experience as a classroom teacher serves her so well out here. I have learned a lot from her and she is always fun to talk to. **Nicole Boucher** is far from a new face out here. She started volunteering before Rob Hunt did and has been as steadfast as ever this past year. Along with Sandi, Nicole was one of our paid interns this year and it is such a joy to work with her. She knows how the Watershed Center works just as well as anyone and she has such a passion for education and such a gentle tone with even the rowdiest kids. We have missed her dearly over the winter months, but look forward to working with her again very soon.



All Star Volunteers for field trips



## Volunteering (continued)

The **United Way's Day of Caring** was a major collaboration and benefit to the Watershed Committee. This year we worked with a bunch of folks from City Utilities as well as Expedia. We had about 50 people total and accomplished several tasks, including installing a new mail box, fixing some erosion spots, weeding the rain garden, washing the building, and working on the trail. This event was super helpful again this year and we look forward to it every year.

### Adopt-A-Spring

Adopt-A-Spring is a volunteer water quality monitoring program. Since the program began over seven years ago, trained volunteers have collected quarterly water samples from many of the major springs in Greene County. Over the years, this program has assimilated a large data set that can help locate groundwater problems and track changes over time. The results of the nitrogen, phosphorous, and bacteria tests are kept on a spreadsheet and can be easily shared with interested parties.



MSU Engineering Volunteers cleaning up Jordan Creek



Volunteers mulching the trail



Drury students thinning brush



## Volunteering (continued)

### Interns

**Thomas Pesek** came from Missouri State University this summer to work with us for a few months. He was an animal when it came to invasive plants in the prairie island, and he was more than able to handle school groups with the same excitement and purpose.

**Amanda Stadler** works for the Community Partnership of the Ozarks and wanted to play outside with us this summer. We put her to work, leading field trips and accomplishing trail projects. She presented us with her vast knowledge of Cicadas and was a lot of fun to work with.

**Brandi Silvey** is a graduate student at Missouri State University studying Biology. She happens to work with our very dear friend, Janice Greene, as she is pursuing her career in biology education. This summer, Brandi got the feel of the Watershed Center and we anticipate working with her more in the spring on field trips.

**Darrin Strutton** is an undergraduate at Missouri State University. He started last Spring as a Citizen and Service Learning Intern from MSU. However, he liked it so much that he continues to hang around. Armed with a weed eater equipped with a saw blade, Darrin strikes fear into the hearts of wild Japanese honeysuckle as he clears swaths of choked-out glade.

**Sandi Schulz** is a recent transplant from Illinois and now she lives on the banks of Table Rock Lake. She taught in the classroom for many years, and she is currently pursuing her Master's Degree in Education. She has great classroom management skills that translate well to the field, and Rob Hunt has taken more than a few tips from her.

**Nicole Boucher** is the all-time Watershed champion volunteer. She is always here for us when we need her and brings an energy and familiarity that is tough to beat! Nicole is studying for her Bachelor of Science Degree at Missouri State University. She has studied Geology, Agriculture, Biology, and much more. She has a lot of experience working with kids, and she is an asset to our team.



Thomas pulling invasive species



Amanda (Left) and Brandi (right) with their new friend



From Left to Right, Sandi Schulz, Erica Cox, Stacey Armstrong, Nicole Boucher, and Clarissa Hatley

## Volunteering (continued)

### Our Board



#### Bridget Dierks, Chair

Bridget Dierks is the Director of Nonprofit Services at the Community Foundation of the Ozarks (CFO), where she works with the CFO's nonprofit Agency Partners in fund development and educational programming. Bridget is a Cabool, Missouri native and a lifelong Ozarks resident. She completed undergraduate degrees in communication and professional writing and was a technical writer before joining the CFO staff. Bridget earned a graduate degree in communication, having partnered in developing new research in the field of collaborative leadership. Bridget is currently on the board of directors for Junior Achievement of SWMO and a member of the Network Advisory Board of the Springfield Chamber of Commerce. She also serves on the Missouri State Public Affairs Committee and served six years on the Tree City USA Citizens Advisory Committee. Bridget and her

husband Andy spend spare time traveling but always return home with a greater appreciation for the Ozarks.

*At-Large 1st Term Expires December 2015*



#### Scott Bratcher, Vice Chair

Scott Bratcher is the Director of Digital at Marlin, the Springfield-based marketing agency. Born in Springfield and raised in the Ozarks, Scott has enjoyed the forests, lakes, and rivers of the Ozarks his entire life. Scott studied CIS and Design at Missouri State University for a time before founding a digital marketing company that delivered advanced digital solutions to clients from 1999 to 2008. Scott has worked with Marlin since 2011 to help deliver integrated marketing solutions for Starbucks, Unilever, Bush's Beans, French's, and other quality clients. He has served on the Board of the Watershed Committee of the Ozarks since 2013 and as a member of the Foundation for Springfield Public Schools Board since 2012. Scott lives in Springfield with his wife and two children.

*At-Large 1st Term Expires December 2015*



#### Dan Hoy, Secretary

Dan Hoy's passion for the Ozarks water resources date back to the early 70's when he began floating and fishing the areas lakes and streams. This passion inspired Dan's personal values of caring for creation and resource conservation. He's put these values to work in his career of more than 30 years as Bass Pro Shops Director of Facilities. Maintaining Bass Pro Shops facilities throughout the country, overseeing energy and waste management, and providing for environmental compliance sustain Dan's inspiration in conservation causes. In addition to the WCO Board membership Dan is active with the James River Basin Partnership, very involved with his church, St. Elizabeth Anne Seton, and various other boards and community outreach opportunities. Dan conspires every spare

moment to pursue the passions of his youth in the great outdoors with his childhood sweetheart and wife, Diane.

*City Appointee 1st Term Expires December 2016*

## Volunteering (continued)

### Our Board



#### Megan McKenna

Megan McKenna is a Senior Human Resources Generalist for Associated Electric Cooperative, Inc. in Springfield, Missouri. Megan grew up in Omaha, Nebraska and relocated to Missouri to complete her undergraduate and graduate business degrees with a focus on the field of Human Resources. A graduate of the Springfield Chamber's Leadership Springfield program, she has previously served as a Leadership Council Member for the Chamber's Network organization, a Member of the Advisory Board for the Missouri Mentoring Partnership and maintains her professional certification and memberships with the Society of Human Resource Management and Springfield Area Human Resource Association. Megan's passion for the outdoors originated from her time spent on a family farm. Over the years, she has developed a deep appreciation and respect for the environment and its wildlife and remains committed to preserving our natural resources for the next generation.

*Greene County Appointee 1st Term Expires December 2017*



#### Laura Greene

Laura Greene is an attorney in the Springfield office of Husch Blackwell, LLP. She grew up in the Midwest, spent several years in the Northeast, and then moved to Springfield almost nine years ago. Since making the Ozarks her home, Laura has enjoyed exploring the waterways, hiking trails, and lakes of this beautiful area. She also loves indulging in her newly-discovered passion for fly fishing. Laura is a past Board Member of Breast Cancer Foundation of the Ozarks, serves as the Chair for the American Heart Association's Springfield Circle of Red, is the founder of Springfield Women of Influence, and is in Class 30 of Leadership Springfield. Laura spends as much time as possible outdoors with her husband, Chuck, and their three children, Andy, Abby, and Sarah. She fervently believes in

the mission of conserving the pristine natural resources of the Ozarks for the enjoyment of generations to come.

*City Utilities Appointee 1st Term Expires December 2017*



#### Eric Dove

Eric Dove is a professional engineer and has an extensive technical background solving problems related to surface water supply and water quality in streams and lakes. Over 20 years ago, Eric fell in love with the Ozarks while on a vacation with his wife. Since moving to the Ozarks, Eric enjoys taking his wife and three sons to the local lakes, streams, and mountain biking trails. Eric has dedicated his career to the protection and enhancement of our precious water resources. He has published and presented at national conferences on a wide variety of water resources topics such as the value of using natural approaches to stabilize Ozark streams. Eric's educational background includes a bachelor's and master's degree in civil engineering with an emphasis in water resources.

*At-large, 1st Term Expires December 2017*

We owe a special thanks to our Board Members, who volunteer about 300 hours each year, helping us with major decisions, monthly meetings, and guiding us as we move forward into our 32nd year!



# Funding

**Funding** is necessary to accomplish the work of protecting our water. **Our sponsors—City Utilities, Greene County, and the City of Springfield provide our core operational funding.** This three-way agreement is a powerful fund leveraging mechanism for each sponsor. Grants, donations, and in-kind contributions are also vital to advancing our mission. As an example, the Watershed Center project was made possible by \$659,222 in private funds.

## Long-Term Fund

Recently, the Watershed Committee of the Ozarks developed a Long-Term Fund, with the assistance of the Community Foundation of the Ozarks. The Fund is treated as an endowment, with the added benefit of being unrestricted so it can be accessed (with Board approval). As this fund grows it will provide interest that can be reinvested or applied to projects or personnel to further our mission. With the help of our gracious donors, this fund balance was over \$93,000 at the end of the year.

## Watershed Summer Gala & Give Ozarks Day

The Watershed Committee raised over \$27,000 in 2015 through the Watershed Summer Gala event and participating in the first ever Give Ozarks Day through the Community Foundation of the Ozarks. (See Watershed Summer Gala page for list of sponsors.)

## Endowment Fund

The Watershed Committee established a restricted Endowment Fund in 2008 held at the Community Foundation of the Ozarks. Thanks to some donations and interest accrued, this year the endowment fund has surpassed the \$10,000 mark required to be a vested account.

## Watershed Center Rentals and Programs

We continue to have demand for the C.W. Titus Education Facility and the Onsite Wastewater Training Center. Many area organizations have utilized the Watershed Center including Missouri State University, Drury University, Ozark Greenways, James River Basin Partnership, Greater Ozarks Audubon Society, Springfield Plateau Grotto, MO Mycological Society, and the Department of Health and Senior Services.

## Sustaining Donors

The Sustaining Donors program is a new avenue for people to invest in the Watershed Committee of the Ozarks. One-time donors are fantastic, but building relationships with people and businesses that lead to yearly commitment is even better. Commercial Metals Company (CMC) has the honor of being the Watershed Committee's first sustaining donor.

Pictured: Paul Oberman of CMC and Mike Kromrey at the Summer Gala



## Community Conservation Grant

The Missouri Department of Conservation awarded the Watershed Committee of the Ozarks (WCO) \$10,000 through a Community Conservation Grant (CCG). The CCG goals are to:

- Provide support for terrestrial and aquatic habitat improvement in urban areas,
- Coordinate efforts among similar organizations which share the common goal of improving urban habitats and supporting community conservation efforts,
- Train partner organization staff in native habitat restoration and long-term management practices of sustaining natural landscapes, and
- Engage the public through conservation education and volunteer opportunities.

With these goals in mind, WCO will use the grant funds to hire a part-time position titled “Watershed Center Habitat Improvement Specialist.” This person will work to improve the ecological health of the Watershed Center site through removal of invasive species, implementation of the Forest Stewardship Management Plan, and other work to improve the visitor experience. The project will also provide a focused way to incorporate volunteers and create educational opportunities. The grant will begin in the spring of 2016 and last for one year. WCO is thrilled about the opportunity to enhance our stewardship efforts at the Watershed Center.

## Community Innovation Grant

The Community Foundation of the Ozarks awarded Watershed Committee of the Ozarks and the Missouri State University Bull Shoals Field Station (BSFS) an \$11,000 Community Innovation Grant to bring the Leopold Foundation to the Watershed Center and for BSFS to hold a Land Ethic Leaders Workshop. The workshop will help participants develop their own land ethic and explore tools and methods for fostering conservation in communities locally and across the state. The workshop will be held in November of 2016.



Community Innovation Grant check award

# Our Generous 2015 Donors

We would like to extend our thanks to everyone who donated their financial resources, time, talent, and good heartedness to the Watershed Committee this past year.

## **Give Ozarks Day donations**

Aaron Scott  
Abbey Richards  
Alina Lehnert  
Allen Keller  
Amanda Stadler  
Barbara and Calvin Armstrong  
Bill and Maret Cheek  
Bill Shultz  
Brent Bolyard  
Brent Stock  
Bridget and Andy Dierks  
Carrie Coleman  
Carrie Lamb  
Dan Hoy  
Darlene Haun  
David Lind  
DeDe Vest  
Diana Sheridan  
Don Lucietta  
Eric Sutton  
Erin Hutchison Martin  
Gail Rowley  
Jay Howard  
Joe Pitts  
John Taylor  
Kate Baird  
Kelly Knauer  
Laura Greene  
Lucie Amberg  
Lyndsey Strahan  
Mary Kromrey  
Matt Boehner  
Megan McKenna  
Megan Terry  
Michael and Kelly Guenther  
Michael Bridges  
Mike Kromrey  
Mort and Jane Shurtz  
Paden Wilcox  
Paige Oxendine  
Parker McKenna  
Rob Hunt

## **Give Ozarks Day cont.-**

Ron and Leslie Carrier  
Sarah Champion  
Stacey Armstrong  
Tamera Jahnke  
Tiffany Frey  
Tim Smith  
Trent Jackson

## **Watershed Summer Gala Sponsors**

Arvest Bank  
Associated Electric Cooperative, Inc.  
Bass Pro Shops  
Bill and Maret Cheek  
Brown Derby Wine Center  
Bud and Mary Hogan  
Carson-Mitchell, Inc.  
City of Springfield, Dept. of Environmental Services  
Commercial Metals Company  
Dake Wells Architecture  
Dan and Margy Chiles  
HDR Engineering, Inc.  
Husch Blackwell  
Matt Boehner  
Mike and Mary Chiles  
Missouri Master Naturalist, Springfield  
Plateau Chapter  
Mother's Brewing Company  
Patagonia  
Remo's Wood Fired Oven

## **Watershed Summer Gala Silent Auction Donors**

Aaron Clark  
Aaron Scott  
Alley Cat Design Studio  
Bass Pro Shops  
Bob Kipfer  
Bob Linder  
Bryan Vance

## **Silent Auction donors cont.-**

Fellows Lake Marina  
JD Slaughter  
John Coleman  
Kelly and Michael Guenther  
Marc Bower  
Mike Kromrey  
Nate Luke  
Plateau Fly Shop  
Randy Russell  
Ryan McCoy  
Springfield Hot Glass  
Wood Turners Guild

## **Donations made in memory of Stu Wetzel**

Beverly Vestal  
Bill and Maret Cheek  
Deborah Davis  
Greg and Martha Swick  
Harland and Terri Myers  
JD Slaughter and Gail Emrie  
Nancy Daniel  
Philip and Janelle Wittmer  
Thomas Shuler

## **Watershed Committee donations**

Alan Fears  
Bob and Barb Kipfer  
Fredrick Lizama & Amanda Stadler  
HMI Fireplace Shops  
Kraft Foods  
Michael Baird  
Mike and Mary Kromrey  
Springfield Plateau Grotto  
Tal and Rosalie O'Reilly Wooten Foundation  
Tim and Sally Smith  
Timmy Hogenkamp  
Todd and Jenell Wagner

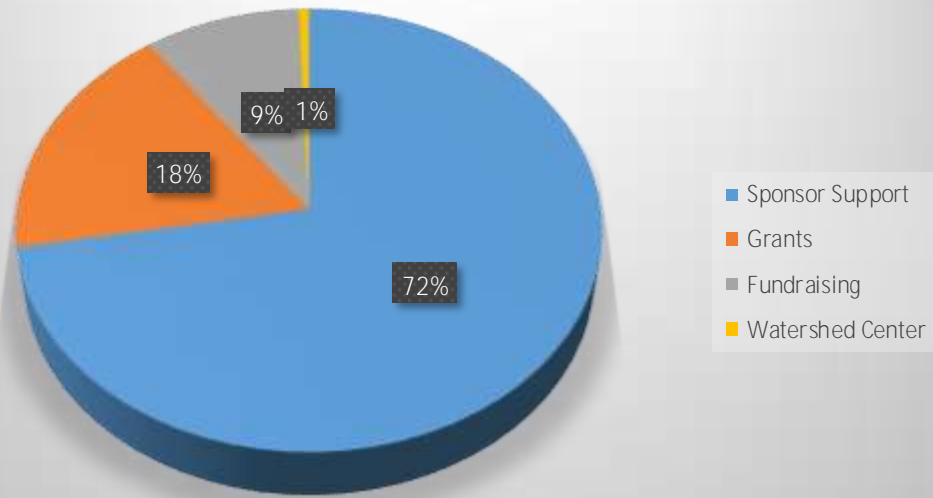


## C. W. Titus Education Facility Donors

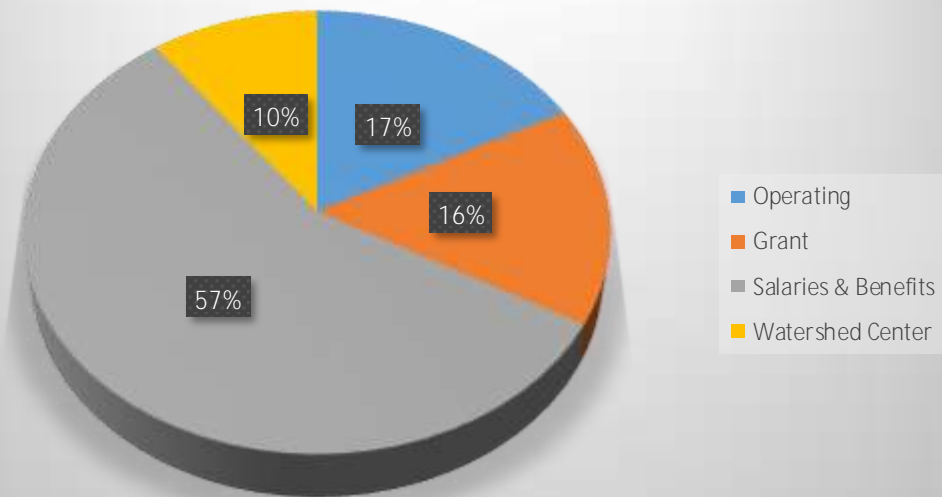
3M Foundation	Greater Ozarks Audubon Society	Mr. & Mrs. Reynaldo J. Gumucio
ARIA Foundation	Greene County	Mr. & Mrs. Charles Bachus
Barbara J. Lucks & Gregg J. Larsen	J.D. Slaughter	Neal & Newman, LLP
BKD Foundation	Jan Horton	O & S Trucking
BNSF Foundation	Jeanette Unsell	Palmerton & Parrish, Inc.
Brenda Putman	Jennifer Jones	Patricia Kay Parker Estate
Bruce & Jo Ann Martin	Jodie Adams	Patricia Rea & James E. Jackson
C.W. Titus Foundation	John Black	Paul & Judy McCune
Calvin & Barbara Armstrong	John & Brooke Griesemer	Positronic Industries, Inc.
Carney Cove Boat Dock Association	John & Culah Nixon	Robert & Cynthia Davies
Charles & Mary Beth O'Reilly	John & Jean Twitty	Ron & Leslie Carrier
City Utilities of Springfield	Jon & Becky Treadway	Rosalie Wooten-O'Reilly
Community Foundation of the Ozarks	Jonina & Keith Buterbaugh	Ruth O. Kelley
CONCO	Jonathan & Karen Jones	Sara Garretson
D-4 Investments	KRAFT Foods	Sara Lampe
Dan & Margy Chiles	Kyle McClure	Scott Miller
Dave & Mary Sturdevant	LAD Foundation	Shane Webb
David & Christine Rauch	Larry & Dr. Nancy O'Reilly	Sharon Faulkner
David & Gloria Roling	Leonard & Kay Million	SMC Packaging Group
David & Kathleen Hutchison	Liberty Bank	Springfield Plateau Grotto
David O'Reilly	Lisa Turner	Springfield Rotary Club
DeDe Vest	Lois & Cleo Hanson	Springfield Underground
Derek Martin	Loring & Carol Bullard	Steak n Shake
Dickerson Park Zoo	Mark & Sharon Gott	Steve Owens
Doug & Rae Nickell	Marla Calico	Stuart Wetzel
Dr. Duane Addleman	Matt & Sara Keener	Sunbelt Environmental Services
Dr. Sally Hubbard	Meeks	Ted & Cathie Gearing
Duane & Anita McConnell	Megan & Sean Terry	Ted & Rachel Hillmer
EIERA	Michael & Jan Wooten	Terry & Jeannene Whaley
Environmental Works	Michael & Kelly Guenther	Todd & Betty Parnell
Erin & Amy Austin	Mike Finch	UMB Bank
Erin Hutchison	Mike & Ann Howell	US Bank
Fred & Jean Palmerton	Mike & Mary Chiles	Wade Stinson
Gail Emrie	Mike & Mary Kromrey	Wal-Mart Foundation
Gary & Marti Buckley	Mike Jungers	Wild Horse Development
Gayle Harper	Mona Menezes	William & Maret E. Cheek
Great Southern Bank	Mr. & Mrs. Ross Ausburn	Wright Water Engineers

These reflect Watershed Center Capital Campaign donations received from the years 2005-2012

## Revenue 2015



## Expenses 2015



## Grant Activity

<b>Grant Project</b>	<b>Date initiated</b>	<b>Total Grant</b>	<b>Non-Local Funds</b>
Greene County GIS Project	1988	\$325,000	\$235,500
Fulbright Spring Monitoring System	1989	\$40,000	\$20,000
Fellows-McDaniel Lakes 319 Project	1992	\$119,000	\$63,000
McDaniel Lake Remediation Project	1993	\$66,621	\$40,500
Fulbright Spring 319 Project	1996	\$190,000	\$100,000
Splash Exhibit for Discovery Center	1997	\$6,800	\$3,500
Little Sac River Pollution Study	1999	\$145,000	\$140,000
Discovery Center Project	1999	\$205,000	\$125,000
Adopt-A-Spring Volunteer Initiative	2000	\$12,000	\$4,900
Little Sac Restoration 319 Project	2000	\$625,000	\$343,500
Show-Me Yards & Neighborhoods	2000	\$8,475	\$4,975
Valley Water Mill 319 Project	2001	\$920,838	\$480,000
Cause Marketing for Clean Water	2001	\$8,334	\$5,000
Radio Promotion White River Basin	2001	\$8,334	\$5,000
Show-Me Yards & Neighborhoods II	2002	\$8,350	\$5,000
Time to Come Clean Awareness	2002	\$8,334	\$5,000
Show-Me Yards & Neighborhoods Tips	2002	\$8,334	\$5,000
Recreational Trails Program	2003	\$84,500	\$42,500
Jordan Creek Education Event	2003	\$2,315	\$0
Science Based Field Trip Grant	2003	\$4,000	\$0
Watershed Center	2003	\$447,000	\$447,000
Watershed Center	2004	\$994,600	\$994,600
Community On-Site	2006	\$309,650	\$185,750
Water Quality Improvement Grant	2006	\$400,000	\$400,000
LAD	2006	\$5,000	\$0
CFO Streamside Learning Station	2006	\$20,000	\$0
CFO Wetland/Curricula Grant	2006	\$22,288	\$0
LAD Interpretive Signage	2007	\$3,500	\$0
Rotary Service Grant	2007	\$500	\$0
Rotary Service Grant-Southeast	2007	\$1,000	\$0
Corporate Agency Partnership Program-			
Fishing Piers	2007	\$49,500	\$0
LAD Forestry Learning Station	2007	\$5,000	\$0
CFO Fishing Piers Grant	2007	\$30,000	\$0



## Grant Activity (continued)

<b>Grant Project</b>	<b>Date initiated</b>	<b>Total Grant</b>	<b>Non-Local Funds</b>
Watershed Mgmt Planning Grant	2007	\$15,000	\$0
MO Recreational Trails Grant	2007	\$142,000	\$100,000
Rotary Service Grant-Southeast	2008	\$4,500	\$0
USDA-NRCS CIG Grant	2010	\$100,000	\$50,000
Missouri Solid Waste Mgmt. District O Grant	2010	\$46,350	\$46,350
LAD Foundation	2010	\$4,000	\$4,000
DNR 319 Nonpoint Source Grant	2011	\$1,869,672	\$ 1,100,000
DNR Recreational Trails Grant	2011	\$ 143,090	\$85,000
Community Foundation of the Ozarks Endowment Grant	2012	\$ 1,000	\$0
Community Foundation of the Ozarks Community Response Challenge Grant	2012	\$ 6,000	\$0
LAD Foundation	2013	\$ 2,000	\$0
Source Water Protection Plan Grant	2013	\$ 15,000	\$ 10,000
DNR 319 Nonpoint Source Grant Amendment	2013	\$166,667	\$100,000
DNR 319 Little Sac Restoration and Improvement Project	2014	\$428,461	\$172,910
Our Missouri Waters Project	2015	\$ 64,000	
MDC Community Conservation Grant	2015	\$ 10,000	
Community Foundation of the Ozarks Community Innovation Grant	2015	\$ 11,000	
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$8,113,013</b>	<b>\$5,323,985</b>

## SPONSOR SUPPORT

<b>Organization</b>	<b>2011</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>
City of Springfield	\$ 45,000	\$ 45,000	\$ 20,000	\$ 45,000	\$ 20,000
City Utilities of Springfield	\$181,840	\$188,000	\$188,000	\$188,000	\$188,000
Greene County	\$ 40,000	\$ 27,500	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000
Springfield-Greene County Parks (Watershed Center Support)	\$ 14,300	\$ 14,300	\$ 14,300	\$ 14,300	\$ 16,000

## For Every Dollar



Keeping our water resources clean and plentiful is the right thing to do for many reasons. Clean water is vital to our personal growth, our community's growth, and our economic growth. Legally, Springfield and Greene County are held accountable for the quality of the water leaving our domain. It is difficult to put a price tag on these important things, but we do know that in the world of water resources, an ounce of prevention is truly worth a pound of cure—local demonstrations of this abound.

Another truism of local water protection is that the Watershed Committee of the Ozarks is a very good investment of our sponsors' (citizens') funds. The three-way agreement of our sponsors leverages every dollar spent by each individual organization from the beginning. This basic sponsor support allows WCO to operate and seek other financial resources for water protection. If you look at "total grant" dollars and compare it to the financial support from our sponsors over the past 5 years (both values are on the previous page), you can begin to quantify our value to the community. Each City, County, or City Utilities dollar resulted in an **\$16.38, \$25.48, and \$3.07 per dollar invested** respectively. This simplistic equation is impressive, but the real financial value provided would be even greater if we included the efficiencies, the funding leverage of the three way agreement, partnerships generated, regulatory cost avoidances, and volunteer resources we provide.



#### OUR MISSION

To sustain and improve the water resources of  
Springfield and Greene County through education  
and effective management of the region's  
watersheds



The WCO—a wise investment with a track record  
of achieving successful outcomes