



We Care About Water

Preserving and Improving Springfield and Greene County Water Supplies Since 1984.

Watershed Committee of the Ozarks-Spring Newsletter 2010

Groundbreaking! by Loring Bullard

The long awaited groundbreaking for the Watershed Center's Education Building took place on June 4, with over 125 people in attendance. The day was sunny and warm and participants enjoyed the shade under the lakeside pavilion during the main part of the ceremony. Many had already gathered there to listen to a presentation by Roddy Rogers of CU on his mission trip to Haiti, where he helped to provide clean drinking water to residents struggling after the earthquake. Roddy's talk reminded us how lucky we are to have ample supplies of safe drinking water here in the U.S.

At 9 A.M., immediately following Roddy's program, Watershed Committee Chair Leslie Carrier kicked off the groundbreaking ceremony. Representatives of City Utilities, Greene County and the city of Springfield, the three sponsors of the Watershed Committee, discussed the importance of clean water and the need to educate our citizens about protecting water supplies. Then the dignitaries grabbed "green" shovels and under the blaring June sun, took part in the momentous symbolic act of breaking ground, the culmination of over ten years of planning and fund-raising and sweating and hard work.

Within a year, the Watershed Center Education Building should be open for business. It will provide public meeting spaces in a LEED-certified, energy and water efficient structure. These indoor spaces, along with the trails, outdoor classrooms and demonstration features already in place on the 100-acre site, will make the Watershed Center a one-of-a-kind water education facility for Missouri and the Midwest.

Thank you to all those who have kept faith during the journey-for those who have believed in the project and supported it, financially or otherwise-for those who served on the Task Force and Steering Committee and Board-those who volunteered to build trails or labor on projects or teach students and others about water-and for those who understand the critical nature of a clean water legacy for our children, and grandchildren. Thank you again-we couldn't have done it without you!



Watershed Center Donors

The Watershed Committee of the Ozarks would like to recognize and thank Mr. & Mrs. Reynaldo J. Gumucio for their recent \$5,000 donation to the Watershed Center.



We would also like to thank the following donors for their help with the Watershed Center building project:

3-M Foundation	Greene County	O & S Trucking
Artistic Resources in Action	Greater Ozarks Audubon Society	Paul & Judy McCune
Barbara J. Lucks & Gregg J. Larsen	Jodie Adams	Palmerton & Parrish, Inc.
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City Utilities of Springfield	John & Culah Nixon	Sara Lampe
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Derek Martin	Matt & Sara Keener	Sunbelt Environmental Services
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Dr. Sally Hubbard	Michael & Jan Wooten	Terry & Jeannene Whaley
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Gail Emrie	Mike & Mary Kromrey	Wild Horse Development
Gary & Marti Buckley	Mona Menezes	Wright Water Engineers
Gayle Harper	Mr. & Mrs. Charles Bachus	William H. & Maret E. Cheek
Great Southern Bank	Mr. & Mrs. Ross Ausburn	

Rain Barrels for Sale

The Watershed Committee has a limited number of Rain Barrels for sale. There is only one Amphora left (the one that looks like a big vase), and one Column rain barrel, but we have several of the green and tan rain barrels. The green and tan rain barrels come in 55, 80 and 140 gallon sizes and are either square or round. Prices range from \$7.00 to \$111.00. You can order the barrel only, the barrel and stand or the Kit. Rain Barrel Kits come with the barrel, stand, spigot, safety locks and gutter diverter and tubing. The Rain Barrel Order Form is attached. If you have any questions, please call the office at 417-866-1127.

The barrels are stored at Valley Water Mill Park. After your purchase, you can arrange for pick up at our office.



14th Annual Ag Tour by Loring Bullard

This year, the annual agricultural tour sponsored by Congressman Roy Blunt was held in June, rather than in August, as in the past. If the change was meant to avoid the heat-it didn't work. Regardless, as usual, the tour was interesting, informative and well-orchestrated. There were lots of take-home messages from Day One, which I attended. For example, the McCanns, beef cattle farmers in Lawrence County, and the Lucariellos, who grow chickens for Tyson, both spoke on the importance of clean water supplies for their animals. The McCanns use rotational grazing in large (10+ acre) paddocks, providing well water to their tanks rather than giving cattle access to ponds, which might be polluted and spread diseases. The chicken growers use clean, disinfected drinking water for their birds and thus, together with good ventilation and temperature and dust control, have been able to nearly eliminate the need for antibiotics. The most astounding fact, however, originated from a tour of the McBride koi farm near Neosho. People actually pay up to \$500 for individual fish they view on the Internet, which the farm ships by overnight mail. Imagine-a half grand, for a colorful carp!

**Monthly meetings of the Watershed Committee are held the
first Friday of each month.**

**7:30 a.m. at the Midtown Carnegie Branch Library
397 E. Central Springfield MO**

**Watershed Committee
of the Ozarks**

2010 Board

Leslie Carrier, *Chair*
Robin Melton, *Vice Chair*
Stuart Murr, *Secretary*
Michael Bridges
Ted Hillmer
William H. Cheek

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Loring Bullard, *Director*
Matt Keener, *Operations
Manager*
Mike Kromrey, *Education
Outreach Coordinator*
Stacey Armstrong, *Projects
Coordinator*
Kelly Guenther, *Office
Manager*

WQIP Workshop: Wastewater and Karst by Stacey Armstrong

The Watershed Committee held an Onsite Wastewater Workshop focusing on “Wastewater and Karst” May 18th at Fantastic Caverns. The Workshop presenters included a soil scientist, water quality specialist, and a karst conservation consultant. They discussed a variety of wastewater system technologies and the importance of maintaining systems. A tour of Fantastic Caverns was provided to the participants following the workshop.

Partnering organizations included: Environmental Resources Coalition, James River Basin Partnership, Greene County, and Table Rock Lake Water Quality, Inc.

Watershed Committee of the Ozarks is sponsored by:
City Utilities of Springfield, Greene County & City of Springfield

For more information about the Watershed Committee, Watershed Center, Our Projects and Upcoming Events, please visit our website at:
www.watershedcommittee.org



Watershed Committee of the Ozarks
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