



2014 Annual Report

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

3 Board and Staff List

4 Letter from Executive Director

5 Preface

## Chapter I—Education and Outreach

6 Website and Media

7 Watershed Center Education and Outreach

8 Outreach Programs

9 Educational Partnerships

10 College Programs

11 Monthly Meeting Program List

## Chapter II—Projects and Management

12 The Big Urbie: Overview

13 The Big Urbie: Projects

14 Big Urbie Projects Continued

15 Little Sac Restoration and Improvement Project

16 Various Project Summaries

## Chapter III—People

20 Staff Development and Professional Involvement

22 30th Anniversary Celebration

24 Volunteers & Volunteering

27 Our Board

## Chapter IV—Funding

29 Summary of Funds and Funding

30 Our Generous 2014 Donors

31 C.W. Titus Education Facility Donors

32 2014 Revenue and Expenses

33 Grant Activity

35 For Every Dollar

Cover Photo: Fellows Lake by Aaron Scott

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



## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Dan Hoy, Chair

Bridget Dierks, Vice Chair

Stuart Murr, Secretary

Michael Bridges

Keran Lemons

Scott Bratcher

## STAFF

Mike Kromrey, Executive Director

Stacey Armstrong, Projects Manager

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, 2014](#)

## Dear Friends,

What a year! On behalf of the board and staff, thank you for helping us make 2014 a resounding success. We completed many remarkable projects, expanded our education and outreach efforts, and celebrated our 30th anniversary in style!

Our 30th Anniversary was a great occasion to reflect on our history—it also served as a reminder to plan for the future. What will the next 30 years bring? In the near future our water resources will continue to be shared among more and more people, and water resources will likely be governed by more and stricter regulations. Additional stressors to our watersheds and waterways like impacts from climate change, exotic invasive species, and economic turbulence seem likely when scanning the 30-year horizon. Are we ready?

With a “dream team” staff, a stellar board, and strong sponsors and partnerships, I think we are as ready as we can be. We will continue pursuing our mission, and ultimately the sustainability and resiliency of both the community and our organization. We must not forget that we need to continually invest in our water resources to keep the trend of improvement continuing, and safeguard these resources for future generations. You help make water protection possible. Thank you!

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 2014 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

**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.

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

## Website and Media

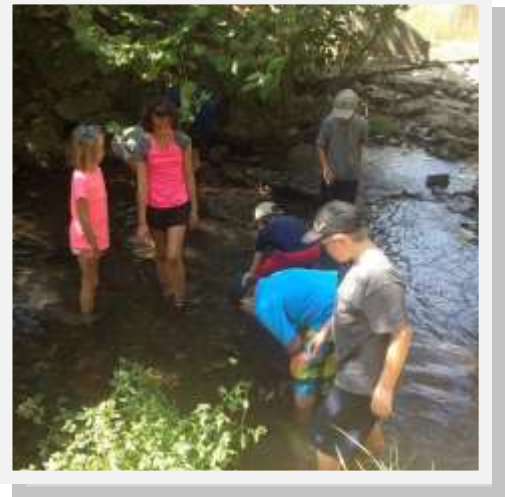
We strive to reach as many people as possible with current issues, ideas, and topics in the realm of water protection. Website and social media presence has become an increasingly important platform for education and outreach in our society, and we have responded. This year, we:

- Increased Facebook presence and increased “likes” from 329 to 538 during the year
- Wrote over 60 blog articles which were posted on our website and Facebook
- Involved the whole staff with writing the successful “Water Wednesday” blog series
- 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 circulates to about 350 supporters
- Developed an online field trip request form to streamline the field trip experience

## Watershed Center Education and Outreach

This year we hosted more field trips than ever before! We are continuing to grow and reach new schools and groups that are coming out to use our facility, and we hope to continue to connect with schools that have never had the opportunity to visit us. Notably, Missouri State University started using the Watershed Center for their Introduction to Biology Lab so the students could study stream ecology. For a week in the fall, we had multiple classes per day coming out from MSU on top of field trips from Nixa High School. It is wonderful to see so many students learning hands-on at the Watershed Center and solidifying what a great need it has filled in our community.

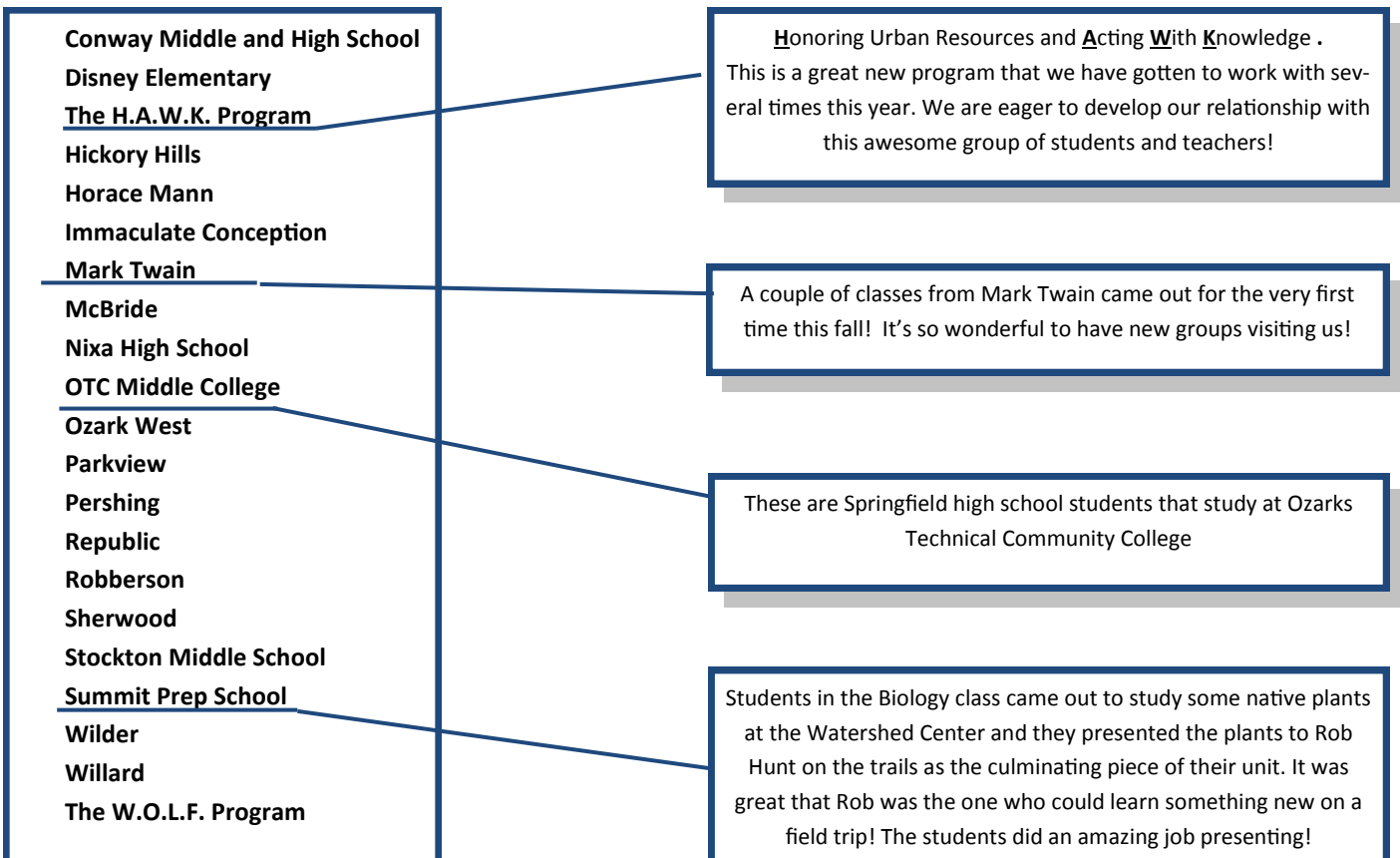
Below is a list of the schools that we had the chance to work with this year at the Watershed Center!



W.O.L.F. students on a field trip at the Watershed Center

### K-12 School Visits to the Watershed Center

### Some Highlights





## Jordan Creek Tours

We took more Jordan Creek tours than ever this year (nearly 20) and reached a much broader audience. On two occasions, Rob Hunt, Watershed Center Coordinator gave homeschool students a Jordan Creek Tour with their parents. He also lead tours for the high school students in the Missouri State University Public Affairs Academy, the staff of the Springfield News-Leader, staff from regional public schools, KRAFT Foods employees, Residents Hall Assistants from MSU, and students in the H.A.W.K. (Honoring Urban Resources and Acting with Knowledge) program.

On these tours through the Jordan Creek storm drains, WCO staff talk about the natural and cultural history of the creek and the impacts of stormwater and urbanization. The tours can be exciting and sometimes we see the wildlife that still make their home in the creek; we've seen bullfrogs, a snapping turtle, a big Northern Water Snake, and many catfish, bats, and minnows.

If you are interested in a tour, contact Rob Hunt at [rob@watershedcommittee.org](mailto:rob@watershedcommittee.org) or call 417-833-8525. As usual, if you have a group, we can schedule the tour to fit your needs. A big thanks to Sandi Schulz and Tayler Kurtzman for helping lead several tours this year.



Rob Hunt leading the Midtown Carnegie Library staff on a Jordan Creek Tour

## Medicine Take-Back Event

As part of a nationwide campaign by the Drug Enforcement Agency, Ozark Area Pharmacy Association hosted medication take-back events on Saturday April 26<sup>th</sup> and Saturday, September 27, 2014, 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. These events collected a combined total of over 2,000 pounds of expired or unused prescriptions! Proper disposal of these medications helps to prevent possible misuse while also keeping them from harming our drinking water supply.

## Choose Environmental Excellence Awards

Commercial Metals Company (CMC) Recycling has grown into an industry leader whose success has been built by committing to the highest ethical, legal, environmental, safety, and customer service standards. This ongoing commitment is exhibited by the CMC facility in downtown Springfield near Hammons field. Millions of pounds of "scrap" metal from Springfield and the surrounding area are safely processed by CMC so this valuable resource can be recycled. In addition to providing this service, CMC has become a sustaining sponsor of the Watershed Committee of the Ozarks in honor of our 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of protecting the Community's drinking water.



Mike presenting CEE award to Commercial Metals Recycling



## Educational Partnerships

### *Partners*

We strive to work with our educational partners throughout the community in order to bring quality outreach to people. Our list of partners includes:

- Ozarks Technical Community College
- Missouri State University
- Springfield Public Schools
- The Springfield Art Museum
- Wonders of the Ozarks Learning Facility (WOLF)
- Honoring Urban Resources and Acting With Knowledge (HAWK)
- Springfield Greene County Park Board
- The Botanical Center
- Interpreters Coalition
- Outdoor Initiatives
- The Discovery Center of Springfield
- Wonders of Wildlife
- The Missouri Master Naturalists, Springfield Plateau Chapter



W.O.L.F. Students on a fall field trip at the Watershed Center

### *Homeschool Outdoor Fair*

We have called this by many names in the past couple of years, but the Homeschool Outdoor Fair has really hit its stride in 2014 with the largest attendance yet-nearly 300 homeschoolers and family members, gathered at the Watershed Center and Valley Water Mill Equestrian Center for the event. We have worked hard as a community of environmental educators to reach out to the homeschool community in our region and state, and the work is starting to pay off. Although our first few events had lower attendance, we are witnessing a snowball effect; the more events we host, the more familiar people become with the event, the larger the attendance, and so on. 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.

### *Valley Water Mill Equestrian Center*

This summer we worked every week with a group of ten or so students who were attending horse camp at the Equestrian Center. In the middle of a week of learning basic horsemanship skills at the Equestrian Center, the students would take a break to explore the rest of the valley. We hiked around the lake at the Watershed Center, equipped with backpacks, binoculars, bug catchers, and compasses (thanks to the generosity of Bass Pro Shops). We studied the watershed on a large scale by looking at the South Dry Sac and its surrounding valley, and on a smaller scale by catching and observing damsel flies and other critters.



Backpacks and supplies donated by Bass Pro Shops

## Colleges

We have worked with local college groups in a variety of ways: on volunteer days, classroom visits, and Watershed Center field trips. Groups that visit often use the Watershed Center for lab activities doing everything from identifying trees, to assessing forests, to testing stream chemistry and biological diversity. Colleges often provide a helping hand with special projects and site maintenance.

**Drury University** provided several services throughout the year. **Dr. Sean Terry** lent us his students for a variety of projects, from photography to videography, social media plans to site maps. These hard-working students provided some excellent content for our website. On top of all of their great service, we had the chance to visit with classes that focused on Forestry, Water Conservation, and Multimedia.

**Missouri State University** has been a constant presence at the Watershed Center this year, with more class visits than ever. We had a bunch of help this fall from MSU students who spent the better part of a week, visiting in shifts, staining and cleaning the outside of our building which looks better than ever now! We also had the chance to work with several classes at the Watershed Center and on campus, including:

- Introduction to Biology
- Conservation Biology
- Earth Science for Teachers
- Public Affairs Academy
- Residents Life Sustainability Group
- Science for Elementary Teachers
- Biology Senior Seminar
- Stormwater Management for Educators



Volunteer Nicole Boucher helping at Discover Engineering Day at MSU

All of these groups were a joy to work with and I am currently training several volunteers that were recruited during these outreach events. It has been an investment of time that is paying dividends.

## Year at a Glance-Education and Outreach

	<b>2013</b>	<b>2014</b>
<b>Participants Visiting Watershed Center</b>	<b>1,605</b>	<b>4,639</b>
Event Bookings (Excluding Field Trips)	53	49
Watershed Center Field Trips	53	71
Volunteer Hours Logged	1,626	2,705
Booths at Community Events	6	11
Jordan Creek Tours	11	19
Onsite Wastewater Training Center Uses	3	8
Blog Posts	92	75 (including 33 Water Wednesday Posts)

## Monthly Meetings

Every first Friday of the month, the WCO continues our long tradition of gathering community stakeholders together to learn about water-related topics. In spite of the 7:30 am meeting time, over 500 attended in 2014. 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 2014 were:

- **January:** “Tri-State Water Resources Coalition Update,” Harry Styron, Director, Tri-State Water Resources Coalition
- **February:** “Asher Creek and Conservation Innovation Grant Project Reviews,” Will Rhodes, Greene County Soil and Water District, Adam Millsap, Urban Roots Farm, and Curtis Millsap, Millsap Farm
- **March:** “The Big Urbie (Springfield-Greene County Urban Watershed Stewardship Project) Grant Update,” Stacey Armstrong, Projects Manager, Watershed Committee of the Ozarks
- **April:** “Riparian Restoration and Protection: 4 Years of Implementation,” Joe Pitts, Director, James River Basin Partnership and Terry Whaley, Director, Ozark Greenways
- **May:** “The Integrated Plan,” Erin Kemper, PE, D.WRE, Assistant Director, Department of Environmental Services, City of Springfield
- **June:** “Freshwater Conservation in Missouri: The Nature Conservancy’s Perspective,” Todd Sampsell, Missouri State Director, The Nature Conservancy
- **July: Meeting cancelled in observance of 4th of July**
- **August:** “Local Food and Water,” Angela Jenkins, Registered Dietician at Cox Health
- **September:** “Ozarks Water Watch Update,” David Casaletto, Director, Ozarks Water Watch
- **October:** “Watershed Center Education, Outreach & Partnerships,” Rob Hunt, Watershed Center Coordinator, Watershed Committee of the Ozarks
- **November:** “City Update on Overflow Control Plan,” Barbara Lucks, Sustainability Officer, Department of Environmental Services, City of Springfield
- **December:** “Snapshot Sample of the James River,” Loring Bullard



Loring Bullard presenting at the December Monthly Meeting





# Projects and Management

**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.

*Pictured: Pervious pavement being installed at Boyd Elementary School with Big Urbie funds*

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

In May 2011, the 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 includes 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 is funded by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency under Section 319 of the Clean Water Act, and is 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 grant requires a match of



## The Big Urbie (continued)

funds and in-kind services that bring 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 will allow more stormwater improvement projects to be completed.

The Section 319 grant implements stormwater practices that reduce and treat runoff from streets, buildings and parking lots, thereby protecting area streams, lakes, and springs. The improvements will be implemented at homes, business, schools, and community parks located in the South Creek, Fassnight Creek, Jordan Creek, and Pea Ridge Creek watersheds. The grant will also monitor the water quality before and after the improvements are built. This will allow local experts to measure the effectiveness of these natural solutions for reducing, absorbing and treating stormwater runoff.

## Big Urbie: Stormwater Water Quality Improvement Projects:

During the 2014 calendar year, several stormwater water quality projects were completed including rain gardens, tree box filters, bioswales, riparian corridor improvements and designs for LID (low impact development) stormwater best management practices.

- 4 Big Urbie Clean-ups with a total of 134 volunteers
- 5 volunteer planting days with a total of 98 volunteers
- Partnered with Springfield Public Schools to construct pervious pavement parking lots at Boyd Elementary and Roberson Elementary consisting of a gravel infiltration swales, native vegetation and rain barrels
- Constructed new detention basin stormwater improvements at Missouri State University and Drury University to promote infiltration
- Partnered with MSU Campus Construction Team, Facilities Management, and Students for Sustainability Commission to construct a 20,000 gallon rainwater collection system at the William H. Darr School of Agriculture. This innovative project utilizes rainwater collected from the roof for dust suppression inside the Pinegar Arena
- Funding from Big Urbie allowed the City Streets Department to construct their first pervious pavement parking lot
- Partnered with Missouri Department of Conservation to install a pervious paver patio at Homegrown Grocery
- Partnered with Gilardi's Restaurant to collect 1,700 gallons of rainwater from their roof to help water their vegetable and herb gardens
- Constructed a rain garden with native plants for Messiah Lutheran Church
- Project WET (Water Education for Teachers) held a two-day course Stormwater Management for Educators course at Missouri State University June
- Two parking lots at the City Government Plaza will be retrofitted with pervious pavement, rain gardens, and a bioswale that will allow rainwater to soak into the ground and be used and naturally filtered by soil, plants, and trees
- Held 4 Big Urbie Steering Committee Meetings



Rain water harvesting system at Gilardi's Restaurant

## The Big Urbie, Projects Implemented (continued)



Newly constructed stormwater detention basin at Missouri State University



Messiah Lutheran Church rain garden



Drury detention basin will also monitor water quality



20,000 gallon rainwater collection system installation at the William H. Darr School of Agriculture



City Government Plaza, Phase 1, under construction



Phase 1 near completion at City Government Plaza



## 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** will be 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 HUC 12 watershed in Greene County (Upper Little Sac River) will be the project focus area and include 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 (with an approximate total of 240 acres already completed)
- 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 nonpoint 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 has provided biological monitoring data and cost share support.



LSRIP Target Area



Prescribed grazing system installed including alternative watering device (center)

## 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 between May 20<sup>th</sup> and August 26<sup>th</sup>, 2014 and results can be found at <http://health.springfieldmo.gov/index.aspx?NID=218>

## 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 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.



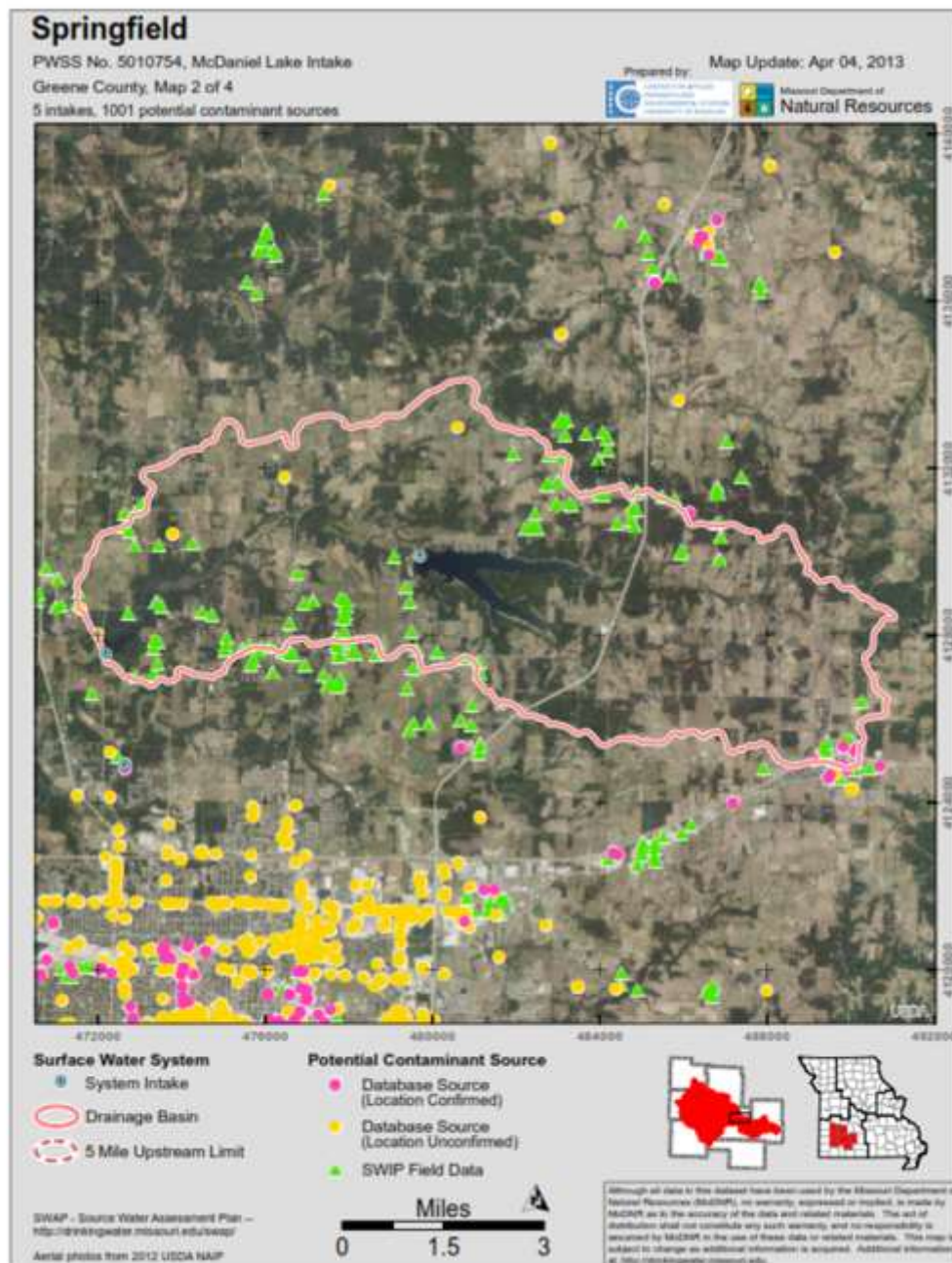
Hydrilla is a highly invasive aquatic plant that has caused billions of dollars in damages in parts of the United States where it has become established.



## Source Water Protection Plan

WCO partnered with City Utilities and a steering committee of local experts to develop a comprehensive voluntary Source Water Protection Plan which includes an inventory list of potential contaminant sources. The plan is largely focused on pollution prevention and includes action goals to guide future source water protection actions for our community. In October 2014 the plan was reviewed and accepted by the Missouri Department of Natural Resources. You can view the Source Water Protection Plan on the WCO publications page at [www.watershedcommittee.org](http://www.watershedcommittee.org).

Special thanks goes out to the steering committee members Roddy Rogers, Cynthia Brookshire, Sean Terry, Vanessa Brandon, DeDe Vest, Janet Hicks, Tim Davis, Sarah Davis, and John Waitman for their assistance with developing the plan.



Example page from the Source Water Protection Plan

## Watershed Center Site Projects

### Big Projects

We had a big year of improvements and maintenance projects at the Watershed Center. Two major projects we were able to accomplish this year fixed two of our biggest challenges at the building. The first challenge was that the building would take on a little bit of water when we received more than an inch during a single rain event. We worked with Chris Carson from Carson Mitchell Construction, Dan Hoy, our Board President, from Bass Pro, and John Williams from Greene County to develop a solution to move water away from the building (a very common issue with new buildings) but still handle that runoff in a responsible manner. The result was a stormwater infiltration trench that runs on the south side of the building and takes water around the building and into our wetland cell for natural treatment. We are committed to keeping runoff out of the lake!



South side of C.W. Titus Education Center flooding, before site improvements



Same view, during a similar rain event, after improvements

Another issue we have battled since the building first went up is the heating in the attached restrooms. The large block building requires a lot of heat to keep the pipes from freezing and to make it comfortable. As we focused on making the building more efficient and sustainable, these restrooms remained a thorn in our side. We gathered our trusted advisors, Dan Hoy, Stuart Murr, and Chris Carson to brainstorm solutions, and the most obvious and immediate solution was to put box fans in the bathroom building to push the heat down to the floor level instead of letting it stay up next to the ceiling. We tried the box fan experiment and helped, so this fall we installed industrial ceiling fans in the restrooms. This project was a big step toward our desire to be efficient and sustainable and keep our energy bills low.

## The L-A-D Grant

At the end of 2013, we were awarded an L-A-D Foundation grant to complete a Savannah Learning Station and habitat restoration. We set off last spring by working with Ryan Lawn and Tree who donated the use of equipment and an employee to clear some of the trail area of big brush and make a mulch pile. The Master Naturalists helped us assess which trees should be kept once the area was opened up. We hired a clearing service to cut small trees and brush down to the ground so that grasses and flowers could grow. Over the summer, we monitored the results and now we are prepared for the next stage of installing a new sign and building a mulch trail in a loop through the savannah area on top of the hill. We are excited to see how this project turns out in 2015.



Future Savannah Learning Station area



MSU Volunteers

## Smaller Projects

We had a lot of help from volunteers to accomplish some smaller and ongoing goals. We resealed the education facility siding this fall with help from several groups of college students. The beautiful cedar siding has been restored and the building looks better than it ever has! We also got to do some work on the rain garden and on our prairie project. New seeds were planted, weeds were pulled, and the landscaping is looking very nice and we are excited for Spring! Out on the trail, a couple groups of ambitious volunteers tackled everything from mulching the far corners of the trail network to removing invasive winter creeper to scrubbing our signs, so the trails are looking incredible. On top of all of this, we had a couple of nice touches added, like a trail that goes between bird feeders, and we were able to replace a couple of our most weathered learning station signs. Overall, we are looking sharp out there.

## Upcoming Projects

For 2015, we have our sights set on a few new learning stations with new interpretive signs. More details to come, we don't want to ruin the surprise! We are also bound and determined to fix up our wavy boardwalk along the east side of the lake. We are meeting with our advisers again to discuss some options and look for a solution. This coming year promises to have us looking even better at the Watershed Center.





# People

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.

Above: Mike Kromrey and Bridget Dierks with Governor Jay Nixon and MDNR Director Sarah Parker-Pauley

## Staff Development and Professional Involvement

Mike Kromrey had a busy year with professional development and community involvement. In 2014 he graduated with Leadership Springfield Class 29, was a member of the Ozarks Regional Food Policy Council and co-chaired the Sustainable Ecosystems subcommittee, a member of the Sustainability Advisory Committee, the Biology Department Advisory Board, and the Professional Science Master's Program advisory council at MSU, was a member of the Our Missouri Water's Advisory Committee and "The Director's Kitchen Cabinet" for the Missouri Department of Natural Resources, and spoke at several meetings and events.



Leadership Springfield Class 29



## Staff Development and Professional Involvement (continued)

All staff attended Ozark Water Watch's "Celebration of Clean Water" conference in Branson and Mike Kromrey gave a presentation about the Watershed Committee's accomplishments, highlighting our 30 Year Anniversary. The whole staff also got to hear Chad Pegracke, CNN's Hero of the Year, speak at Glendale High School. Chad Pegracke founded Living Lands & Waters whose mission is to clean up the great rivers of the United States and involve and excite people about water stewardship. Mike Kromrey and Stacey Armstrong also attended Congressman Bill Long's Ag Tour which included several site visits to local farms.

Stacey Armstrong attended the Blue Pathways: Regional and Adapted Plants for Stormwater Design Workshop in Fayetteville, Arkansas March 11<sup>th</sup>. The workshop included native plant terminology while emphasizing the benefits and limitations of native vegetation for stormwater projects. Stacey also attended the 'Celebration of Water Conference' June 11<sup>th</sup> Branson, MO and the Governor's Conference on Natural Resources: Exploring Our Legacy and Charting Our Future on November 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup>.

Rob Hunt has been representing the Watershed Committee of the Ozarks as part of several professional organizations, including the Interpreters Coalition, Environmental Collaborative, Project WET, Project WILD, and Project Learning Tree. As part of his involvement with these organizations, Rob has been able help plan workshops and events, including the Homeschool Outdoor Fair and the Fresh and Fun to the CORE.

## WCO honored by Governor Jay Nixon

We got it! On November 12, the Watershed Committee of the Ozarks received the Governor's Award of Excellence for dedication in enhancing Missouri's natural resources. At the award banquet, which was part of the larger natural resources conference, John L. Morris and Governor Jay Nixon spoke passionately about the protection of our natural resources and Gov. Nixon and Sarah Parker Pauley, Director of the MDNR made the presentation.

As we are concluding our 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary, the recognition was especially welcome and sweet, because it is shared with so many volunteers, board members, staff members, and the long-time investment of our sponsors and community. Our collective impact has been positive, noticeable, and truly the result of partnerships and teamwork. It seems like a good book end to mark our last 30 years, and begin the next...



Mike Kromrey presenting at the "Celebration of Clean Water" conference



Mike Kromrey and Bridget Dierks pictured with Governor's Award Excellence recipients and Sarah Parker Pauley

## Watershed Committee of the Ozarks 30th Anniversary Celebration

On Saturday, July 12, 2014, the WCO hosted our 30th Anniversary Celebration and Fundraiser at the Springfield Art Museum. The event featured a “clean water for life” photo exhibit, 30th anniversary video premier, Water Color USA, live music, local beer and wine, great local food, a marvelous silent auction, and more. Thanks to the support of our sponsors, donors, artists and patrons, we were able to exceed our goal of raising \$30,000 for our 30th anniversary. The proceeds from the event will help us expand our education and outreach efforts at the Watershed Center.

The resounding feedback from patrons of the event is that it was a great time—and that we should do it again next year. Another positive outcome of the event was widening our circle of friends. Quite a few people were there who had never interacted with our organization.





# THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS

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## Volunteering

We have had a great round of volunteers this year. In the spring, **Carissa Price** from Drury, **Kashia Schultz** from Evangel, and **Hannah Ingram and Bethany Frick** from Missouri State University, all worked on volunteering for college internship programs. Carissa helped us plan and build a few new floating wetlands and Kashia helped at a variety of events and workdays throughout the spring. Hannah and Bethany were critical in keeping the building open and nice and tidy. All of these students were such a treat to work with. We also got to work with **Levi Decker and Crawford Bassack** who have been coming every week and helping with everything from data entry to making field notebooks for students to use field trips. In the fall, we started working with **Chris Brewer** who comes out twice a week to help out with a variety of tasks, but especially honey suckle removal.

**Sandi Schulz** is an intern that drives in from near Branson to help with field trips, curriculum design, and classroom visits. On Jordan Creek Tours, we have had the help of **Taylor Kurtzman**, who is an Urban Explorer who latched on to the history and lore of the Jordan Creek tunnels. Of course, we have also been working a lot with **Nicole Boucher** who is pursuing her degree at Missouri State University and has been a faithful volunteer for years. As usual, we are incredibly lucky with the quality of volunteers we have gotten to work with.



MSU Bear service volunteers



Staff and volunteers at Watershed Center Family Fun Day



MSU Jordan Creek clean up



MSU students working on the building

## 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 huge crew of around 50 City Utilities employees. They got to work fixing a trail section, staining the pavilion, adding gravel to soggy spots on the trail, and a whole lot more. We greatly appreciate the work that they all did, but perhaps the most rewarding part of the visit was getting to show them what we do. As one of our sponsors, City Utilities' employees have a real connection to Watershed Committee and the Watershed Center. Many of the employees had never been out to our site, and it was very rewarding to see them get excited about this beautiful place they had never seen.



United Way Day of Caring, City Utilities employees volunteering at the Watershed Center



United Way Day of Caring, City Utilities employees volunteering at the Watershed Center

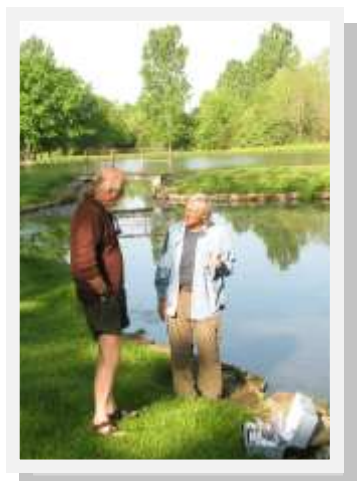


United Way Day of Caring, City Utilities employees volunteering at the Watershed Center

## 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.

Volunteer Bob Ranney explaining the Adopt-A-Spring program





## Volunteering (continued)

### Individual Volunteers

**Devon Bench** was studying at Drury at the time of her summer internship, and she was a major asset. We also got to work with **Carissa Price** from the school, and she helped us move forward on our ever-perplexing floating wetland project, along with help from several Drury students on a couple of productive work days.

**Haley Smith** and **Kelly Dunlap** are MSU students who worked with us this summer as well and accomplished a lot in a short time, including helping with several major field trips this summer. Without their help, Rob would have been overwhelmed!

**Nicole Boucher** is also a student at OTC and MSU that continues to amaze us with her generous donations of time and energy to everything from water sampling, to teaching, to working the reception desk, and talking to people at fairs and events.

**Mark Bower** is a new member of the Missouri Master Naturalists, and he has been working hard for the last couple of years on an impressive project finding, photographing, identifying, cataloguing, and publishing information about the fungi and slime molds of Valley Water Mill Park. While he didn't give an exact number, it's safe to say that Mark dedicated hundreds of hours over the past year. Pictured below are his books.



Interns with Rob at the Watershed Center this summer





## Volunteering (continued)

### Our Board



#### Dan Hoy, Chair

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.

*1st Term Expires December 2016*



#### Bridget Dierks, Vice 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*



#### Stuart Murr, Secretary

Stuart Murr is the owner of Smart Designs, a company committed to the design and construction of high-quality, environmentally responsible homes. Stuart grew up in Cabool, Missouri and graduated from Drury University in 1997 with a Bachelor of Architecture. As an Intern Architect he worked with Bass Pro Shops and Pellham, Phillips, Hagerman before branching into residential architecture in 2001. In 2005 Stuart formed Smart Designs. Stuart is passionate about preserving the environment, including the quality of water that flows through our beautiful Ozarks lakes and streams and ultimately into our homes for drinking. He is a member of the US Green Building Coalition-Missouri Heartland Chapter, The James River Basin Partnership, and currently sits on the boards of the Ozarks

Green Building Coalition, Greater Springfield Habitat for Humanity, and the Watershed Committee of the Ozarks.

*Greene County Appointed 2nd Term Expires December 2014*



#### Michael Bridges

Michael Bridges, a Springfield area native, is a partner with the law firm of Husch Blackwell LLP. A significant part of his practice involves water-related matters, and he has a long-standing interest in issues pertaining to water quality and availability in the Ozarks. A graduate of the Springfield Chamber's Leadership Springfield program, he is a past president of the Springfield Little Theatre board of directors, a past-chairman of the Springfield Art Museum board, and a past-member of the Springfield Metropolitan Bar Association board. He is a state-certified mediator and has served as a coach at several mediation trainings conducted by the Missouri State University Center for Dispute Resolution.

*City Utilities of Springfield Appointed 2nd Term Expires December 2014*

## Volunteering (continued)

### Our Board



#### Keran Lemons

Keran Lemons, a native of Southwest Missouri, is the Loan Manager for the Springfield Region of Arvest Bank. Growing up hiking, biking, hunting, fishing and participating in all lake activities created a long term interest in the maintenance of the natural resources available in the area. A graduate of Springfield's Leadership Springfield, he has served that organization as president, vice-president, treasurer, secretary, Academy Chair and Kenworthy Award Recipient. Other community organization associations include Greater Springfield Area Chamber of Commerce membership, previously chairing the Ambassador Committee, and as a past board member of the Springfield Family YMCA.

*At-Large 1st Term Expires December 2014*



#### Scott Bratcher

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*

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 31st year!



Pictured from left to right: Michael Bridges, Stacey Armstrong, Rob Hunt, Mike Kromrey, Stuart Murr, Dan Hoy, Bridget Dierks, Kelly Guenther, Scott Bratcher (not pictured Keran Lemons)

# 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

At the Watershed Committee, we continue to successfully leverage funds, create partnerships and receive grants, but to help ensure we can continue our work in the community over the long-term, we are striving to become more financially resilient. 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 the added benefit of providing 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 \$63,000 at the end of the year.

## 30th Anniversary Fundraiser

The Watershed Committee raised over \$30,000 through our 30th Anniversary Event at the Springfield Art Museum. (See 30th anniversary 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 key donations and interest accrued, this year the endowment fund has surpassed the \$10,000 mark required to be a vested account.

## Watershed Center Rentals/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, The Kitchen, Ozark Greenways, James River Basin Partnership, Greater Ozarks Audubon Society, Springfield Plateau Grotto, MO Mycological Society, Child Care Aware, 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. This opportunity is new for 2014 and was rolled out with our 30th anniversary sponsorship packet and Commercial Metals Company has the honor of being the Watershed Committee's first sustaining donor.



## Our Generous 2014 Donors

Aaron Clark	Dave and Elisa Coonrod	Mother's Brewing Company
Aaron Scott	Environmental Works, Inc.	Nate Luke
Allan Lee	GeoEngineers	Ollis & Company
Andrew and Bridget Dierks	James and Janet Gaughn	Pinnacle Sign Group
Andy Austin	Jim and Connie Crain, in memory of Charles Coonrod	Reynaldo Gumucio
Arvest Bank	Jim Mayfield	Tristan Gumucio
Associated Electric Cooperative, Inc.	Jodie Adams	Rob Hunt
Barak Hill	John Coleman	Roseann and John Bentley, in memory of Charles Coonrod
Bass Pro Shops	John and Culah Nixon Family Foundation	Ryan Lawn & Tree
Betty and Gary Lipscomb, in memory of Charles Coonrod	John L. Morris	Ryan McCoy
Bill and Maret Cheek	Jonathan and Karen Jones	Scott Bratcher
Bob Korpella	Keran and Stephanie Lemons	Sheila Sharpe
Bob Linder	Kraft Foods	Springfield Hot Glass
Bob and Barbara Kipfer	Lawrence Photo & Video	Stockton United Methodist Church
Bob and Roberta Ranney	Loretta and Frank Childers, in memory of Charles Coonrod	Stuart Murr
Brian Todd	Loring Bullard	Tal and Rosalie Wooten Family Foundation
Brown Derby Wine Center & Marketplace	Mark Shipley	Tammy Trantham
Bryan Vance	Michael and Kelly Guenther	Tea Bar & Bites
Bud Hogan	Michael Bridges	Terry and Jeanneane Whaley
Calvin and Barbara Armstrong	Mike and Mary Chiles	Tim and Sally Smith
City Utilities of Springfield	Mike, Mary and Eli Kromrey	Todd Wagner
Commercial Metals Company	Mildred S. Wetzel, in memory of Charles Coonrod	
Dan Hoy		

This list reflects donations received January 1—December 31, 2014



Rey Gumucio presenting Mike Kromrey with a large donation and two year's worth of coins saved by his grandson Tristan.

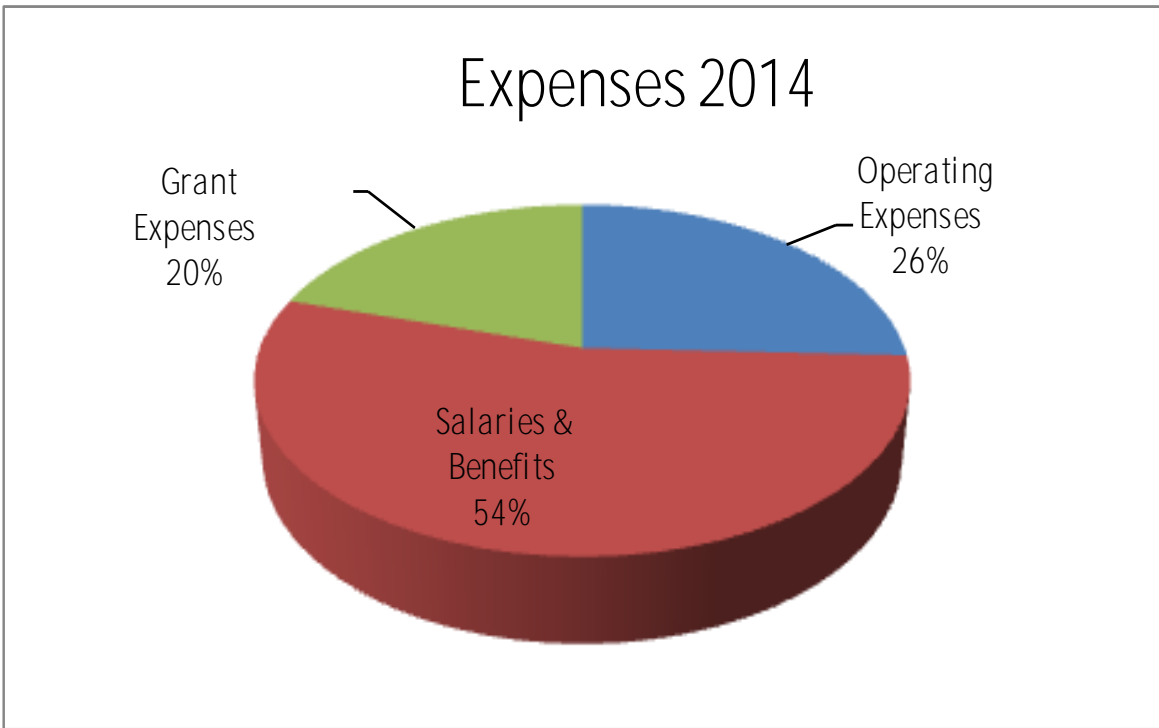
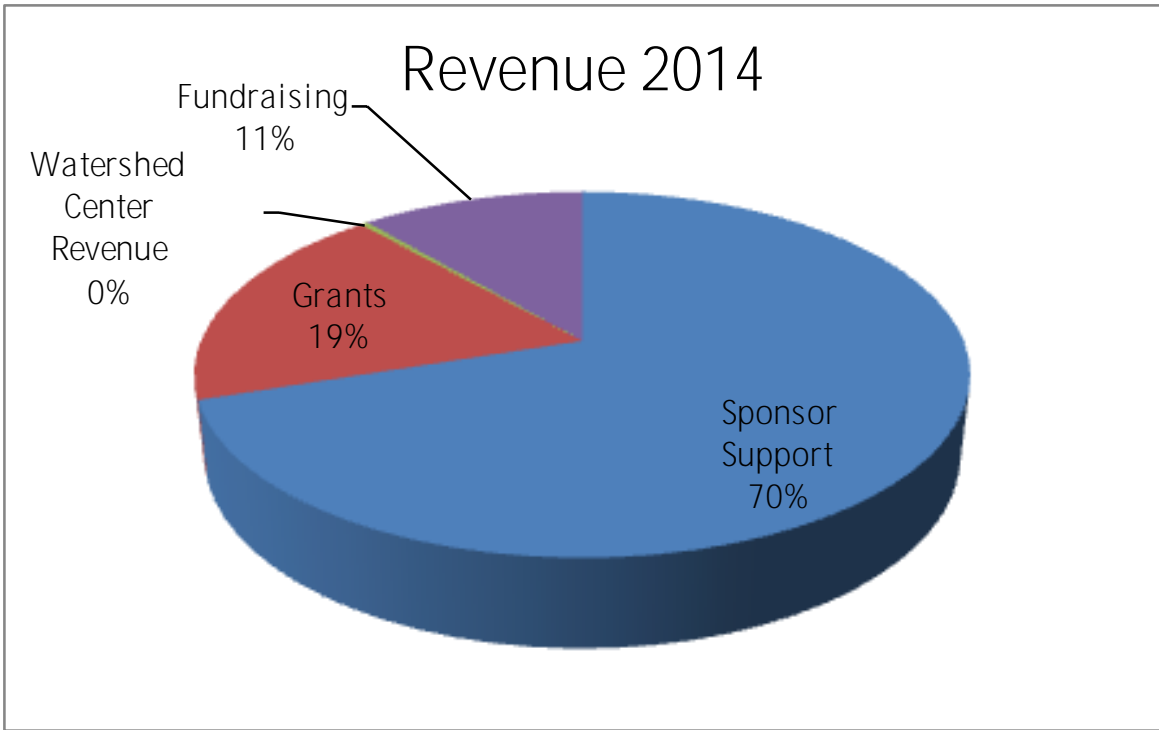


Dave Coonrod made a generous donation and was the GOLD Sponsor of our 30th Anniversary Event

## 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





## Grant Activity

Grant Project	Date initiated	Total Grant	Non-Local Funds
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	\$1,684,900	\$ 1,000,000
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
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$7,843,241</b>	<b>\$5,223,985</b>

## SPONSOR SUPPORT

<b>Organization</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2011</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>2014</b>
City of Springfield	\$ 40,000	\$ 45,000	\$ 45,000	\$ 20,000	\$ 45,000
City Utilities of Springfield	\$150,000	\$181,840	\$188,000	\$188,000	\$188,000
Greene County	\$ 40,000	\$ 40,000	\$ 27,500	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000
Springfield-Greene County Parks Watershed Center Support		\$ 14,300	\$ 14,300	\$ 14,300	\$ 14,300

## 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 **\$13.32, \$18.23, and \$2.90 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.

## Watershed Center Debt Free

The Watershed Center is dream come true for the educational pursuits of our mission, and now the dream is paid off. Watershed Center loan payments were scheduled to continue through 2018, but the leadership of our board and sponsors, especially City Utilities, assisted us in accelerating the payoff schedule, which in turn helped us avoid significant interest costs. The interest dollars saved will help us continue to improve and grow our Watershed Center programs and be more financially sound.

Many past board members and staff who were involved with the capital campaign, or remember seeing the "current liabilities" column on the balance sheet, will probably share in the feeling of gratitude and relief. To all who have helped make this dream come true: thank you from the bottom of our hearts.





#### 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