

# Our Mission

**Watershed Committee of the Ozarks'** mission is to sustain and improve the water resources of Springfield and Greene County through education and effective management of the region's watersheds.

## GET INVOLVED

There are many ways to be involved with Watershed Committee of the Ozarks and our clean water mission:

- X Learn about us by reading this brochure
- Volunteer during cleanups, education events, or fundraisers
- Sign up for our email newsletter and RSS feed
- LIKE our Facebook page to see our updates
- Donate a lot—or a little—to one of our efforts
- Attend our workshops, tours, and field trips
- Visit the Watershed Center to learn and enjoy nature
- Conserve water at home and work
- Reduce runoff at your home and work
- Attend our monthly meeting, held every first Friday

For more information, visit our website or call: (417) 866-1127



### Main Office:

320 North Main Avenue  
Springfield, Missouri 65806  
Phone: (417) 866-1127  
Fax: (417) 866-1918

### Watershed Center:

2450 East Valley Watermill Road  
Springfield, Missouri 65803  
Phone: (417) 833-8525



Scan to visit:  
[WatershedCommittee.org](http://WatershedCommittee.org)



Scan to visit:  
the Watershed Center page on our site

[WATERSHEDCOMMITTEE.ORG](http://WATERSHEDCOMMITTEE.ORG)

*Clean Water  
...for Life*

▲ *Clouds roll in over Fellows Lake*  
(PHOTO BY AARON J SCOTT)



# Clean Water for Life begins with watershed stewardship today.

## ABOUT US

### Background on WCO

In the early 1980s, our community's prosperity and growth began to seriously impact the quality of our drinking water. Community leaders assembled a task force which ultimately recommended a group be formed to **protect our precious water resources**. In 1984, the Watershed Committee of the Ozarks (WCO) emerged as a **501(c)3 nonprofit organization** to fulfill that need. WCO is sponsored by City Utilities, the City of Springfield, and Greene County with a 60/20/20 funding agreement which leverages the dollar of each sponsor. WCO also relies on grants, partnerships, and community support to provide **clean water for healthy people, a healthy environment, and a healthy economy**.

Clean water is part of our heritage, and if we are effective stewards, it will be part of our legacy.

### Community Benefits

- The WCO has proven to be one of the community's best investments—from 2000 to 2010, WCO turned roughly \$2.34 million in funding into more than \$4.27 million by procuring public and private funds for mission-related projects.
- WCO helps the City and County meet state and federal water quality mandates.
- WCO educates many citizens about water resources and **developed the Watershed Center** for the community.
- WCO continually improves the watershed through projects and management.

**A Great Investment**  
Between 2006 and 2012, WCO brought in about **\$3M in grant funding** for clean water!



Volunteers work on a tree planting project along South Creek

## THE WATERSHED APPROACH

### Education

Every person drinks water, lives in a watershed, and can help improve the quality and quantity of our most precious resource. We strive to connect people of all ages with information that can help. We share tips, information, and ideas through our website, social media, monthly meetings, classrooms, civic group meetings, and the C.W. Titus Education Facility at the Watershed Center. The Watershed Center at Valley Water Mill Park showcases stewardship practices and provides a place to experience and learn about water.

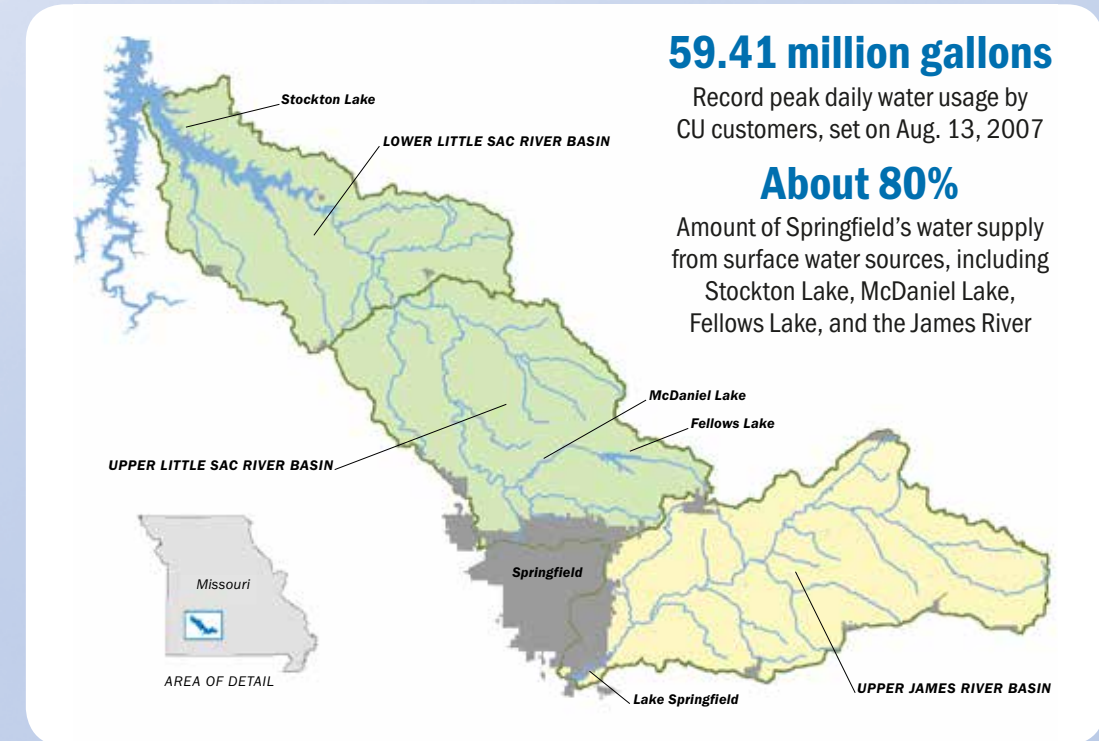
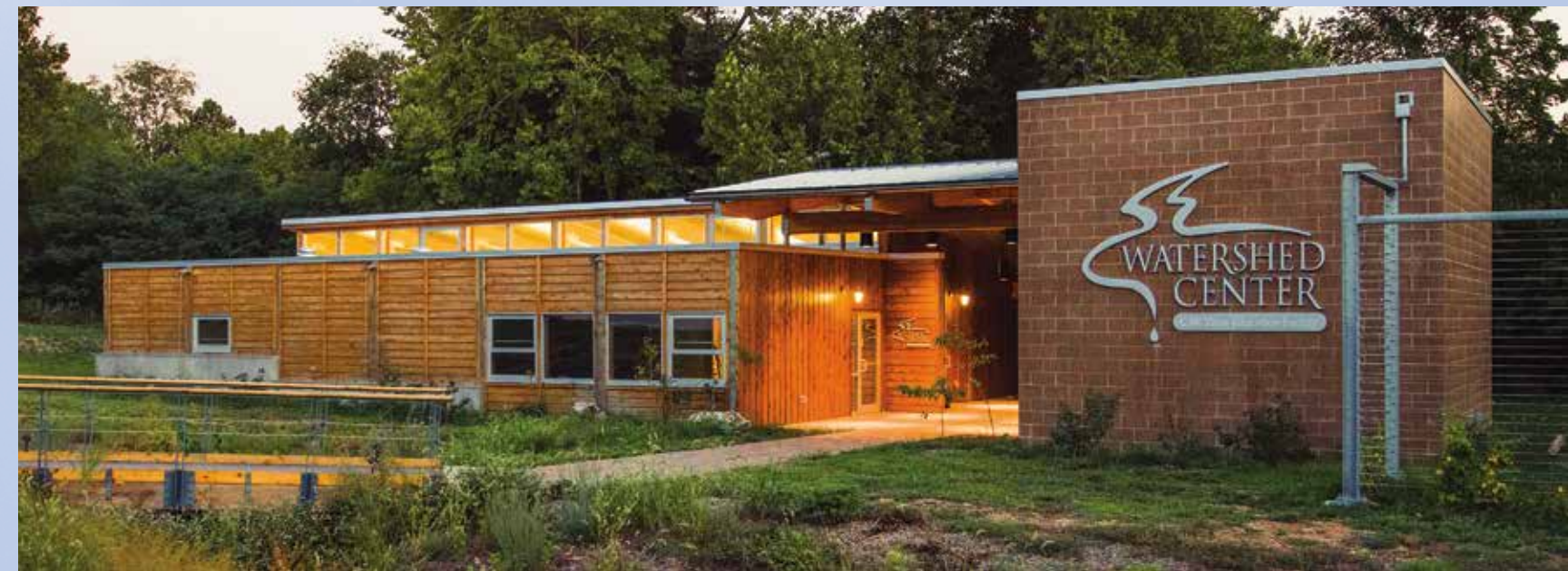


Hands-on learning teaches students about drinking water resources

### Projects and Management

We work to identify sources of pollution and eliminate or reduce them. Over the years the WCO has accomplished a long list of collaborative water-improvement projects such as installing stormwater best management practices, stream stabilizations, watershed protection plans, and many more. Visit the "Projects" page on our website to learn more.

C.W. Titus Education Facility at Valley Water Mill provides a place to experience and learn about water



## OUR WATERSHED

This map shows the sources of drinking water for Springfield and Greene County. Remember, everything we do on the land can affect our drinking water—above and below the ground.