



Current Events



The Newsletter of the Arkansas Stream Team

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AWAG/ARKANSAS STREAM TEAM CONFERENCE ROCKS!



The 2008 AWAG/Arkansas Stream Team Conference was a great success, thanks to a large number of people who put a great deal of effort into making this meeting one of the best either organization has had to date. Much of its success also had to do with the fact that this was the first joint conference of both the Arkansas Stream Team and the Arkansas Watershed Advisory Group (AWAG). The staff of the Hilton Little Rock Metro Center really helped out for the three days we met in their facility, as well.

The conference itself was awesome, starting with three workshops - including a tour of the Fourche Creek watershed and various Stream Team work sites, led by the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission (AGFC) and Arkansas Audubon. A Project WET & WILD and Learning Tree workshop with the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ), AGFC, and Arkansas Forestry and Education Foundation (AFAEF). A workshop on sustainable funding for watersheds was taught by ADEQ and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.



Some 36 speakers from all over the United States presented information on the watershed approach, how volunteer groups can work together, climate change and its impacts on droughts, floods, and water conservation, energy development, pharmaceuticals in our water, land trusts, forest water protection, local watershed protection, various impacts on water and BMP's (Best Management Practices) to rectify those impacts, and what our knowledge gap is in regards to water and watershed conservation.

The conference couldn't have happened without all the agencies mentioned above, but individuals were the ones really doing the work. Therefore, we would like to thank the following for all their hard work: Ellen McNulty and Steve Filipek, Shawna Bonner and Janet Greenwood, Jim Ahlert, Mike Armstrong, Kevin Atkins, Rob Beadel, Anita Chouinard, Andrea Daniel, Sarah DeVries, Debra Dickson, David Evans, Sandi Formica, Scott Henderson, Brad Huffines, Mike Jezierski, Kate Keene, Pat Knighten, April Layher, Teresa Marks, Barbara Miller, Bob Morgan, Philip Osborne, Jim Petersen, Betty Pickett, Heather Richardson, Jennifer Sheehan and her computer-handy brother, Dan Smith, Kristine Spears, Rebecca Wilhite, Amy Wilson, and Jim Wise. These are the people behind the scenes getting the work done, registering people, keeping the audio/visual equipment working, and so on. We also would like to thank the dozens of speakers who did a fantastic job in communicating their message to all the participants, including everyone already mentioned, and then some. Nearly 200 educators, students, watershed groups, Stream Teams, local, state, and federal employees were a part of the 2008 conference. A huge "THANK YOU" to all those who made this meeting the success it was!

Both the Arkansas Stream Team program and AWAG presented some individual and group awards to those in our communities who have been active in their areas of the state. They have made a significant difference in respect to water and watershed conservation in the *Natural State*. These honorees are mentioned in the following article, and deserve all our praise in support of their work, as we also encourage others to make the same commitment to our natural resources.



Stream Team Volunteers Receive Big-Time Awards!

Several Arkansas Stream Teams received awards for their work helping conserve our water resources during this last year. These Arkansas citizens volunteered their valuable time to plant trees along streams and lakes, pickup litter along our waterways, influence the state's decision-makers so that they would make the right choices relative to our water resources, improve aquatic habitat for fish and other wildlife, and monitored water quality in our streams and rivers, and numerous other jobs that required hard work and dedication. A total of 13 teams, individuals, or school groups, received Arkansas Stream Team awards covering three categories: Conservation Education, Stewardship, and Influencing the Decision-Making Process.

Arkansas Game and Fish Commission's statewide Stream Team coordinator, Steve Filipek, announced the 13 awards that were earned by "everyday Arkansans" volunteering and doing superb work in the aquatic conservation field. Conservation educators who got the word out effectively on the need for better water conservation in the *Natural State* included a student, three school Stream Teams, and one all-girl Stream Team in northwest Arkansas. These conservation educators included the following: Dalton Herzig, the St. John's Catholic School Stream Team in Hot Springs; Lora Hicks, and the Hampton Stream Team; Cindy Hankins and the Ambassadors for Christ Academy in Bentonville; and the Parker Branch Stream Team, which consists of two moms who are sisters and their two daughters (each)...so, a total of six women making great strides in the arena of land and water conservation in the northwest region of the *Natural State*.

Our first winner in this category was Dalton Herzig, a student at Brookland High, who led the town in a litter pickup, and then led younger class groups in water quality monitoring and work on Maple Slough Ditch (a local waterway). After graduating from high school and enrolling in college, Dalton continues to encourage his alma mater to keep up the water quality monitoring, the litter pickups, and overall awareness of the natural environment around them.



The next group of natural resource conservationists included Wayne Gearhardt, Tom Bly, and the Ouachita River Haven Stream Team. These "Conservation Stewards" work with land and water management in order to decrease sedimentation and other forms of pollution, keep private landowners property in place by reducing erosion, and by improving fish and aquatic habitat. Tom Bly, of Heber Springs, worked with a variety of state, federal, and local agencies to mold Collins Creek into a catch-and-release trout fishery for children under 16, create an outdoor classroom for aquatic resources education, and helped develop a trail along the creek that allowed it to be accessible to people with disabilities. The Ouachita River Haven Stream Team, which consists of Jan Fredericks and Laurie Gaines, who live on the river west of Mt. Ida, took over a resort there and, with the help of Stream Team coordinator, Jim Ahlert, literally jumped into repairing long reaches of the river that were prone to bank erosion (due to poor management by the previous owner), and contributing tons of silt to a high quality smallmouth bass and float stream. These two enviro-dynamos threw much of their resources, both financial and temporal, into working with AGFC's Stream Team design to repair the damage to the stream and its banks, and worked with the riparian zone until it was vegetated and holding in the banks. In addition, they continued to water their banks and riparian zone until it became a lush buffer zone—one that will continue to filter any sediment and nutrients that would have gone into one of our state's highest quality water bodies. With Stream Team volunteers, like these two, the upper Ouachita River will continue to be one of the cleanest rivers in our state!

Two individuals and two groups have substantially influenced our state's decision-makers to consider and change laws, and make decisions that will positively impact our fish, wildlife, and water resources for many years to come. If you're around the city of Lake Village and beautiful Lake Chicot, the largest natural lake in the state, don't even think about littering in that neck of the woods, because Roger Byerly is a one-man Army down there (or should we say Navy) in keeping litter down to a minimum around the lake. He's organized cleanups, got Scout groups involved, and is trying his best to cleanup southeast Arkansas, so that it's a good and clean place to live.



We are blessed with two high energy Stream Teams—one at the local and watershed level, and one at the state level. The Kings River Watershed Partnership is led by Shawna Miller, and they have done a world of good in that beautiful watershed. In just a few years, this group has not only done litter pickups AND macroinvertebrate/water chemistry sampling, but also worked with AGFC on streambank stabilization projects, while conducting regular board meetings to keep them energized and organized. On a statewide level, the Arkansas Canoe Club (ACC) has over 1,000 members who love Arkansas' rivers and streams, and put that passion into an effort to educate Arkansans about safe, fun, and clean floating. The ACC promotes good working relationships with agencies by hosting an annual "outdoors day" on a local river, helping provide funding and labor for building river access sites, and actively disseminates information on conservation issues, which affect all Arkansans due to the universality of water issues. Finally, if you've ever floated the Eleven Point River, in northeast central Arkansas, you've probably paddled by a man named Woodrow "Woody" King. Woody was a river man, ahead of his time, who put his life into river conservation. We recognized Woody posthumously for doing the "right thing" when it came to floating thousands of people down Arkansas streams. He was ahead of his time by requiring that no glass containers be allowed in the canoes and tubes he rented to people to enjoy the river. His presence and influence on the river will be truly missed.

Along with these very deserving Stream Team awards, the Arkansas Watershed Advisory Group, which co-sponsored the 2008 conference, along with the Stream Team, also gave out two individual awards. The Ginger Tatom Conservation Award was given to Representative Betty Pickett, who represents the citizens in District 45 (Conway and Faulkner Counties), for her work in educating Arkansas' legislators and the public about energy development and natural resources. AWAG's second award, the Clean Water – Stronger Communities Award, was given to Tammi Trotter for her work on Mill Creek in Izard County.

The last award given out at the conference was a joint award by both the Arkansas Stream Team and the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality. This award, the Professional Commitment Conservation Award, was given to Ellen McNulty, past head of the Arkansas Watershed Advisory Group, for her exemplary work with watershed groups, landowners, agency employees, and various citizens of the state.

We salute all these honorees, along with all the “unsung heroes” throughout Arkansas, who choose to help keep our *Natural State* “natural.”

News from Region IV (Ouachita Mountains and Arkansas River Valley) Stream Team Coordinator, Jim Ahlert...

Three streambank renovation projects were completed during this period. The third and final phase of streambank repair was completed on the Ouachita River, near Sims in Montgomery County. When the current owners purchased the property, they immediately set out to repair their 1,500 feet of eroded bank adjacent to the Ouachita River. Due to the cost of renovating streambanks, the project was done in three phases as funding became available. Three methods of bank renovation were incorporated in the project. A Longitudinal Peaked Stone Toe Protection (LPSTP) dike was installed in the first phase, to bring the severely eroded bank back in-line with the lower and upper ends of the property. Two Rosgen style rock vanes were added to the LPSTP to redirect the current flow away from the bank and back to the center of the stream. Large rock was also used in the bank renovation work, and these were placed on the eroded bank in a stair-step fashion. Stair-stepping the large rock allows us to repair an eroded bank without sloping the bank.



Ouachita River - Completed Project

Two other streambank renovation projects were also completed in Montgomery County. One project was completed on the Caddo River, near Norman, and the other was completed on Polk Creek, which is also near Norman. The 450-foot eroded bank on the Caddo River was repaired by the addition of four rock vanes. The eroded banks between the vanes were sloped, seeded, fertilized, and covered with coconut fiber blanket to prevent surface run-off erosion.



Caddo River - Prior to Construction



Caddo River - Completed Project

The other completed project was on Polk Creek, which is a tributary of the Caddo River. The eroded bank on Polk Creek was 400 feet long and six feet high. We also used four rock vanes on this stream as part of the bank renovation work. The banks were sloped, seeded, fertilized, and covered with coconut matting to help prevent erosion. The riparian zone on the left descending bank of both streams consisted of grasses that were cut for hay each year. In order to help restore the riparian zone, we planted shrubs on all the sloped banks, and a 50-foot buffer strip of shrubs along the entire length of both eroded banks. The landowner installed a fence along the buffer strip to keep cattle off the shrubs and the restored bank.



Transplanting Willows – Polk Creek



Buffer Strip Planting

Two site visits were made with personnel from the U.S. Forest Service, and Steve Filipek and a contractor, in planning the implementation of two hard stream crossings on Fall Creek, in Crawford County. The Fall Creek crossings are part of the Buckhorn OHV (Off Highway Vehicle) Trail Project, which is being constructed by the U.S. Forest Service. The hard crossings should allow the off-road vehicles access to this part of the trail with minimum impact to the stream.

Several site visits were made with landowners on the Little Red River in Cleburne and White Counties. This area continues to grow with more folks building along the river, in spite of the economic turndown.



Polk Creek – Completed Project

A site visit was made on the Little Missouri River, in Pike County, with several people from the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission Fisheries Division. The area of the river directly below Narrows Dam will be modified in the near future to improve fisheries habitat, especially for trout.

News from Region I (Ozark Highlands and Boston Mtns.) Stream Team Coordinator, Dave Evans...

At the time of this writing, I can't believe that it's already the middle of April...where has the time gone?

This time of the year always gets me to thinking about float trips, and fishing the creeks and rivers of the Ozarks. If I had to choose any single stream, that represents the Ozark floating/fishing experience, it would have to be the Buffalo River. From its headwaters, near Red Star, to its confluence with the White River, at Buffalo City, this magnificent river flows past towering cliffs, some over 400 feet tall. It has one of the tallest waterfalls between the Appalachian Mountains and Rocky Mountains, "Hemmed-In-Hollow," and contains some of the best fishing waters I've ever had the privilege to fish. One drizzly day, in late May, I caught three of the biggest smallmouth bass, I've ever caught, in one large hole in a 15 minute period---15, 18 and 24 "inchers." In addition, I've seen several 20-plus inch "smallies" caught in that same stretch of the river. Add to this the fact that our kids spent uncountable weekends swimming, fishing, camping, and playing in and along this wonderful river (our youngest son was five days old the first time he sat in the Buffalo), and you can see why I love the Buffalo so much.

One of the most heartbreaking things, about this job, is seeing the damage that has occurred to streams and rivers in Arkansas. Massive amounts of sediment and gravel from eroding banks enter our streams every year. In fact, sediment is the number one pollutant in the waters of the United States, as well as Arkansas, and eroding streambanks are the number one source of sediment in the Ozarks. Bank erosion may start with unlimited cattle access to the creek, the removal of the entire riparian zone (the wooded buffer along the stream...and I don't mean just one tree wide), instream gravel mining, unlimited and continual four-wheeler activities within the channel, and the list of causes goes on. Regardless of the initial cause, the results are almost always the same...the channel becomes overly wide, the deep holes fill-in with gravel, the water temperature rises as the shade provided by the riparian buffer is lost, and the channel depth decreases—all of which results in a reduction in the sportfish population, and their replacement with less desirable fish...like carp, and an increase in aquatic vegetation.

Prior to last spring's near-record and repeated floods, parts of the Buffalo were suffering from streambank erosion, and the changes that process brings to a riverine system. Since then, the damage has accelerated and spread extensively throughout the entire watershed. I've had the privilege of working with the Buffalo National River (BNR) of the National Park Service (NPS) staff on stabilization projects in the past, and we are developing a stronger relationship for this process to continue in the future.

During the first half of March of this year, I spent six days working on a site near Hasty with Faron Usrey, Jared James, and Shawn Hodges (BNR), and our very own and newest Stream Team coordinator (from Camden), Andy Turner. Big Creek enters the Buffalo at the Carver Access site, and has been eroding for a number of years. An eight-foot plus vertical bank extends upstream, from the confluence with the Buffalo for several hundred feet. It continues to migrate into the flood plain and dump its sediments into the Buffalo. It just so happens, that a significant mussel bed is located just downstream of the confluence, and it is being smothered by these sediments.



Because the Buffalo is a national river, the varieties of stabilization techniques which can be used within the park are somewhat restricted. A Programmatic Environmental Assessment was developed a number of years ago, and it basically allows only the installation of cedar revetments, the movement of trees within the channel, and gravel bar enhancement. Thus, the Big Creek restoration project was a little different than most of the stabilization projects I design and work on.

Big Creek Eroding Streambank



Andy Turner Transplanting Trees



Transplanting Trees

This particular project involved the installation of over 200 feet of cedar revetment, which I've previously installed, and planting of willow bundles above the cedars. We also performed additional work to stabilize the area, that was unlike any I had done before. These techniques were ones I've thought about and discussed for a number of years, but have never had the opportunity to implement. With a little guidance from Faron and the others, we worked out a few kinks and were able to move ahead rapidly with these techniques. In fact, I plan to use these practices on other projects in the future. In certain situations, I think they are much more environmentally friendly and natural looking than the clunky rock structures I traditionally build.

The first of these new techniques was gravel bar spawning. One version of this involves the movement of trees, from one place in the channel to another, to help form gravel bars. In my opinion, the most important thing needing to be done to the vast majority of eroding streambanks is to stabilize their toe (bottom of the bank). Nature's way very often involves the development of a gravel bar, which rapidly becomes choked with sycamores and willows. This tree trunk thicket dramatically increases the friction the water experiences in the near-bank region. As the water slows, it drops out what it's carrying (rocks, limbs, seeds, sand, etc.) and raises the bar height. Over time, the bank will stop moving horizontally and will develop a sloped surface. Once this happens, local plant materials will colonize the bank and bank stability will be enhanced.

At Big Creek, we utilized bar spawning, immediately upstream of the cedar revetment, to help take pressure off of the bank toe. We dug-up several dozen mature willows and sycamores (some as tall as 15 feet) and moved them, from the river right-point-bar across the channel, to a smaller gravel bar that had developed. Using the back bucket of the backhoe, we pulled holes into the bar and channel substrate, and slid the trees in. This technique worked very well, and allowed us to transplant a lot of trees in a very short time. We also moved gravel from the tree nursery to the work area, in order to accelerate the bar formation process. A storm event has occurred since the trees were moved, and it looks as if things are working out as planned. In fact, Faron was at the site a few days ago, and he said the vast majority of trees were "leafing-out," or their buds were swelling, and were about ready to pop open.

The other technique we tried was to move river cane from one site to another. I had attempted this technique years ago, on War Eagle Creek in Madison County, on a much smaller scale. This time, we used the backhoe to dig-up the cane and transport it to the site. We moved dozens of clumps of cane and planted them along the top of the bank, above the cedars. Two different plots were planted to see which of the two transplant techniques would work best. In the first plot, the entire cane stalk was left intact and planted to its original depth. The second technique involved cutting the cane in half, and planting it back to its original depth. The latter technique proved much more successful. Since then, Faron has talked with some folks from Missouri who advised him they had completely removed the cane and planted only the rhizome. They stated this was a very successful technique, and it's one we plan to use in the future.

I'll be the first to admit not enough time has passed, since we worked on Big Creek, to decide if gravel bar spawning and cane transplanting will be as successful (long term) as they appear at the present time. These techniques will not work everywhere, and are yet another arrow in my quiver of streambank stabilization techniques. I was glad to have the opportunity to attempt bar spawning, and plan to use that technique in the future. In fact, last year I discussed this practice with a landowner in Stone County, and our goal is to develop a plan to stabilize their existing (massive) gravel bars.

Perhaps the best part of gravel bar spawning is its cost. Rock vanes and Lateral Fill Stone Toe Protection's (LFSTP) are fantastic stabilization techniques, and they work very well, but they are expensive. Bar spawning costs a fraction as much, and takes much less time to install. Their life expectancy in high-flow events (floods) remains to be seen.

**News from Region II (Delta) Stream
Team Coordinator, Stephen O'Neal...**

The first quarter of 2009 has been jam-packed in Region II with litter pickups, water quality monitoring, educational programs, and river/stream surveys. The Stream Teams did not let the winter chill slow down the progress towards monitoring water quality, increasing fish habitat, decreasing streambank erosion, and helping to keep our rivers and streams in a "Natural State."

The West Helena Stream Team removed several bags of debris from a small tributary north of town, along with a trailer-load of tires, and nearly a ton of metal debris. We can all benefit from the efforts provided by this Team, and take a lesson from them as well: No matter how big or small you are, your efforts will make a difference, and it is never too late (or early) to start a good stewardship mindset. The Team also performed water quality testing from a chemical perspective, and found that the parameters measured were all within the normal range. Biological testing will occur later in the spring, and the group looks forward to seeing if the biotic community reflects the perceived improvement. This is a sharp and diligent group of "Teamers," and they deserve a big "thank you!"

The Stream Team Program coordinated and developed a training day for 25 students at Clarendon. Water quality monitoring, aquatic insect identification, and riparian areas were the primary focus elements for a portion of their workshop. The students covered instream sampling procedures, developed water quality sampling protocols based on macroinvertebrate findings, and familiarized themselves with HACH water chemistry analysis equipment. The Team is looking forward to utilizing their new knowledge-base to monitor the water quality status of their adopted stream.

The Stream Team/Herpetological display was presented to over 50 students near Pocahontas. A dozen adults were exposed to water quality issues, riparian zone importance, and stewardship activities in conjunction with the live animal displays. The “Stream Team/Herp Program” was introduced to the Forrest City Public Library during a special session where local children (numbering over 100) were introduced to some of Arkansas’ native reptile and amphibian species. The children learned how the animals fit into the bigger picture of good water quality, prime fishing habitat, and land/water stewardship, and how they can play a part in contributing to the improvement of aquatic habitat.

Region II worked with the Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE), U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), and the Arkansas State Parks Service as a consulting source on the Cache River, detailing efforts for a streambank restoration project bordering the Cache River. In addition, I worked with the East Arkansas Wildlife Association Stream Team, local officials, business owners, and interested citizens to coordinate an upcoming litter pickup; the USFWS, ACOE, Arkansas Soil and Water Conservation Commission (ASWCC), and a landowner at a site near Possum Grape, concerning a riparian area restoration site, and streambank stabilization proposed site.

News from Region III (Gulf Coastal Plain)
Stream Team Coordinator, Andy Turner...

Hello, Southern Arkansas! My name is Andy Turner, and I am the new Stream Team coordinator for the south central region, also known as the Gulf Coastal Plains. My office is located in Camden, and I am taking over where Kevin Atkins left off. I was born and raised in Sedalia, Missouri. I spent the last six years living in Columbia, Missouri where I earned both a Bachelor’s and Master’s degree in fisheries and wildlife at the University of Missouri (GO MIZZOU). Throughout my schooling I spent the majority of my time working in streams, and am excited to put my knowledge to use here in Arkansas. I am also an avid fisherman and have spent an inordinate amount of time (according to my ex-girlfriend) chasing blue catfish on the Missouri River, pike and walleye in Canada, and smallmouth bass in...well, that’s my little secret. As a new member to the Stream Team, my main focus will be coordinating stewardship and educational projects throughout south central Arkansas.



BIG BLUE CAT



NORTHERN PIKE



BIG SMALLMOUTH BASS

ANDY TURNER

Stewardship projects include any work being done to manage Arkansas' aquatic resources, and the land that surrounds them. Two examples I am currently working on are bank stabilization projects on Lake Saracen (Pine Bluff), and the Caddo River. Banks on the southwestern side of Lake Saracen have suffered quite a bit of erosion. This erosion increases sedimentation of the lake while simultaneously eroding away public use areas adjacent to the banks. The Lake Saracen project also includes installation of a bridge, trail, and improving fishing access to the lake. In the end, this project will make the lake more attractive aesthetically and recreationally.

The stewardship project on the Caddo River is in response to a private landowner's concern for an eroding riverbank on his property. The landowner has been losing his land, as a bend in the river has been rapidly migrating through his property. While river migration is a natural process, sometimes, as in Mr. Shepherd's case, the river is eroding at a much faster rate than it should. This type of situation is not only bad for the ecology of the river, but it costs the landowner money, as the land he/she depends on is washed down river (everybody loses). The Stream Team has been working with Mr. Shepherd to develop a project that will stop this erosion in a way that is beneficial to both the river and Mr. Shepherd (everybody wins). Sparing the dry details, we will install numerous structures that direct high flows away from the riverbank, while also slowing flow velocities to prevent erosion downriver. With a little luck, and cooperation from the "rain gods," this project should be completed this summer. I would like to encourage anyone who has erosion problems, or is interested in discussing ways to prevent erosion problems on their land, to contact me. Once erosion problems form they can accelerate quickly. It is always easier and cheaper to prevent erosion than it is to stop erosion after it has started.



Caddo River Erosion

Education is another important part of my job with the Stream Team. We offer personal assistance, as well as "seed" funding, to groups who join the Stream Team and participate in our water quality and litter pickup programs. In the near future, I will be joining the Camden, Smackover, and Hampton public schools in sampling trips to help show students the important role streams play in our lives, and how changes in our use of the land can change water chemistry and biotic communities. We are also planning a large litter pickup event, the "Ouachita River Clean Sweep," which is slated for later this summer. If you are interested in joining a Stream Team, planning a sampling trip, or participating in the Ouachita River Clean Sweep, don't hesitate to contact me.



Education – an important part of my job as a Stream Team Coordinator.

Earlier this month I was involved with the Northern Snakehead Fish Eradication Project in Brinkley. If you have not heard, the snakehead is an exotic invasive fish, from China, that was inadvertently introduced to Piney Creek. The snakehead can potentially devastate local fish communities, as it is a ferocious feeder, with teeth that would make Dracula jealous. To make things worse, they can also travel short distances over land to neighboring water bodies, as they have adapted the ability to breathe in and out of the water. If you are interested in seeing this first hand, just type “snakehead” into the “YouTube” search engine. I promise you will be nothing short of amazed. Currently, it is illegal to possess snakeheads, and the potential impact this fish would have on Arkansas’ fisheries required we do our best to eradicate this fish before it spreads. Checkout the AGFC fishing webpage (www.agfc.com) for more details on our eradication efforts. As for me, taking part in this enormous endeavor was quite an introduction to Arkansas!

Andy holding a Northern Snakehead



I look forward to working with the Stream Teams in Arkansas, and would like to invite anyone with an interest in Stream Team activities to contact me for information (Email: aturner@agfc.state.ar.us Phone: 501-539-0903). DON'T WAIT, CALL NOW! My region covers 18 counties and the line is forming quickly.

HAS ANYTHING CHANGED?

Please let us know if your address, phone numbers or e-mail information has changed.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, and Zip Code: _____

Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____

E-Mail: _____

Mail to: Stream Team Coordinator
2 Natural Resources Drive
Little Rock, AR 72205

(OR)

E-Mail to: sfilipek@agfc.state.ar.us

For those reading a Stream Team newsletter for the first time, Stream Teams are groups of citizens from 6 years old to 96+ who care enough about Arkansas' water resources to form or join a team and adopt a stream or other water body in the state for the purpose of keeping it clean and healthy. Started in 1996, there are now over 500 Stream Teams statewide that carry out a variety of activities in the quest of keeping our state's water more natural. These teams conduct litter pickups, repair eroding streambanks on willing owners' land, plant trees to restore degraded riparian areas, work with local leaders to better manage their watersheds, and a variety of other activities aimed at conserving one of the most valuable of Arkansas' natural resources, its water. Anyone out there who hasn't already joined this winning team and is interested in joining the Stream Team, or learning more about this grassroots way to conserve our state's water resources, can contact Steve Filipek at the AGFC (501) 223-6371, or e-mail him at sfilipek@agfc.state.ar.us. There is no cost to join. Classes on how streams work, what animals live in and around them, and how a healthy stream functions, are offered each year at a reasonable rate.



NEWSLETTER AVAILABLE VIA E-MAIL.

In an effort to conserve resources, Stream Team members with current e-mail addresses were notified of the option to receive the newsletter via

e-mail. If you have not received an e-mail notification and would like to receive the newsletter via e-mail, please notify Steve Filipek at sfilipek@agfc.state.ar.us, or at (501) 223-6371.

► **NEWSLETTER UPDATE:** *Easier access (a direct link) to the Stream Team Newsletter has been made available on the Internet: <http://www.agfc.com/streamteam>*

Stream Team #: _____

[illegible]

The Process of becoming a STREAM TEAM...

1. Express an interest and request more information: **Send your name, address, and phone number to:**
STREAM TEAM PROGRAM COORDINATOR

Arkansas Game and Fish Commission

2 Natural Resources Drive

Little Rock, AR 72205

2. Sign up. You will get the newsletter and be counted among Arkansas' STREAM TEAM members. This will also get you in the network of those wanting to help out Arkansas' waterways.

3. Adopt a stream. To become more involved in the program you can adopt a stream. Select a stream that you or your group are particularly concerned about. For example...the creek on your land, your favorite fishing hole, or the stream you drive over every day to work or school.

A. Inventory your stream with help from STREAM TEAM coordinators.

B. Decide what you want to do---trash pickup, habitat improvement, water quality monitoring, and/or whatever is of interest to you!



Steve Filipek/Debra Dickson
Stream Team News Editors
Arkansas Game and Fish Commission
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TO: