



# ANNUAL REPORT

2 0 1 5

COMING TO A RIVER NEAR YOU...

## DEAR SUPPORTER,

Thank you so much for making 2015 another amazing year for Living Lands & Waters! With the barge shutting down for the season in early December, I am overwhelmed with gratitude for all of our accomplishments this year. We set a new record of completing 203 events in 12 states, engaging over 8,026 people in our cleanup, education, invasive species removal, and tree planting efforts. These events were all coordinated and conducted by the amazing staff at Living Lands & Waters, all of whom continue to inspire and motivate me and the thousands of volunteers. We couldn't have set these records without the continued support of all our sponsors and individual donors. It takes an army to make real change on our rivers but with everyone that has come together to back this organization-- the staff, the board, the volunteers and the supporters-- we're making it happen.

Our biggest highlight of the year was the launching of our new barge, excavator, and mini towboat. It's exciting to have all of the right tools to thoroughly clean up our nation's rivers, and to finally be able to remove many of the oversized, heavy objects that we couldn't collect before on our own. With this new equipment, 2016 is shaping up to be another record breaking year as we strive to reach our new goal of removing one million pounds of garbage in a single season! We're also looking forward to hitting two huge milestones in 2016--hosting our 900th community-based river cleanup and giving away our one millionth tree! Now that's exciting!

I believe that Living Lands & Waters continues to be the driving force in making measurable change on our nation's greatest waterways and none of this would be possible without your generosity. On behalf of all of us at Living Lands & Waters, THANK YOU, for helping to transform the face of America's Rivers!!!

Sincerely,



Founder & President



# ON BOARD

**Chad Pregracke, Founder & President**

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## A WORD FROM THE BENCH

I had the good fortune of meeting Chad in 1998. He was 23 years old and had an opportunity to present his 'idea' in front of nearly 300 people at a Marine Transportation Industry conference. Chad had just visited a nearby department store and purchased a dress shirt so that he would appear 'business-like.' The shirt was heavily creased and even had one of those little pins still in it from being folded at the factory. No doubt, he had changed in the parking lot! Needless to say, I was so impressed with his plan and determination that I gave him my business card and pledged our Company's support. That support has never wavered.

I'm sure many of you have equally entertaining stories of how you got connected to Living Lands & Waters, or from experiences you've had along the way. We would love to hear them.

You have received the Living Lands & Waters Annual Report because you have made an investment in the organization as well as in this Country's vital natural resources. I encourage you, however, to visit the Living Lands & Waters website where you will see and learn what can't possibly fit onto the twenty pages you hold in your hands.

I was recently watching one of the many YouTube videos you can find entitled "The Jolliest Garbage Man Cleans up Rivers." Mike Rowe (Dirty Jobs) was there helping haul bags of garbage onto one of the flat boats. Mike (AKA Nozzy) asks, "Are we going to meet our quota today?" Chad emphatically responded, "No!" When Mike Rowe asks what the quota is, the entire crew answers with a resounding, "MORE!"

That daily quota is the way it's always been, remains, and will continue to be. Chad, his office staff and the entire crew are committed each and every day to doing 'more,' whether it is river cleanups, planting trees, or educational workshops.

On behalf of the fifteen bench warmers respectfully referred to as the Board of Directors, I express my sincere thanks to all of you who contribute your time, talent and treasure to ensuring our rivers remain clean, our forests are replenished, and so many are provided the opportunity to learn about the incredible resources this country has been blessed with in its rivers, streams, wetlands and diverse ecosystems.

Let's all continue to do MORE!!



*Terry B*  
Chair,  
Board of Directors

# MEET THE TEAM



## CHAD PREGRACKE Founder & President

The Mississippi River was literally Chad Pregracke's backyard while growing up near East Moline, IL. Chad's vision, charisma, non-stop work ethic and natural leadership have garnered him an abundance of awards and honors over the years. Most notably, Chad was the recipient of the Jefferson Award for Public Service. In 2013, Chad was

honored to be named the CNN Hero of the Year. Whenever he can get away from his rigorous work schedule, Chad enjoys fishing, hunting, skateboarding, wind surfing, and recycling used and salvaged materials by incorporating them into new projects.



## TAMMY BECKER Programs Manager

Tammy has a Bachelor of Social Work degree from Western Illinois University, and served as an AmeriCorps VISTA and Peace Corps volunteer. A part of the crew since 2002, she's the maternal leader of Living Lands & Water. Tammy holds key roles in the organization that include; grant writer, coordinator of many LL&W events, assists with cleanups and even cooks some bomb

meals on the barge for the crew. If all that isn't impressive enough, as Chad's wife she's the Yin to his Yang, the peanut butter to his jelly, the honey in his bee hive, the stars in his sky, and the one who reminds him not to forget Pork Chop on an island on the river. She consistently brings a positive attitude and her loyal companion, Travis (aka mama's boy, who never leaves her side) to work with her every day. When Tammy isn't dedicating life and limb to LL&W, she loves cutting a rug, listening to live music, cooking, and hanging with friends and family.



## MIKE COYNE-LOGAN

### Education Facilitator & Crew

AKA Nozzy, began as a volunteer 2005 and was asked to join the crew in 2007. Mike graduated from Northern Illinois University in 2000 with degrees in History and Teaching. Before joining the Living Lands & Waters team, he worked as a teacher in his home town of Rock Island, IL. Much like the mighty paddlewheels on the majestic steamboats of yesteryear, Nozzy propels the crew to greatness. His knack for motivational speaking and his go-getter attitude earned him the nickname "The Coach." His words have inspired thousands of volunteers at hundreds of river cleanups. Mike takes his coaching to the classroom as the Education Facilitator, teaching students about the importance of our nation's rivers, clean water, and recycling. In his spare time, Nozzy enjoys lifting weights, reading, seeing live music, and picking up garbage.



## JOHN BOSTROM

### Operations Manager & Crew

Instead of pursuing a job as an international male model, one of the best looking crew members in the history of LL&W, John (J.B.) travels America's rivers aboard our barge. He's a quick learner and jack of all trades his duties include spinning tunes in a jon boat on the Mississippi River and helps to keep LL&W's engines running and props turning. J.B. volunteered with LL&W for several years and participated in an Alternative Spring break which all led to his employment with LL&W in 2011. He graduated from Black Hawk College in 2009 and attended Western Illinois University. In his spare time, J.B. enjoys doing sound and lights for local Q.C. band favorite, The Dawn, sailing, and avidly following American Ninja Warrior.



## DAN BREIDENSTEIN

### Multimedia Specialist & Project Coordinator

Dan started as a LL&W volunteer in 2010. After participating in two alternative spring break sessions and completing an internship, he was invited to officially join the staff crew in May of 2013. He's known as a modern day renaissance man with many talents. He's creative and adds innovative ideas to many brain storming sessions. He's a professional disc golfer, technologically savvy, guru of trash collecting, a soccer goalie, skateboarding whiz, snowboarder, sage photographer, prospective American Ninja Warrior, and he plays one mean kazoo. He loves traveling and listening to live music.



## SHELLY HAMM

### Financial Manager

Serving as the keeper of the checkbook, Shelly carries the responsibility of payroll, expenses and record keeping for the organization. She joined the LL&W office staff in the fall of 2013 and has a fun sense of humor and organizational and business skills that have added checks and balances to the operations. Shelly might be the kindest, sweetest, most giving person on the crew – but if anyone misses turning in time sheets on time, Shelly will come a-looking. She is married to Roger, they have two children. In her off time, Shelly enjoys watching her kids' sporting events and serving as their full-time taxi driver



## KATE RUNGE

### Director of Marketing & Events Coordinator

When she's not sweating to meet administrative deadlines for LL&W, she's deadlifting at CrossFit. Kate brings a creative and positive energy that can best be described as spunky and funky. After graduating from Monmouth College in 2011 with a degree in Public Relations and Business, Kate spent almost 3 years working in the health insurance industry before joining the LL&W team. In her free time, Kate loves to ride her Harley, travel, and is an avid CrossFitter. She is ecstatic to be a member of the LL&W team.



## GRACE WATERS

### Development Coordinator

First "gracing" Living Lands & Waters with her presence in 2011, Grace "Waters" was one of the early members and organizers of the Memphis River Warriors where she honed her trash collecting skills under the tutelage of the garbage gathering Jedi; Colton Cockrum (aka Johnny Trash). Grace graduated from the University of Memphis in 2014 with a degree in Biomedical Engineering and Mathematics. She joined LL&W as a crew member after working with us in Memphis. Grace enjoys helping people, traveling, trying new things, and most importantly; baking chocolate chips cookies for the crew.



## MEGHAN ELGAN

### Educational Coordinator

A native to the Fox River valley in north-eastern Illinois, Meghan came to us from the Ozark Plateaus of northwest Arkansas where she spent 2014 working as a Teacher Naturalist at the Ozark Natural Science Center. One of our newest members of the LL&W crew, she received her Bachelor of Science in Wildlife Ecology from the University of Wisconsin Steven's Point. There, she gained an appreciation for good cheese, cold winters, and ecological restoration. Meghan spent two summers working for Citizens for Conservation as a restoration intern and helped restore some of the most beautiful prairies in Illinois! An avid fisherwoman, mushroom-hunter and all-around outdoor enthusiast, you'll rarely see Meghan without a smile on her face! She's beyond excited to be a part of the LL&W team, and looking forward to her new life on the Big Muddy and its tributaries.



## AMBER PRIBYL

### Sponsor Relations & Project Manager

Amber aka ("Am's", "Ambrine", "The Miracle Worker", "The River Hygienist", "Ambrosia", "Silence of the Ambs") rejoined the LL&W team in March 2015. It was her well-known commitment to success, support of community development and volunteer efforts that connected her to the organization. A former dental assistant, she now is dedicated to finding ways for LL&W to make the most of its resources. In her free time, she enjoys spending time with friends and family, live music and meeting new people.



## DAVID POST

### Crew

Accepting a post at Living Lands & Waters in June 2015 was a natural next step for David who hails from the Natural State of Arkansas. A sixth-generation member of a German-Swiss grape growing and wine making family, David studied viticulture and enology at Arkansas Tech University and worked in his father and grandfather's vineyards before feeling the tug from the Mississippi. Evolving from grapes to oak trees, David tends to our oak nursery and knows how to turn a wrench, which comes in handy with our fleet of litter destroying equipment. When he's not growing the saplings of the future, you may find him hunting, canoeing, fishing, or gardening his way to another dimension. You'll never see David without a smile on! His positivity and light-heartedness are daily morale boosters for the crew. He is happy to carry on the family tradition of caring for the land, and we are happy to have David with us on deck!



## LUKE LIPPINCOTT

### Crew

Our newest member of the crew, Luke Lippincott aka "Snow Leopard" and his trusty sidekick Diesel, joined us in July 2015! Luke is no stranger to traveling (at least that's what the guys he plays basketball with say). He lived in Nebraska until he was 12, Iowa until he was 14, and with the exception of another brief stint in Nebraska-Illinois ever since. Luke comes to us from Rock River Arms, where he operated the laser etcher on all their guns/accessories. He is an avid disc golfer, and loves snowboarding, camping, and listening to live music. Luke has an epic rivalry with fellow crew member and lifelong friend Dan. It ranks right up there with Bird vs. Magic, Army vs. Navy, and the Packers vs. Bears. Oh and ladies, by the way, he bakes some of the best chocolate chip cookies you ever tasted. Grace feels that her cookies are better...that's right folks the chocolate chip cookie gauntlet has been dropped!



## MIKE HANLIN

### Captain

A retired educator from East Moline, Mike has been with Living Lands & Waters since the beginning. Captain Mike received his Masters License in the 60's while working his way through college. After many years of teaching, Mike was approached by Chad to come aboard as Captain. They made their first trip up the Mississippi River together with one additional crew member. Captain is an environmentalist who enjoys the outdoors. Captain Mike always has a great story to tell about his experiences working with LL&W, and looks forward to future trips "Rollin on the River."

★ ★ ★  
**SUPPORTERS**  
 ★ ★ ★

Thank you to these major donors for their support and generosity.

★ **\$100,000 AND UP**



★ **\$50,000-\$99,999**

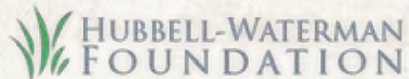


★ **\$25,000-\$49,999**

Bert and Ann Shearer  
 Foundation



THE GRAINGER FOUNDATION





## \$10,000-\$24,999

Alcoa, Inc. / Alcoa Foundation  
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 Black Family Foundation  
 Bridgestone Retail Operations/Firestone  
 CGB Enterprises, Inc.  
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 Illinois Tool Works Foundation  
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 Watson, Alexander  
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## \$5,000-\$9,999

Aavang, Sarah  
 ACT, Inc.  
 Adrian, Darin & Lisa  
 American Queen Steamboat Co.  
 Canal Barge Co. Inc.  
 City of Knoxville, Tennessee  
 Eagle Fabrication, LLC  
 Ed Uihlein Family Foundation

Gresh, Phil & Susan  
 Holst Trucking & Excavating  
 Inland Marine Service  
 James Marine, Inc.  
 Johnston-Hanson Foundation  
 Jones, Hilda P.  
 Knoxville Utilities Board  
 One Step Printing

Pregracke, Chad  
 River Network  
 The Sedona Group  
 The Shearer Group  
 Vista Outdoor LLC  
 Wallace, Bill  
 Wallenius Wilhelmsen Logistics  
 Waterways Journal



## \$1,000-\$4,999

All Occasion Catering LLC  
 Anderson, Derek  
 Andrews, Brad & Alice  
 Anonymous  
 Bergstrom, James  
 Birdies for Charity  
 Blistex  
 Bowlesburg Elementary School  
 Burke Cleaners Inc  
 Calhoun, Blake  
 CDM Smith  
 CDMI Concrete Contractors  
 CFC - Illowa Bi-State  
 Chaney, Robert  
 Charles B. Preacher Foundation  
 Combined Federal Campaign  
 Courtesy Car City  
 Curran, Thomas & Merilee  
 Dewoskin/Roskin Foundation  
 Economy Boat Store  
 Egg Harbor Cafe  
 Fletcher, Mark A & Diane  
 Francis, Richard & Laima  
 Golding Barge Line, Inc.  
 Greiman, Eldon & Judith  
 Hahn, Bruce & Doreen  
 Harper Family  
 Heartland Barge Management LLC  
 Hettel, Marly  
 Illinois Environmental Protection Agency

Illinois Lake Management Association  
 John Marshall Family Foundation  
 Keene, David  
 Keurig Green Mountain, Inc.  
 Knost, Deborah and James  
 Lane & Waterman LLP  
 Litov, Richard  
 Love and Promise Jewelers  
 Lykins Family Foundation  
 Mansuy, Bucky  
 McDonough Marine Service  
 McIntosh Family Fund  
 Media Link, Inc.  
 Memphis & Shelby County Port Commission  
 Menke, Mel  
 Midwest River Expeditions  
 Mike's Inc.  
 Mildred Crespin-Croegaert Foundation  
 Mortenson, Susan  
 Mumford Family Foundation  
 Murdock, Sheila W.  
 NABRICO  
 Norwood, Reece  
 Odell Family Foundation  
 Patterson, Jack & Sara  
 Patz, Michael  
 Pfaff, Alain & Cathy  
 Pinsky, Laura  
 Pregracke, Gary & Keekee  
 Pribyl, Randy & Carol

Rexroat Sound  
 Roth, Mr. & Mrs. David  
 Shaver Transportation Company  
 Sheaffer, Dr James & Stella  
 Silver, Spencer  
 SSAB Iowa Inc.  
 St. Paul Lutheran Church  
 Staak Family Foundation  
 Starved Rock Foundation  
 Stegbauer, Bill  
 Summit Graphics  
 Tennant Truck Lines, Inc  
 Tennessee American Water  
 The Goldstein Family Foundation  
 The Johnson Watkins Family Foundation  
 The Machine Shed Restaurant  
 The Pillsbury Foundation  
 The Raney Family Fund  
 Tillman, Craig & Patty  
 Truetfner Family Foundation  
 US Bank  
 Visit Knoxville  
 Von Maur, Charles & Nancy  
 Vulcan Materials Company  
 Wallace's Garden Center  
 Waste Commission of Scott County  
 Weinstein Foundation  
 Wells Fargo  
 Young, Lance Brendan



## UP TO \$999

782 individual, business, and memorial donations totaling \$88,541

# EXPENSES

2015

## EXPENSES

### *Program Services*

Salaries and Benefits.....	597,636
Contract Services.....	25,787
Travel & Lodging.....	109,776
Operating Expense.....	221,847
Repair Expense.....	102,246
Insurance Expense.....	97,353
Educational Programs.....	33,944
MillionTrees Project.....	130,212
Great Mississippi River Cleanup...	22,358
Other Projects.....	73,691
Depreciation.....	215,901
<b>TOTAL.....</b>	<b>1,630,752</b>

## SUPPORTING SERVICES

### *Management and General*

Salaries and Benefits.....	129,535
Office Supplies and Equipment.....	34,503
Professional Fees.....	19,907
Depreciation.....	989
<b>TOTAL.....</b>	<b>184,935</b>

### *Public Relations*

Website.....	3,396
Annual Fundraiser.....	54,001
Promotional Expense.....	14,952
Marketing/Fundraising.....	63,828
<b>TOTAL.....</b>	<b>136,177</b>

**TOTAL EXPENSES \$1,951,864**





# CUMULATIVE STATS

5-Gallon Buckets.....	4,014
Bags of Trash.....	105,042
Sinks.....	143
Tires.....	78,386
Barge Line.....	21,991
Refrigerators .....	1,105
Air Conditioners.....	70
Washing Machines.....	225
Gas Tanks and Cans....	463
Propane Tanks.....	1,583
Mannequin Parts.....	17
Hot Water Heaters.....	312
Portable Toilets.....	26
BBQ Grills.....	172
Shopping Carts.....	70
Coolers.....	447
Bowling Balls.....	105
Toy Dolls.....	698
Boats.....	76
Freezers.....	110
Cars/Trucks/Vans.....	14
Balls.....	23,512
Drums/Barrels.....	6,691
Milk Crates.....	891
Bicycles.....	115
Life Jackets.....	257
Tractors.....	20
Trash Cans.....	444
Car Engines.....	15
Chairs.....	90
Stoves .....	192
TVs.....	268

**105 BOWLING BALLS**

**57 LAWN MOWERS**

**172 BBQ GRILLS**

**12 MOTORCYCLES**

**20 TRACTORS**

Lawn Mowers.....	57
Couches/Recliners.....	60
Motorcycles.....	12
Dishwashers.....	69
Barge Cable.....	11,676 ft
Bath Tubs.....	28
Mattresses.....	103
Duck Decoys.....	273
Toilets.....	112
School Bus Top.....	1
Safes.....	23
Bags of Police Riot Gear..	6
Construction Cones.....	134
Big Wheels/Kids' Bikes....	68
Pianos.....	4
Jet Skis.....	7
Messages in Bottles.....	78
Buoys.....	326
Sunken Barges.....	3
Hot Tubs.....	13
1 ft-thick Styrofoam.....	16 football fields
5th Wheel Trailer.....	1
Campers.....	4
Ronald McDonald Shoe....	1
Shipping Container.....	1
Electric Guitars.....	1
Outboard engines.....	7
Prosthetic Limbs.....	13
Computer Monitors .....	118
Car Batteries.....	116
Combine Harvester.....	1



# ★ EDUCATION & OUTREACH ★



This spring we started the workshop season by visiting the Tennessee River for the first time ever! The Tennessee River Tour brought 680 students to the barge for 22 workshops before heading back to the Quad Cities for Summer Camps. In just 10 Summer Camp events, Meghan & Mike were able to work with 272 kids from local clubs like The Boys and Girls Club, YMCA, Girl Scouts, and Camp Abe Lincoln! In July, we ventured out into new territory with our first ever Agriculture Leadership Institute in Galena, IL. Forty-five interns visited Chestnut Mountain to learn about the link between river systems and the agriculture industry as well as enhance their leadership skills within their companies. The week included a canoe excursion, professional guided tree climbing, a best practices farm tour, and professional leadership speakers! The season wrapped up with 21 workshops for 523 students on the Ohio River! In total we worked with 1,520 educators/students/interns at over 57 days of workshops! In between workshops on the barge, LL&W staff participated in 19 community outreach events (expo booths/community presentations), and spoke at 31 schools. Combined, these presentations were able to reach over 24,175 people!

## 50 OUTREACH EVENTS – 24,175 PEOPLE REACHED



### 2015 EDUCATIONAL WORKSHOP STOPS

Knoxville, TN | Chattanooga, TN  
Decatur, AL | Muscle Shoals, AL  
Paris, TN | Paducah, KY  
Louisville, KY | Brandenburg, KY  
Alton, IN | Tell City, IN  
Owensboro, KY | Evansville, IN



57 EVENTS | 13 CITIES | 5 STATES | 1,520 STUDENTS/TEACHERS/INTERNS

# Great MISSISSIPPI RIVER ★★★ CLEANUP ★★★

**2015 LOCATIONS**  
NEW ORLEANS, LA LACROSSE, WI  
BUFFALO CITY, WI WABASHA, MN  
NEW ORLEANS, LA ST. PAUL, MN  
CLINTON, IA MOLINE, IL  
SAVANNA, IL SABULA, IA  
ST. LOUIS, MO EAST MOLINE, IL  
MEMPHIS, TN



The Great Mississippi River Cleanup (GMRC) consisted of 13 events and with the help of nearly 1,000 volunteers, removed 61,576 lbs of garbage from the Mississippi River. 2015 marked the first year since the program's expansion in 2014 that almost the entire span of the river was covered, with the addition of two new sites in New Orleans!

**13 EVENTS | 966 VOLUNTEERS | 61,576 LBS OF TRASH**

**THANK YOU** TO OUR 2015 SPONSORS

ADM/ARTCO | AEP Operations | Anheuser-Busch | BUNGE | Cargill  
Caterpillar | Deere & Co. | Grainger | Ingram | Keen  
Marquette Transportation Company | Sappi | U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

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# COMMUNITY



In addition to our Alternative Spring Break and Great Mississippi River Cleanups, we held 33 community cleanups, and with an additional 799 volunteers, removed 90,270 lbs of debris. This year's stops included 6 different rivers in 14 cities spread throughout Tennessee, Alabama, Kentucky, Illinois, Iowa, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and Indiana.



**33 CLEANUPS | 799 VOLUNTEERS | 90,270 LBS OF TRASH**

# alternative SPRING BREAK

2015

14  
EVENTS

10  
STATES

15  
COLLEGES

189  
VOLUNTEERS

104,385  
LBS OF TRASH



March proved to be another icy challenge for our week one Alternative Spring Break students as snowstorms put work to a screeching halt early on in the week. With our biggest group to date, we were still able to remove over 100,000 lbs in a little over two weeks of work! In total 189 volunteers (154 students and 45 community members) removed 104,385 lbs of debris from McKellar Lake!

## BLUE RIVER

Green Earth Outdoors

## CLEAR CREEK RIVER (CO)

Domoto Brands LLC

## CHICAGO RIVER

University of Chicago - Graham House

## DELAWARE RIVER

Aqua Vida

McDaniel Landscaping, LLC.

## EDWARDS RIVER

Mercer County 4-H Teen Federation

## ILLINOIS RIVER

ADM Employees - Morris, IL

ADM Employees - Ottawa, IL

Better Fishing Association

Exelon's Dresden Generation Station

Peru Rescue Squad

Preaks of Nature

TEST, Inc.

Triumph Community Bank - Havana, IL

## MISSISSIPPI RIVER

ADM Grain: Burlington, IA

ADM Red Wing

Alcoa

Ameren Missouri, Keokuk Plant

Andrew Chapman

Artco Fleeting Service- Clinton

Artco Fleeting Services-Cassville

Artco Fleeting Services-Dubuque

Artco Fleeting Services-Prairie Du Chien

Assumption

Augustana Tri Beta Beta Biological

Honors Society

Bass Wranglers

Bay West, Inc.

Big River Dive Team

Bolton, Pat & Tom

Boy Scout Troop 24-Bettendorf

Brice Prairie Conservation Club

Bunge North America - McGregor

Carlson Family

Cascade Boating Association

City of Gretna

CYC: June Combs

Docherty, Melonee

Dzine Wise

Friends of Dubuque Co. Conservation Board

Friends of Off Road Cycling (FORC)

Global Affect Student Group- Augustana College

Hoelt Family

Huck Finners

Iowa American Water Company



Jamieson Family

Kone Inc., Employees

Lenger Family

Lonn Grandia

Loud Thunder River Patrol

Master Naturalist

McCormick Family

Mississippi River Basin Expedition

Missman, Inc.

Moline Conservation Club

Morse Family & Friends

New Boston Elementary School

Northern Border Pipeline

Port Byron Green Committee

River Ridge Homeowners Association

River's Edge Academy

Riverbend Middle School

Russell Construction Company

Ryan Family

Saint Paul the Apostle Catholic Church

Schreiber, Steve

Sierra Club- Eagle River Club

Soblech, Scott & Amber

StandUPMN

Team Red, White & Blue

TEE Inc

The Bob Panther Family

The Edwards Family - Nick, Barbara, & Gibson

The Nelson Family

Treiber Family

Up To Earth

US Coast Guard Auxiliary, Flotilla 9-5

Visger Landing North

Wisconsin Industrial Sand Co.

Zion Lutheran Church

## OHIO RIVER

Branson Family

Rivertowne Marina Members

## PLUM RIVER

Carroll County Soil & Water Conservation District

## ST. CROIX RIVER

Soblech Family

## TENNESSEE RIVER

Cleve and Kat Marsh

## WAPSIPINICON RIVER

Up To Earth

**244 MILES ADOPTED**

To expand the impact in 2015, the Adopt-A-River Mile (AARM) program opened registration to all U.S. Rivers! In addition to the Mississippi and Illinois Rivers, we now have stewards taking care of the Wapsipinicon, Plum, Delaware, Ohio, Tennessee, Blue, Chicago, St. Croix, and Edwards Rivers, as well as Clear Creek! Over 69 miles were adopted this year alone, bringing our total 244 miles!

million

# TREES PROJECT

2015

**42** EVENTS  
**3,397** VOLUNTEERS  
**821,878** TREES DISTRIBUTED



After 28 days of tree wrapping in March, we gave away 128,607 oak saplings, bringing us closer than ever to our goal of 1 million! Of those, 3,115 were planted at events in Knoxville, TN, Chattanooga, TN, and Maxwell, IA. The LL&W Tree Nursery (Davenport, IA) ramped up local volunteer opportunities in the spring/summer! Quad City Area volunteers joined together for 8 beautification events to help us keep the nursery in tiptop shape. In May, another 200,000 acorns were planted in preparation for harvest in 2017.



# INVASIVE SPECIES

# REMOVAL

8 EVENTS

484 VOLUNTEERS

10.75 ACRES  
OF HONEYSUCKLE  
REMOVED



Our 2015 Invasive Species Removal (ISR) season was one for the books! We nearly doubled our ISR volunteers from the year prior--showing interest in these needed events is sprouting! The "A-Team" DJ bus returned to motivate volunteers as they fearlessly chopped, lopped, and pulled 10.75 acres of honeysuckle from Illiniwek Forest Preserve in Hampton, IL and Rock Springs Conservation Area in Decatur, IL.



# TENNESSEE

# RIVER

# ★ Tour ★



**64 EVENTS**



**2,303**

**PEOPLE  
ENGAGED**



**18,732**

**LBS OF TRASH  
REMOVED**

We ventured out on our first ever Tennessee River Tour this spring with a goal of not only bringing awareness to the river, but also highlighting groups already doing amazing work in the area! We completed a record breaking 64 events in 8 weeks: 6 tree plantings, 22 educational workshops, 6 speaker series, 5 press conferences, 4 community cleanups, 6 open houses, 6 partner celebration parties, and 9 crew cleanups.

# SAVE the DATE

# BARGE PARTY 2016

SCHWIEBERT PARK, ROCK ISLAND

THURSDAY, JUNE 2ND, 2016

FISH FRY & SHRIMP BOIL | SILENT AUCTION  
CASH BAR | LIVE MUSIC | BARGE TOURS  
MEET & GREET THE LL&W CREW



# NEW OPERATION — 2015 —

Our operations were ramped to the next level this year with the addition of a new barge, mini truckable towboat, and John Deere excavator! The new operations will transform boat loads of debris into barge loads--making the work of retrieving those oversized items much safer and much more efficient! We set a new goal of removing 1 million pounds of trash from U.S. rivers in the upcoming season.



**SPECIAL  
THANKS**

**TO**



Ingram | Jeffboat | Pierce Manufacturing  
The Shearer Group | Sherwin Williams | Tennant Truck Lines

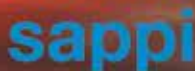


# OUR MISSION

To aid in the protection, preservation and restoration of the natural environment of the nation's major rivers and their watersheds.

To expand awareness of environmental issues and responsibility encompassing the river.

To create a desire and an opportunity for stewardship and responsibility for a cleaner river environment.



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