



ANNUAL REPORT 2014



COMING TO A RIVER NEAR YOU...

DEAR SUPPORTER,

Looking back at everything we've accomplished and received this year, I am once again awed by the tremendous commitment of the individuals who make up Living Lands & Waters. Our supporters, thousands of volunteers along with our modest staff and crew went beyond the expected to achieve extraordinary results.

In the last several years, we've effectively expanded the number of our clean-up events, added more students in our education programs, made significant progress with the growing and distribution of the MillionTrees project, enhanced Adopt-a-River-Mile initiative and leveraged the strength of our volunteers, sponsors, supporters, media and friends to grow the awareness of our mission and efforts to protect and preserve America's waterways. In the process, I was named the 2013 CNN Hero of the Year. All this is creating unprecedented opportunities for our organization.

We're entering the new year with a great deal to be proud of and even more to look forward to. As the momentum continues to build for our organization, I'm excited to share with you that we will be expanding our river cleanup operation and have set an unprecedented goal to remove 500,000 pounds of garbage out of America's rivers in 2015!

To attain this goal, we will be replacing one of our aging barges with one that will be able to house a new excavator and truckable towboat which will allow us to:

- Improve the efficiency of our river cleanup projects
- Expand our reach to cover more river miles
- Increase the overall volume of garbage removed from America's rivers
- Ensure safety of our staff and volunteers
- Multiply our capabilities to tackle larger jobs.

2015 is set to be one of the biggest years in LL&W's history and one that we aspire will create even more extraordinary opportunities for long-term sustainability of our waterways and making a difference for our future generations.

On behalf of everyone at Living Lands & Waters, I thank you for your continued support as we strive to keep America's rivers clean.

Sincerely,



Founder & President



MEET THE TEAM





MEET THE TEAM

1. CHAD PREGRACKE *Founder & President*

The Mississippi River was literally Chad Pregracke's backyard while growing up near East Moline, IL. Today, the organization has grown to include 13 full-time staff and fleet of equipment. Since its inception, Chad, his crew and over 70,000 volunteers have collected nearly 8 million pounds of debris from our nation's greatest rivers. Most recently, Chad expanded efforts to include the Big River Educational Outreach, The MillionTrees Project, Invasive Species Removal, and the Adopt-a-River Mile programs. 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; America's version of the Nobel Prize in June 2002. Chad accepted this award in the United States Supreme Court in Washington D.C. with other reward recipients: Rudolph Giuliani, Bill and Melinda Gates, and Lilly Tartikoff. Chad was honored to be named the 2013 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.

2. 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 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.

3. MIKE COYNE-LOGAN *Education Facilitator, Crew Member*

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.

4. ERIC LOUCK *Crew Member*

Eric aka "Yam" first worked with the LL&W team from 2001 to 2005. He was an important part of the early days and the building of the organization — not to mention, it's where he met his wife and former crew member, Lisa Louck. In 2012, Yam (don't ever call him Sweet Potato) rejoined the LL&W crew. In addition to the expertise and knowledge Yam brings to the barge, he has upped our profile at our events with his unique ability to portray a Leprechaun (as he did on St. Patrick's Day at Alternative Spring Break 2014). Eric enjoys Red Sox baseball and fishing.

5. ASHLEY STOVER

Director of Safety & Maintenance, Project Coordinator
Ashley graduated from Western Illinois University in 2007 with a bachelor's degree in biology, but with this LL&W superstar, you would have thought it was astrology. This north star is not afraid to get dirty, get after trash with the best of them and step up as the big dipper when extra hands are needed. Ashley's organization skills, dedication and tenacity have served her well in leadership roles with the MillionTrees Project and as the organization's Safety Coordinator. When she's not helping keep things tidy and organized for LL&W, she loves hanging in her galaxy with dog Smo, friends, family... and especially her niece, Keegan.

6. JOHN BOSTROM (J.B.) *Operations Manager, Crew Member*

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 he 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.

7. AMBER PRIBYL *Office Manager*

Amber aka ("Am's", "Amborine", "The Miracle Worker", "The River Hygienist", "Ambrosia", "Silence of the Ambs") joined the LL&W team in May 2012. It was her well-known commitment to success, support of community development and volunteer efforts that connected her to the organization. Amber oversees the administrative operations from LL&W's home port office. A former dental assistant, she now enthusiastically manages the Quad Cities office with tenacity and is dedicated to finding ways for LL&W to make the most of its resources. As the organizer of the annual barge party, Amber has elevated that event to record breaking standards. In her free time, she enjoys spending time with friends and family, live music and meeting new people.

MEET THE TEAM

8. 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, skate boarding whiz, snowboarder, sage photographer, prospective American Ninja Warrior, and he plays one mean kazoo. He loves traveling and listening to live music.

9. AMY MCCOY *Education Coordinator, Crew Member*

In 2012, Amy met the Living Lands & Waters Crew as a teacher when she brought her class aboard for a student workshop. After being blown away by her vocals during the workshop and hearing her express her admiration for the organization, Chad later contacted Amy to invite her to come on staff as the new Education Coordinator. With 10 years of classroom teaching experience in Biology, Earth Science, and Environmental Science as well as a Master's degree in Environmental Studies from California State University at Fullerton, Amy brings valued expertise to the education program, not to mention an occasional "Star-Spangled Banner" at a clean-up event.

10. SHELLY HAMM *Financial Manager*

Serving as the keeper of the checkbook, Shelly carries the responsibility of payroll, expenses and recordkeeping 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 our operations. Shelly might be the kindest, sweetest, most giving person on the crew – but if anyone misses turning in time sheets, she will come a-looking. Shelly is married to Roger and they have two children. In her off time, she enjoys watching her kids sporting events and serving as their full-time taxi driver.

11. KATE RUNGE

Director of Marketing & Events Coordinator

When she's not sweating to meet administrative deadlines for LL&W, she's dead lifting 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.

12. NELSON CURRAN *Crew Member*

Nelson brings something to the table that no one else does; a little thing he calls, "garbage vision." When wearing his "shades," he's known for spotting trash on shore from remarkable distances. Nelson first worked with the crew as a volunteer at Alternative Spring Break 2011. He graduated from Augustana College, Rock Island in 2012 with a degree in Geography. His previous jobs include working for the Minnesota Conservation Corps, a Coastal Land Trust, and was a kayak tour guide. Nelson's hobbies include hiking, cooking, playing his guitar, visiting family and friends, and talking about the awesomeness of his fellow crew member, Yam. He also loves Philadelphia!

13. 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, but her favorite thing to do is baking chocolate chip cookies for the crew.

14. JENNIFER RYAN *Programs Assistant*

A renowned do-gooder, Jennifer is no stranger to the nonprofit world. She and her father started ESPWA Ministries which has taken her to Haiti 11 times to provide scholarships that sends kids to school and provides them with a healthy meal. She joined the Living Lands & Waters crew in September of 2014. Jennifer is deathly afraid of spiders and not to dwell on the arachnophobia thing too much, but isn't it odd that she'd name her daughter after the most famous spider of all time, "Charlotte?" Jennifer enjoys baking, reading, live music, traveling to Haiti, avoiding spiders at all costs and spending time with friends and family.

15. MIKE HANLIN *Captain*

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

\$10,000 – 24,999

American Honda Motor Co Inc
 Annenberg Foundation
 Argosy Foundation
 Black Family Foundation
 Eastern Iowa Community College District
 Erickson, Cindy
 Illinois Tool Works Foundation
 KEEN, Inc.
 Lafarge North America
 Republic Services / Allied Waste
 Riverway Foundation
 Scott County Regional Authority
 Terry & Laura Becker
 Upper River Services
 Watson, Alexander
 Weck Charitable Trust



\$5,000 – 9,999

Aavang, Sarah
 Alfaretta Young Trust
 American Profol, Inc
 CFC - Illowa Bi-State
 CGB Enterprises, Inc.
 Crouse Corporation River Trans.
 Ed Uihlein Family Foundation
 Edwards Creative Services, LLC
 Holcim (US) Inc
 Johnston-Hanson Foundation
 Mike's Inc.
 Morrison Family Foundation
 Mulzer Crushed Stone Co., Inc.
 RBC Wealth Management
 River Network
 Subaru
 The Sedona Group
 Wallace, Bill
 Wallenius Wilhelmsen Logistics
 Waste Commission of Scott County
 Xylem LTD

\$1,000 – 4,999

American Commercial Lines Inc
 Anderson, Derek
 Andrews, Brad & Alice
 Anonymous
 Bardin Palomo Ltd.
 Beaver Builders Inc.
 Birdies for Charity
 Blanchard & Callhoun Commercial
 Blistex
 Bowers, Richard Jr.
 Bowlesburg Elementary School
 Bridgestone Retail Operations/Firestone
 Burke Cleaners Inc
 C.H. Robinson Worldwide, Inc.
 Ceres Barge Line
 Chaney, Robert
 Charles B. Preacher Foundation
 CK Power Products
 Dewoskin/Roskin Foundation
 Economy Boat Store
 Elkay Manufacturing Company
 Fairmount Minerals
 Francis, Richard
 Gill, Gerald & Elizabeth
 Greiman, Eldon & Judith
 Gresh, Susan & Phil
 Gresham, Smith and Partners
 Hahn, Bruce & Doreen
 Harper Family
 Holst Trucking & Excavating

Illinois EPA
 Iowa Credit Union League
 Izaak Walton League
 Jahn, Clarissa
 Johnson, Alan
 Kapsner, Richard
 Knost, Deborah & James
 Litov, Richard
 Love & Promise Jewelers
 Lowell N. Johnson Charitable Foundation
 Lundy, Curtis
 Lykins Family Foundation
 Mansuy, Bucky
 Marco Group International, Inc.
 Menke, Mel
 Midwest River Expeditions
 Morrison, Ellen
 Mumford Family Foundation
 Neumann, Kenneth
 Nielsen, Eric B
 Norwood, Reece
 O'Connell, Ashling
 One Step Printing
 Paluch Family Foundation
 Parker, Tim
 Pfaff, Alain & Cathy
 Pinsky, Laura
 Pleasant View LLC/Navarro Canoe Co
 Port of New Orleans
 Pregracke, Chad

Pregracke, Gary & Keekee
 PTLX Global
 RAGBRAI QC Group
 Rexroat Sound
 Riverlands Marine Surveyors
 Ross, Blake
 Roth, Mr. & Mrs. David
 S&ME, Inc.
 Safigel Contact Lenses
 SCF Marine Inc.
 Sheaffer, Dr James & Stella
 Silver, Spencer
 Smith, Ryan & Erin
 SSAB Iowa Inc.
 Starved Rock Foundation
 Stegbauer, Bill
 The Johnson Watkins Family Foundation
 The Machine Shed Restaurant
 The Pillsbury Foundation
 The Raney Family Fund
 Thompson Engineering
 Tomazich, Dawn
 Trinity Marine Products Inc.
 Truettner Foundation
 US Bank
 Von Maur, Charles & Nancy
 Von, Maur, Allison
 Waterways Journal
 Young, Lance
 Brendan Young
 Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church

UP TO \$999 782 individual, business and memorial donations totaling **\$91,965**

EXPENSES

EXPENSES

Program Services

Salaries and Benefits	558,792
Contract Services	14,042
Travel & Lodging	65,213
Operating Expense	284,012
Repair Expense	72,990
Insurance Expense	124,665
Educational Programs	36,749
MillionTrees Project	214,080
Great Mississippi River Cleanup	19,050
Other Projects	42,713
Depreciation	198,966
TOTAL	1,631,273

SUPPORTING SERVICES

Management and General

Salaries and Benefits	106,223
Office Supplies and Equipment	42,904
Professional Fees	17,738
Depreciation	989
TOTAL	167,853

Public Relations

Website	9,205
Annual Fundraiser	29,495
Promotional Expense	5,150
Marketing/Fundraising	87,645
TOTAL	131,494

TOTAL EXPENSES 1,930,621



CUMULATIVE STATS

5-Gallon Buckets	3,622
55-Gallon Drums	6,301
Bags of Trash	98,402
Sinks	141
Tires	73,374
Barge Line	19,960
Refrigerators	981
Air Conditioners	70
Washing Machines	223
Gas Tanks and Cans	448
Propane Tanks	1,501
Mannequin Heads & Hands	14
Hot Water Heaters	307
Portable Toilets	25
BBQ Grills	168
Shopping Carts	58
Coolers	379
Bowling Balls	104
Toy Dolls	621
Boats	74
Freezers	109
Cars/Trucks/Vans	12
Balls	22,200

250-Gallon Drums	64
Milk Crates	801
Bicycles	114
Life Jackets	246
Tractors	20
Trash Cans	379
Car Engines	15
Chairs	1,218
Stoves	192
TVs	254
Lawn Mowers	57
Couches/Recliners	59
Motorcycles	12
Dishwasher	69
Barge Cable	11,000 ft
Bath Tubs	28
Mattresses	101
Duck Decoys	264

Toilets	110
School Bus Top	1
Safes	23
Bags of Police Riot Gear	6
Construction Cones/Barricades	119
Big Wheels	55
Pianos	4
Jet Skis	7
Messages in Bottles	77
Buoys	313
Sunken Barges	3
Hot Tubs	13
1 ft-thick Styrofoam	14 football fields
5th Wheel Trailer	1
Camper	3
Ronald McDonald Shoe	1
Shipping Container	1
Electric Guitar	1
Outboard engines	7
Prosthetic Limbs	13
Computer Monitors	117
Car Batteries	108
Combine Harvester	1



EDUCATION & OUTREACH



"This trip is undoubtedly going to be one of the best memories of their school year."

- Madison Sewell,
Teacher, Henderson
County High School, KY



"This was the best field trip that I have ever taken a group to."

- Kris Hodge,
Teacher, John Harvin
High School, KY

We held 48 workshops in 2014 that included 1,392 high school students and teachers coming aboard the Barge for lessons on river sustainability and stewardship.

While this was the third year on the Mississippi, it was our first providing educational programming on the Ohio River. We stopped in 8 cities between Paducah and Louisville, KY.

Participants rave about the program and soaked up our equipment enhancements like stereomicroscopes, Envirosapes® watershed models, turbidity tubes, and a sanitizing cabinet for safety goggles. These additions

advance innovative programming and provide high-quality, hands-on science experience for the students.

Educational programming was also expanded in our home-base area of the Quad Cities. Over the summer, LL&W partnered with Boys and Girls Club of the Mississippi Valley, Camp Abe Lincoln, Camp Shalom, Maquoketa YMCA, and YMCA Two Rivers to bring 171 students aboard the floating classroom. We even spent a day with a students from China through the Rivers as Bridges program, learning as much from them as they did us.



THE GREAT MISSISSIPPI RIVER CLEANUP AND COMMUNITY CLEANUPS

The Great Mississippi River Cleanup was turned up a notch this year. With added support and leadership from Site Coordinators, we expanded our reach to include the full length of the river. The results of the 798 armed volunteers at 13 different sites was the collection of 58,415 pounds of trash.

GMRC 2014 SPONSORS

ADM ★ AEP River Operations ★ Anheuser-Busch ★ ARTCO ★ BUNGE
Cargill ★ Caterpillar ★ Ingram ★ Grainger ★ John Deere ★ KEEN
Marquette Transportation Company ★ Sappi ★ U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Top that off with the colossal community cleanup efforts that took place throughout the year on the Mississippi, Illinois, Delaware, Ohio and Des Moines Rivers, and 58,484 additional pounds of garbage gathered at 23 community sites by 1,060 volunteers.





ALTERNATIVE SPRING BREAK

Although our 14th Annual Spring Break started off a day late due to an ice storm at McKellar Lake in Memphis, the weather didn't hinder the enthusiasm of the students who made up for lost time later in the first week. Throughout the 3-week initiative, 98 students from 25 colleges and other various local organizations removed 86,300 pounds of garbage, surpassing the half million point for the five years dedicated to clean-up efforts at McKellar Lake.


**98 STUDENTS FROM 25 DIFFERENT COLLEGES
REMOVED 86,300 POUNDS OF TRASH!**



GROUP NAME	# OF MILES	MILE #'S
CYC: June Combs	2	108-110 IL
Mississippi River Basin Expedition	1	117-118 IL
The Nelson Family	1	118-119 IL
Lonn Grandia	16	246-254 IL/MO
Ameren Missouri, Keokuk Plant	2	364-365 IL/IA
Cascade Boating Association	2	401-403 IA
ADM Grain: Burlington, IA	1	406-407 IA
TEE Inc	5	415-420 IL
New Boston Elementry School	1	432-433 IL
Morse Family & Friends	10	457-462 IL/IA
Docherty, Melonee	1	465-466 IL
Treiber Family	1	466-467 IA
Loud Thunder River Patrol	2	466-468 IL
Ryan Family	1	477-478 IA
Global Affect Student Group-Augustana College	2	478-479 IA/IL
Master Naturalist	1	480-481 IL
Missman, Inc.	1	482-483 IL
Iowa American Water Company	1	483-484 IA
Bolton, Pat & Tom	1	484-485 IA
Augustana Tri Beta Beta Biological Honors Soc.	1	484-485 IL
US Coast Guard Auxiliary, Flotilla 9-5	1	485-486 IA
Kone Inc., Employees	1	485-486 IL
Russell Construction Company	1	486-487 IA
Sierra Club- Eagle River Club	1	486-487 IL
Moline Conservation Club	1	487-488 IL
Jamieson Family	2	487-488 IA/IL
Alcoa	1	488-489 IA
Lenger Family	1	488-489 IL
Boy Scout Troop 24-Bettendorf	2	489-491 IA
Big River Dive Team	1	496-497 IL
Port Byron Green Committee	2	497-499 IL
Northern Border Pipeline	2	500-501 IA/IL
Zion Lutheran Church	2	501-503 IA
Artco Fleeting Service- Clinton	8	512-516 IA/IL
Riverbend Middle School	1	520-521 IL
Carlson Family	4	543-545 IA/IL
Thompson, Gary & Carol	8	569-573 IA/IL
Friends of Dubuque Co. Conservation Board	1	573-574 IA
Artco Fleeting Services-Dubuque	8	574-578 IA/IL
Dzine Wise	1	579-580 IA
Schreiber, Steve	1	583-584 WI
Friends of Dubuque Co. Conservation Board	1	589-590 IA
Friends of Dubuque Co. Conservation Board	2	595-597 IA
Artco Fleeting Services-Cassville	4	606-608 IA/WI
Bunge North America - McGregor	1	633-634 IA
Artco Fleeting Services-Prairie Du Chien	4	634-636 IA/WI
Visger Landing North	3	689-691 MN
Brice Prairie Conservation Club	2	703-704 WI/MN
Wisconsin Industrial Sand Co.	1	779-780 WI
ADM Red Wing	2	790-791 WI/MN
River Ridge Homeowners Assoc.	1	793-794 WI
Bass Wranglers	1	814-815 MN
River's Edge Academy	1	841-842 MN
StandUPMN	2	843-844MN
Bay West, Inc.	6	844-847 MN
McCormick Family	1	847-848 MN
StandUPMN	2	855-856 MN
Huck Finners	6	951-957MN
Sobiech, Scott & Amber	1	Mile 1 Zebulon Pike Lake, MN
The Bob Panther Family	6.5	1272.5-1275.6 MN Headwaters (both sides)
Hoelt Family		North Fork Crow River

MISSISSIPPI

~ Adopt A ~
MISSISSIPPI RIVER MILE
 HELP US KEEP THE RIVER CLEAN



LIVING LANDS & WATERS

For more information:
 309.496.9848
livinglandsandwaters.org

ILLINOIS

GROUP NAME	# OF MILES	MILE #'S
THE National Bank Employees-Havana, IL	1	109-110 W
Better Fishing Assoc.	1	221-222 S
Peru Rescue Squad	1	222-223 S
TEST, Inc.	1	223-224 E/W
ADM Employees - Ottawa, IL	18	236-245 N/S
ADM Employees - Morris, IL	2	263-265 N
	24	



2014 MILLION TREES PROJECT

BREAKING RECORDS AND GROUND



It sounds simple; plant acorns, dig up the saplings, pass them out to anyone willing to plant them along the Mississippi River watershed. Oak trees provide wildlife with food and habitat while helping control erosion, absorbing carbon and providing shade. It's only as easy as the number of people we get to help make things happen. And we have a lot.

In five days at the QCCA Expo Center in Rock Island, over 900 community members wrapped 48,000 bare root oak saplings. This led LL&W to distribute a record 139,056 trees this year to several schools, businesses, park districts, campgrounds, sponsors, and families in 12 different states.

The City of Davenport contributed to the growth and success of the MillionTrees Project by awarding a \$1 a year lease to LL&W for an Interpretive Urban Tree Farm — our own local nursery. After cultivating the ground with river dirt and compost to ensure proper pH, volunteers helped plant more than 300,000 acorns on one half of the property in early May. The other section will be planted in the spring of 2015, proving alternate harvests with the first one yielding about 125,000–150,000 saplings in the spring of 2016.

When you have a team of committed and dedicated volunteers like you and willing public partners like the City of Davenport, it proved to be simple.



"Always enjoy working with the LL&W crew! You are infectious! Makes me feel younger (until later). Keep up the good work and look forward to next time."

- David Colgan,
A.K.A. Dave the Bag Man

Thanks for all the great work you do without losing your head. It's always great to see you at the tree wrapping. I felt kind of out of place and didn't quite know where to go at first, but it worked out in the end and I had a great time, as always. There's always such energy in the room and the spirit of cooperation is amazing. Total strangers working in harmony, from little bitty kids to old ladies, like me! I'm already looking forward to next year, unless you can use me to help on something else before then.

All the best,
Lee Ann Wille



I was so blessed being able to give trees to the survivors. Many cried when they received their Red Oaks, telling me how it pained them as much to lose their trees as it did their homes. All of the trees are going to homeowners. It is nice to think that someday they will hold swings, provide shade for picnics, and nests for birds. You would not believe how much promise those little bare root trees showed in the eyes of residents of Tazewell County. Thank you!

- Kim Bill



INVASIVE SPECIES REMOVAL

The Invasive Species Removal program was revitalized this year to focus on eradicating Japanese Honeysuckle at Illinwek Park in Hampton, Illinois. This aggressive vine seriously alters or destroys the underground and herbaceous layers in forests, floodplains and more.

MORE THAN 215 VOLUNTEERS FROM 11 DIFFERENT ORGANIZATIONS REMOVED OVER 11 ACRES OF HONEYSUCKLE IN JUST 9 EVENTS.

To keep these folks motivated, LL&W debuted their newest addition to their fleet; the LL&W Bus. Complete with a custom wrap with an “A-Team” like design, the roof equipped for a full music platform and an in-house expert DJ, volunteers danced their way through the eradication efforts.



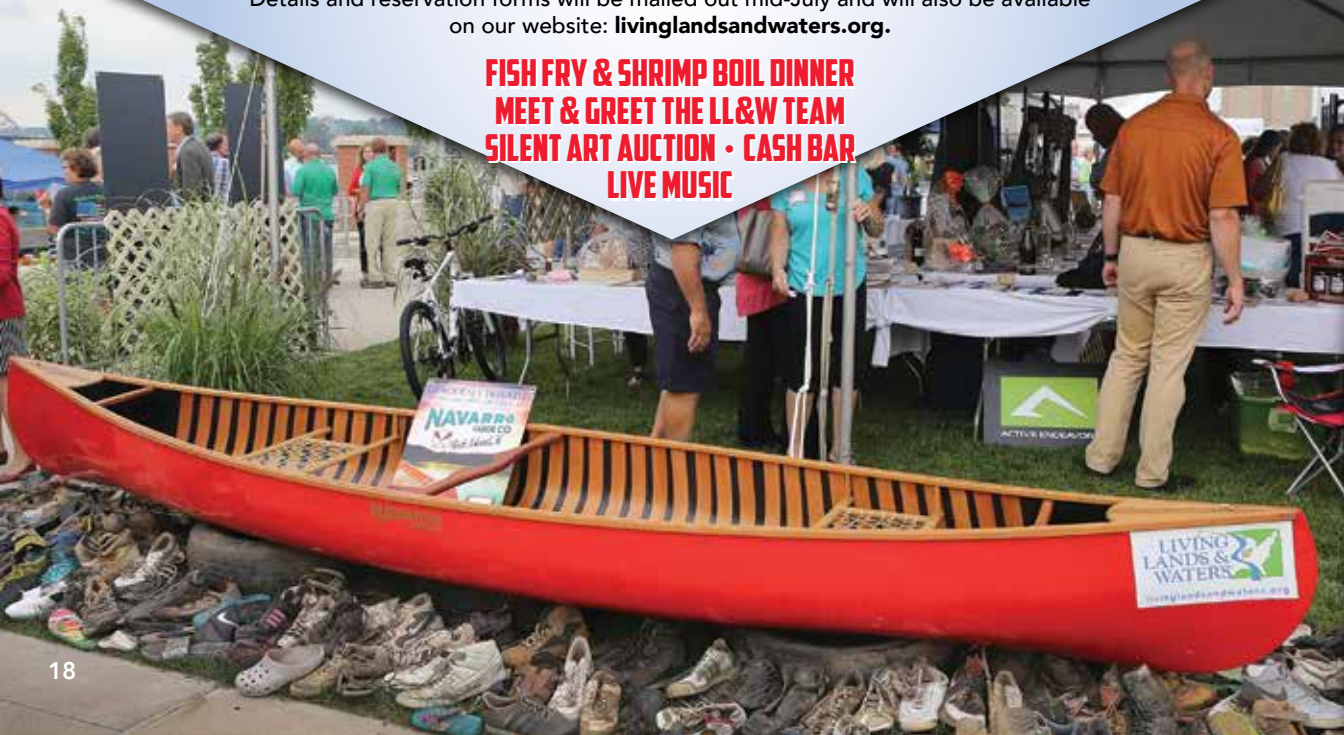


SAVE THE DATE! BARGE PARTY 2015

Thursday, August 6, 2015
Schwiebert Park, Rock Island

Details and reservation forms will be mailed out mid-July and will also be available on our website: livinglandsandwaters.org.

FISH FRY & SHRIMP BOIL DINNER
MEET & GREET THE LL&W TEAM
SILENT ART AUCTION • CASH BAR
LIVE MUSIC



TOWBOAT REPOWER




JOHN DEERE



After bringing our tugboat up to speed with a complete repower in 2013 with three PowerTech 9.0L marine propulsion engines, John Deere generously stepped in again this year and donated two 50-kW generator sets to help power our house barge. Armed with our new state of the art machinery, we are eager to see what 2015 brings!

**THANK YOU JOHN DEERE,
AMERICAN COMMERCIAL LINES,
CK POWER AND MANY OTHERS!**



"At John Deere, we aspire to be a power for good. We are honored to help power the good work of Living Lands & Waters not only through our John Deere Power Systems engines, but also through the drive of hundreds of John Deere employee volunteers who are committed to Living Lands & Waters and its mission."

— Mara Sovey, Director,
Global Citizenship, Deere & Company
and President, John Deere Foundation



OUR MISSION

TO AID IN THE PROTECTION, PRESERVATION AND RESORATION
OF THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT OF THE NATIONS' 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.



We are proud to print this Living Lands & Waters brochure on paper generously donated by Sappi Fine Paper North America. This brochure is printed on 100lb Opus 30 Dull Text. Opus sheets feature 10% post-consumer waste and 100% of the electricity used to manufacture Opus is Green-e certified renewable energy.

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