



LIVING
LANDS &
WATERS®

ANNUAL REPORT 2018



coming to a river near you...

DEAR FRIENDS,

2018 was another epic year in so many ways! I owe this 100% to the team. I owe it to you, as supporters, the full-time staff and wonderful volunteers who work hard day in and day out. With your help, we reached a major milestone this year; 10 MILLION POUNDS of trash has been removed!! It's so gratifying to know that we have so many people on our team helping our mission to clean up America's rivers. I hope you are just as proud as we are of this and our many other accomplishments!

In addition to that milestone, two other big things happened for the organization that will help us move forward and further our progress. First, we put the M/V River Cleanup I (our original towboat) back into service with some major modifications, which has been invaluable from an operational standpoint.

The second thing was identifying an important struggle; getting the people to the problem is often our biggest challenge especially in rural towns. There are long stretches of river that need extra muscle power and, thanks to the In Good Company program (started by Clif Bar) bringing a total of 35 outstanding employees representing 16 different companies to the barge, we found a solution to the problem while together removing 77,525 pounds of trash in just two weeks! That being said, we look forward to implementing our new Team Up to Clean Up program to do even more in 2019 and beyond!

As you know, there's much more work to be done and we have no intention of slowing down. Our goal for 2019 is to remove one million pounds of trash in one year and, with your help and generosity, I believe it's achievable. I can't thank you enough for continuing to give us the opportunity to do what we love while making a difference in our world!

Sincerely,



Chad Pregracke
Founder & President



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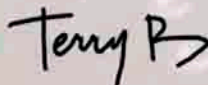
A WORD FROM THE BENCH

I can hardly believe it's my fifth (and final) year of writing "A Word from the Bench." It has truly been a great honor and humbling experience serving as the Board Chair for Living Lands & Waters. I've known Chad since he was first getting started in 1998 and have been a volunteer and supporter ever since. That most certainly won't change.

I want to take this opportunity to thank Chad not only for his entrepreneurial spirit but also his contagiously energetic personality and, most importantly, his leadership. He has never taken credit for all that has happened. Rather, he applauds and cheers for and sincerely thanks all of the fortunate people he has come to know. I have learned so much and have been genuinely inspired by him and the entire staff and crew. I find it remarkable that these young men and women barely half my age are able to provide so much meaning and fun. If you haven't already, head over to www.livinglandsandwaters.org to see for yourself all they've accomplished from the time Chad's vision was born to now. It's truly incredible!

I'd also like to say "A Word about the Bench." Organizations can falter and many times fail without good governance, budgets, planning, policies and strategies. Our board has always contributed their expertise and wisdom to ensure that LL&W continues to move forward with the tools necessary to do this vital work. We are collectively very proud of LL&W's four-out-of-four star rating from Charity Navigator for the last eight years. I thank my former Board partners and I will miss all of you.

Lastly, as Chad always reminds us, it is all of YOU - the volunteers, supporters, ambassadors and cheerleaders - who keep everything afloat. I thank you for everything you do. Keep up the good work and I hope to meet some of you in the years ahead!

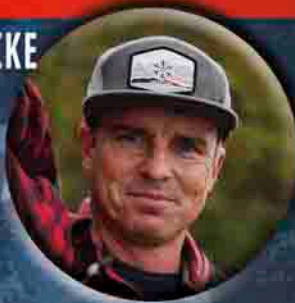


Terry Becker
Chair, Board of Directors

meet THE TEAM

CHAD PREGRACKE

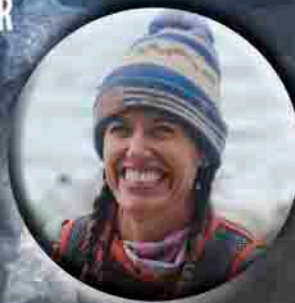
Founder &
President
/Crew



The Mississippi River was literally Chad Pregracke's back yard 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, being named the 2013 CNN Hero of the Year and the recipient of the Jefferson Award for Public Service (America's version of the Nobel Prize) in June 2002, which he accepted at the United States Supreme Court in Washington, D.C. with other award recipients: Rudolph Giuliani, Bill and Melinda Gates and Lilly Tartikoff. To a list of dozens of awards and honors for his leadership and hard work, Mitchum's Hardest Working Person award is also worth mentioning. Whenever he can get away from his rigorous work schedule, Chad enjoys fishing, hunting, skateboarding, windsurfing and recycling used and salvaged materials by incorporating them into new projects.

TAMMY BECKER

Programs
Manager
/Crew



Tammy earned a bachelor's degree in social work from Western Illinois University, and has served as an AmeriCorps VISTA and Peace Corps volunteer. A part of the crew since 2002, she's the maternal leader of Living Lands & Waters. Tammy holds key roles in the organization that include: grant writer, coordinator of the many LL&W events, assisting with cleanups and even cooks some bomb meals on the barge for the crew. If all of 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 beehive, the stars in his sky, and the one who reminds him not to forget Pork Chop on a river island. 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.

MICHAEL COYNE-LOGAN

Educational
Facilitator
/Crew



Mike, aka Nozzy, began as a volunteer in 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 hometown 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 have 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 (J.B.)

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 not only removes trash from America's rivers aboard our barge but he keeps our barge and other equipment going. J.B. ensures the engines are running and the props are turning. Plus, as the LL&W DJ, he keeps the music flowing by spinning tunes from a work boat. J.B. volunteered with LL&W for several years and participated in an Alternative Spring Break, which all led to his employment with us 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 QC band favorite The Dawn, sailing and avidly following American Ninja Warrior.

meet THE TEAM

Dan started as an LL&W volunteer in 2010 and, after participating in two Alternative Spring Breaks 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, including, but most definitely not limited to, acting as the unofficial IT Director, Film Editor and Project Manager for Adopt-a-River-Mile, Invasive Species Removal and the I-80 Restoration Project. He's creative and adds many innovative ideas to LL&W brainstorming sessions. He's a professional disc golfer, savvy, guru of trash collecting, a soccer goalie, skateboarding whiz, snowboarder, sage photographer, prospective *American Ninja Warrior* and plays one mean kazoo. He also loves traveling and listening to live music!



DAN BREIDENSTEIN

Multimedia
Specialist &
Project
Coordinator
/Crew

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 the operations. Shelly might be the kindest, sweetest, most giving person on the crew but, if anyone misses turning in their timesheets, Shelly will come a-looking. She and her husband Roger have two children. In her off time, Shelly enjoys watching her kids' sporting events and serving as their full-time taxi driver.



SHELLY HAMM

Financial
Manager

Meghan was raised by bald eagles until the age of four, when her human parents found her on the banks of the river and brought her into their family. A native to the Fox River Valley in northeastern Illinois, Meghan joined us from the Ozark Plateaus of northwest Arkansas where she spent 2014 working as a Teacher Naturalist at the Ozark Natural Science Center. She received her Bachelor of Science in Wildlife Ecology from the University of Wisconsin-Stevens 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 all-around outdoor enthusiast, you'll rarely see Meghan without a smile on her face! She spends her spare time adventuring, crafting or convincing the stiff and sore crew the benefits of yoga.



MEGHAN ELGAN

Education &
Project
Coordinator
/Crew

Accepting a post at LL&W in June of 2015 was a natural next step for David, who hails from the Natural State of Arkansas. David puts the "can" in Arkansas with his can-do attitude and handiness with a wrench. David studied viticulture and enology at Arkansas Tech University and worked in his father and grandfather's vineyard before feeling the tug from the Mississippi. He sometimes brings samples of wine and grape juice from home to the crew, which definitely multiplies David's value as a crew member. Evolving from grapes to oak trees, David tends to our oak tree nursery. When he's not growing saplings of the future, you might find him hunting, canoeing, fishing or gardening. You will never see David without a smile, unless he gets a little "peckish."



DAVID POST

Operations
Coordinator
/Crew

meet THE TEAM

LEAH CAFARELLI

Marketing
Manager &
Project
Coordinator
/Crew



Leah moved away from Salem, Massachusetts to join the LL&W crew after graduating from Salem State University with a degree in business. She attended Alternative Spring Break in Memphis two years in a row where she collected every abandoned hair clip in the Mississippi and earned herself the nickname "Flair." Leah worked at an up-and-coming marketing firm in Boston prior to joining the crew and her 10-year-plan includes obtaining several French bulldogs and living in a tiny home. She invites you to join our social conversations on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter!

DEREK MITCHELL

Safety
Manager
/Crew



Derek, aka "Lil Scrap," started in the fall of 2017. He is the third crew member, along with Dan Breidenstein and Luke Lippincott, from Geneseo, IL. In fact, they all grew up on the same block. Derek previously worked for Rock River Arms before living the tug life. One of his greatest life accomplishments is founding the Freshwater Mussels Gym (a weight room/secret elite social club in one of our basement barge chambers). When he isn't working he enjoys fishing, hiking, snowboarding and, most of all, watching the Red Sox play. Derek one day aspires to be the next *MasterChef*, but right now he will stick to just doing dishes and caddyding for Luke and Dan on the disc golf course.

CRYSTAL MILBURN

Office
Manager



Crystal earned a marketing degree from NIU and spent 16 years in corporate sales and marketing in Chicago then Raleigh before moving back to the Quad Cities. She excitedly joined the LL&W team in February of 2017 as the master of all things social and web, including spider webs, things with webbed feet and also the ability to recite from start to finish the novel *Charlotte's Web*. In February of 2018, she took on the role of tracking Chad which takes the combined skills of *Dog the Bounty Hunter* and Jessica Fletcher from *Murder She Wrote*. For help reaching Chad, email her or, if you're old school, you can send a message via carrier pigeon to the LL&W headquarters.

MATT BRINKMANN

Director of
Partnerships



Matt Brinkmann joined us in May of 2018 to oversee fundraising activities and grant writing and to explore other opportunities for partnership with companies and organizations. Prior to joining LL&W, he worked with the Gateway Arch Park Foundation, Great Rivers Greenway, the St. Louis Convention & Visitors Commission and the Saint Louis Science Center. And, in the local music scene, he is best known as a retired longtime founding member of the legendary Funky Butt Brass Band which has helped Matt keep our rivers less junky and our crew just a little more funky!!

LUKE LIPPINCOTT

Crew



Luke Lippincott, aka "Snow Leopard," and his trusty sidekick, Diesel, joined us in July of 2015. No stranger to traveling (at least that's what the guys he plays basketball with say), Luke is an avid disc golfer and loves snowboarding, camping and 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, by the way, he bakes some of the best chocolate chip cookies you've ever tasted!

meet THE TEAM

If Travis could be summed up in one word it would be loyal...loyal at least to LL&W's maternal leader, Tammy. He was discovered in southern Illinois with a patty of liquid nail on his head. Travis puts the word "chill" in chiller and his exceptionally laid back personality is great for any campfire. Accomplishments include: four-time champion softest fur coat at the National Fur Convention, fastest hot dog eaten north of the Mason-Dixon line and a variety of firsts and seconds at the biannual Alaskan river dog bark off championship. Simply put, Travis is a god among dogs.



TRAVIS
Pooch
Crew

After wandering the hills and valleys of Montana for eight months of his lonely puppy-hood, Pork Chop was taken in by the loving embrace of Chad and Tammy. Right away, it was apparent that he was made for life on the river. Never missing a boat or car ride, Pork Chop could be compared to a mix between *Scrappy-Dog* and *Curious George*. Pork Chop's hobbies include wrasslin', running full speed ahead (usually into Travis or Diesel) and catching flies in mid-air. The crew is extremely happy to have Pork Chop aboard!



PORK CHOP
Pooch
Crew

Diesel has the prettiest eyes on the whole crew! He loves playing fetch, long walks, belly rubs and making his owner, Luke, happy. Whether it's swimming in the nearest watering hole or chasing birds, Diesel is always on the move! He loves to scare away flying objects, including drones, which is why we have hired him to be our top security dog on the barge. He frequently saves us from vicious attacks from turkey vultures, crows, robins and chickadees. The next time you see Diesel, be sure to give him a good pet and thank him for his service!



DIESEL
Pooch
Crew

Bailey was rescued near the Ozarks in Arkansas. Like a true mountain gal, Bailey loves going hiking with her humans, David and Meghan. She won first place in Red Bull's Parkour competition at Art of Motion 2017. Squirrels must keep a safe distance from this one, as she has proven that she can, in fact, climb trees! When she's not running circles around the other pooches, she likes to snuggle and follow her mom around.



BAILEY
Pooch
Crew

Kota joined the crew in late March of 2018 at the young age of four months old. His humans, JB and Leah, snagged the little dude at a Joliet, IL herding rescue. Although he's still learning how to conquer some tough obstacles such as high jumps, loud noises and rogue dryer sheets, he is quickly learning the fine art of "chilling" from OG's Pork Chop and Travis. He's no stranger to cuddles and will curl up on anyone and anything just about everywhere. Rub his belly or throw him a bone and he'll be your best pal forever.



KOTA
Pooch
Crew

SUPPORTERS

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



Anonymous Donor



Anonymous Donor • Bert & Ann Shearer Foundation • Black Family Foundation • Sheila June Hewitt Charitable Trust • Watson, Alexander

SUPPORTERS

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Golding Barge Line, Inc.
Goldstein, Jeffrey
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JPMorgan Chase Foundation
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Kapsner, Richard
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Kimple, Caroline
Koplos, Joel
Kreiter, Dr. Richard & Judy
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Lykins Family Foundation
Marine Chemist of St. Louis, Inc.
Marine Systems Inc.
Marthens, Bill
McDonough Marine Service
Mencacci, Warren
Midwest River Expeditions
/Great River Rumble
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Mortenson, Marshall & Susan
Mumford Family Foundation
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Pfaff, Alain & Cathy
Pregracke, Chad
Pregracke, Gary & Keekee
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Roth, Mr. & Mrs. David
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Additionally, there were 814 individual, business and memorial donations totaling \$99,455.

Living Lands & Waters is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization. All donations are tax deductible.

2018 EXPENSES

PROGRAM SERVICES

Salaries and Benefits	\$826,425
Contract Services	\$43,700
Travel & Lodging	\$92,402
Operating Expense	\$171,379
Repair Expense	\$86,769
Insurance Expense	\$124,035
Educational Programs	\$16,333
MillionTrees Project	\$68,190
Great Mississippi River Cleanup	\$2,065
Other Projects	\$114,075
Depreciation	\$235,768
Total	\$1,781,141

SUPPORTING SERVICES

Management and General

Salaries and Benefits	\$117,150
Office Supplies and Equipment	\$32,024
Professional Fees	\$23,774
Depreciation	\$7,302
Total	\$180,250

Public Relations

Website	\$6,773
Promotional Expense	\$5,273
Marketing/Fundraising	\$87,758
Total	\$99,804

TOTAL EXPENSES \$2,061,195

CUMULATIVE *stats*

20 years, 10 million pounds!! The clock started in 1998 when LL&W was formed and will continue ticking until there's no more trash! Since 1998, we've removed...

★ ★ ★ **Trash 10,204,714 POUNDS!!!!** ★ ★ ★

Bags of Garbage	125,703	Construction Barrels/Cones	438.5	Toilets	127	Bath Tubs	35
Milk Crates	1,340	Civil War Mortar Shells	1	Big Wheels/Kid Bikes	83	Outboard Boat Engines	8
Mannequin Parts	17	Navigational Buoys	735.5	Dishwashers	70	Microwaves	14
Tires	87,952	John Deere Combines	1	Bicycles	131	Fire Extinguishers	118
Cars/Trucks/Vans	20	Prosthetic Limbs	13	Hot Tubs	15	Life Jackets/PFDs	273
Refrigerators	846	Balls	24,320	Gas Cans/Tanks	592	Couches/Recliners	80
BBQ Grills	172	Coolers	833	Baby Dolls	735	Motorcycles	12
Computer Printers	1	Mattresses	116	Sunken Barges	3	Sinks	146
5-Gallon Buckets	6,047	Boats	116	Portable Toilets	36.5	Tractors	20
Stoves	192	Freezers	125	5th Wheel Trailers	1	Campers	3.5
55-Gallon Barrels	9,262.5	Duck Decoys	284	Pianos	4	Shower Stalls	2
Messages in Bottles	87	Bags of Police Riot Gear	6	Tops of School Buses	1	Kegs	1
Patio Chairs	321	Washing Machines	170	Bags of Ammunition (lbs)	5		
Styrofoam 16.5 football fields thick		Jet Skis	9	Hot Water Heaters	355		
Air Conditioners	71	Safes	29				
Trash Cans	1,185	Bowling Balls	118.5				
Shopping Carts	63	Clown Shoes	2				
Barge Line (ft.)	43,655	Electric Guitars	2				
Car Engines	20						
Computer Monitors	132						
Lawn Mowers	59						
Televisions	369.5						
Barge Cable (ft)	29,378						



RIVER Cleanups



Community Cleanups

In continuing our quest to improve the cleanliness and quality of our nation's rivers while engaging citizens in the process, the LL&W crew hosted 30 community cleanups in 8 states on 7 different rivers in 2018. With the help of 1,456 awesome volunteers, we were able to remove 207,516.75 pounds of garbage using muscle power alone. We also conducted 158 crew and excavator cleanups and were able to remove an additional 227,423.5 pounds.

to remove 207,516.75 pounds

Great Mississippi River Cleanup (GMRC)

In 2010, the GMRC project was created so communities could take ownership of cleaning up their own local sections of the river. With the guidance and supplies provided by LL&W, 417 volunteers hosted 5 events in 4 different states, removing 20,010 pounds of trash!

All of these combined efforts resulted in a total of 454,950.25 pounds of garbage removed from America's rivers in 2018 and also helped us eclipse a huge milestone of **over 10 MILLION POUNDS removed in total** since our humble beginnings. Add to that the number of river miles adopted via our Adopt-A-River-Mile program and we're pretty excited about the good hands our rivers are in!

River Cleanup Stats (including GMRC):

Community cleanups: 30

Total # of cleanups

(community, crew, ASB, sponsor, excavator): 188

of volunteers (community cleanups only): 1,456

Total # of pounds in 2018: 454,950.25

Total # of pounds to date: 10,204,714

GMRC Stats to Date:

Pounds removed: 610,024

Volunteers: 10,230

Events: 125

AARM Stats to Date:

Total miles adopted: 325.5

Rivers/creeks: 25

Adoptees: 136

ADOPT-A-RIVER Mile

Modeled after the Adopt-A-Highway program, our Adopt-A-River-Mile (AARM) program began in 1999 along the Mississippi River and has since expanded to all of our nation's waterways. It allows community members, groups, organizations and companies to join our clean river efforts 1) on their own schedule 2) using our provided supplies 3) at no charge! These efforts are much appreciated as they are an extension of our mission. River stewards unite!

Adoptees

Beaver Creek | Beaver Dam River | Blue River | Chicago River | Clear Creek | Colorado River | Conecuh River | Delaware River | Edwards River | First Creek | Fox River | Illinois River | Mississippi River | Ohio River | Pigeon River | Piles Fork Creek | Plum River | Tennessee River | South Skunk River | St. Croix River | St. Louis River | Waccamaw River | Wapsipinicon River | Winnebago River | Wisconsin River



EDUCATION, Summer Camps & Guest Speaking



STUDENT EDUCATIONAL WORKSHOPS

LL&W had the pleasure of hosting 1,309 students and teachers at 35 workshops aboard our floating classroom on the Mississippi and Ohio Rivers. Along with barge workshops, we focused our efforts on outdoor education by leading workshops at a forest preserve that is near and dear to our hearts - Illiniwek! Through active exploration and games, LL&W led lessons on invasive species, plastic pollution and the importance of pollinator habitats. Thanks to our friends at the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, we were also able to offer mussel education to students!

EDUCATOR WORKSHOPS


LL&W hosted 30 teachers from Illinois and Iowa affiliated with National Geographic's Geo-Inquiry workshop for educators. LL&W's educators highlighted plastic pollution in our rivers and oceans and provided teachers with the tools to bring river education into their classrooms. Along with learning about the invasive, non-native species silver carp, participants ate fried silver carp prepared by LL&W's Master Chef, Andrew Layer. Fun was had and things were learned!

SUMMER CAMPS

11 summer camps in Rock Island, IL focused on community garbage pick-up, interpretive boat rides on the Mississippi River, plastic pollution and other educational activities.

GUEST SPEAKERS

When not living the barge life, our educators give in-school and community presentations. In 2018, we were excited to reach out to 4,754 participants during 44 presentations!




Alternative Spring Break

Spring 2018, Grafton, IL

We switched things up in 2018 and headed to Grafton, IL (near St. Louis, MO) for Alternative Spring Break (ASB). This quaint and colorful town had so much to offer our student volunteers! In addition to river cleanups, we added a few new projects. It was a wonderful experience with numerous successes over the course of three one-week segments, including:

- 141 college students • 16 colleges & universities • 38,111 pounds of garbage removed
- 11.5 acres of invasive bush honeysuckle pulled • 3 cabins painted at Pere Marquette State Park



Huge thanks to the Aerie's Resort for providing such amazing accommodations including affordable student housing, a beautiful space with a view for morning meetings, delicious lunches and transportation to and from job sites each day. We couldn't have pulled it off without them!

Next year, we're headed back to Memphis, TN for three weeks of experiences our college student volunteers won't soon forget or regret!

2018 Colleges & Universities:

Allegheny College
Austin Peay State University
California State University San Marcos
George Williams College
Illinois State University
Indiana University
Iowa State University
Michigan State University
Monmouth College
North Shore Community College
Salem State University
Southwestern Illinois College
St. Ambrose University
University of Iowa
Virginia Commonwealth University
Western Illinois University



2019 ASB Dates

- Week 1:
March 3rd – 8th
- Week 2:
March 10th – 15th
- Week 3:
March 17th – 22nd



Million-TREES Project

Another year, another 102,866 trees! We planted, harvested, wrapped and distributed Swamp White, Bur, Red and Shumard oaks across 21 states in 2018.

ACORN PLANTING & TREE HARVESTING: Our acorn planting and tree harvesting events often mean fighting the elements during colder months, but that didn't stop 427 volunteers from helping out! Of that, 340 North Scott Junior High student volunteers came in by the busload for tree harvesting and 87 community volunteers later planted 1,000 pounds of acorns. Our Davenport tree nursery events are posted on Facebook and our website.

TREE WRAPPING: New this year was our first ever mobile tree wrapping unit! The mobile unit brought supplies to 8 Quad Cities schools, allowing students to volunteer without ever leaving campus. 3,094 middle and high school students wrapped approximately 70,000 trees! Not only was it extremely efficient and fun for everyone with great support from the school administrators, but with another 296 community volunteers at our annual public tree wrapping event, we more than doubled the cumulative number of MTP volunteers from 2017!



Invasive Species Removal

This year, 641 volunteers got down and dirty to chop, lop and pull invasive honeysuckle over a combined total of 21.25 acres. Our Alternative Spring Break (ASB) student volunteers contributed to our Invasive Species Removal (ISR) program for the first time ever. Making room for the native wildflowers and other greenery to repopulate has the benefits of instant gratification, education and burned calories, all while being in nature!

Did You Know?

A species is invasive when it is both non-native to the ecosystem in which it is found and capable of causing environmental, economic or human harm. These species have the ability to invade natural systems and proliferate, often dominating in a community and sometimes to the exclusion of native species.



PUBLIC OUTREACH



2018 was a year of new and exciting public outreach opportunities! First, our website received a facelift! The new website, launched in late October, makes our volunteer opportunities, event schedule and general information more available and accessible to the public. It loads much faster, is easier to navigate and is mobile friendly. Hello, 21st century!! Check out the new look at www.livinglandsandwaters.org and, while you're there, be sure to read our new blog, Life in the Trash Lane, which is meant to give a humorous but real look inside the barge life.

To help us announce our massive, 10 million pound milestone while also introducing LL&W to prospective new supporters, we created a video with West Virginia-based producers. Find the video by clicking the "watch our video" button on our homepage. In it, we introduce our new handwoven LL&W bracelets, which come as an optional thank you gift with any donation of \$20 or more. Each bracelet is crafted from sustainable hemp made in the USA and partially recycled stainless steel.

Our most monstrous (literally) achievement was the completion of our Garbage Monster parade float! Constructed completely out of garbage picked up by LL&W crew and volunteers, this sculpture resembles a 25' long rusty catfish. Pulled by truck and trailer and paraded around town in one of our homemade work boats, the goal is to amp up our local outreach while having a little fun. The Garbage Monster has been in 7 parades so far and has won the Mayor's Choice Award in 2!



Team Up to Clean Up, a new river cleanup program, was born this year and we couldn't be more excited to roll it out in future years and make it a staple!

PROBLEM: Finding ample volunteers in rural locations with tiny populations.

SOLUTION: Bring volunteers via employers to the problem!


Clif Bar's In Good Company* brought 35 employees from 16 different companies to the barge in Ripley, OH and removed a whopping 77,525 pounds of trash in just two weeks. This was our indicator that we'd stumbled into a new program involving employee volunteers! Everyone worked exceptionally hard and, in LL&W style, played hard, too. For our closing ceremonies, we enjoyed BBQ and cut a rug to some live reggae and folk-rock music.

The LL&W crew had an awesome time kicking butt with everyone! We look forward to replicating this program again with In Good Company as well as other companies and nonprofits who wish to amp up their environmental impact during fun team building events.

**TEAM UP
to Clean Up**



*In Good Company grew out of Clif Bar & Company's long tradition of community service and the certainty that collaboration among businesses can be a powerful force for positive change. They feel strongly that communities need access to healthy food, adequate housing and a healthy environment for people's overall health and well-being. What's more, the recipe is the same in each community—coming together to work side by side. We hope to find more like this who want to make a difference!



We are proud to print Living Lands & Waters' Annual Report on paper generously donated by Sappi North America. This report is printed on 100lb Opus Dull text.

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OUR MISSION

To aid in the protection, preservation and restoration 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.

LIVINGLANDSANDWATERS.ORG

