

# Stream Team Annual Report

# 2017

promoting citizen awareness and involvement in river and stream conservation

## A Summary of Stream Team Activities

It was another great year for the Stream Team Program. We gained 214 new Teams in 2017, bringing the total number of Stream Teams to over 5,800 with over 4,600 Teams active statewide. Our amazing volunteers logged more than 141,000 hours across the state. Here's a quick look at some other highlights from last year:

- ◆ 473 tons of trash was removed from Missouri's rivers and streams.
- ◆ 1,104 water quality monitoring trips were completed.
- ◆ 10,466 trees were planted.
- ◆ 239 storm drains were stenciled.
- ◆ 196 habitat improvement projects were completed.
- ◆ Over \$3.4 million worth of volunteer labor was dedicated.
- ◆ Stream Team Academy hosted workshops on Crayfish and Missouri Odonata.

A total of 1,084 citizen scientists reported 1,104 monitoring trips collecting biological, chemical, and physical data in 2017. Our tiered VWQM training structure allows flexibility for citizen involvement while increasing education and use of data collected at each level of training.

Water Quality Monitoring Workshops	Number of Workshops	Number of Volunteers Trained
Introductory	12	236
Level 1	4	63
Level 2	5	29
Level 3	1	1
VWQM Validation	5	22
CSI Training	2	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>353</b>

The Stash Your Trash Program targets trash on Missouri streams by providing litter bags to Missouri's float outfitters. In 2017, 152 float outfitters throughout the state participated in the Stash Your Trash Program, 100 of which offered

discounts to Stream Team volunteers in the Stream Team Float Outfitters Discount Directory. Over 298,000 red mesh bags were provided to livery business owners to distribute to the public, preventing countless tons of trash from entering Missouri's recreational waterways. More than 30,000 red and green mesh bags and 4,000 blue poly bags were provided to Stream Teams in their cleanup efforts.

### Stream Team Awards

The Stream Team Ambassador Awards recognize volunteer accomplishments in the Program's three primary goals of education, stewardship, advocacy, as well as water quality monitoring. The 2017 recipients for activities conducted in 2016 were:

- ◆ Courtney Coffelt, Doreen Houck, and Scott Carlson  
Stream Team 5254 – Fulton Stream Team
  - ◆ Darlene Haun  
Stream Team 5091 – South Creek Sentinels
  - ◆ Bill McIlwee  
Stream Team 5064 – Eureka High School NHS Stream Team
- VWQM Ambassador Award**
- ◆ Steve McCarthy  
Stream Team 5099 – McCarthy's Creve Coeur Creek Team
- CSI Award - Hamilton Creek CSI Project**
- ◆ Michael Hey, Earl Barge, and John Palmer  
Stream Team 4913 – Trout Unlimited Gateway Chapter



The Conservation Leadership Corps of CFM (Stream Team 5320) ended their year with a cleanup on the beautiful Current River.



Stream Team 5158 prepares for a tree planting along Yadkin Creek in Crawford County.



Stream Team 4794 monitors macroinvertebrates on Little Bonne Femme in Boone County.



These girls from Stream Team 5671 proudly display their haul from North Buder Park in St. Louis County.



From left to right: Doreen Houck, Scott Carlson, Darlene Haun, Bill McIlwee, and John Palmer.

Activity	Participants	Hours	Units	Value*
Adopt-An-Access	8	8	8 agreements	\$197.52
Advocacy	40	266	18 events	\$6,567.54
Articles Written (newspaper, newsletter, etc.)	11	12	11 articles	\$296.28
Association Activities	102	1,040	53 events	\$25,677.60
Award Winners	12	15	9 awards	\$370.35
Display at Fairs, etc.	84	542	35 events	\$13,381.98
Educational Projects	6,371	29,236	266 events	\$721,836.84
Forestkeepers (Forest Monitoring)	26	58	3 trips	\$1,432.02
Habitat Improvement	1,309	4,644	196 projects	\$114,660.36
Invasive Species Monitoring	49	87	13 trips	\$2,148.03
Letters (written in support of ST issue)	1	6	1 letters	\$148.14
Litter Pickups	18,735	76,957	473 tons of trash	\$1,900,068.33
Media Contacts	74	84	32 interviews	\$2,073.96
Mentoring	40	68	12 projects	\$1,678.92
Monofilament Recycling Project	5	10	8 ounces	\$246.90
Meetings (held or attended)	1,305	2,092	1,361 attendees	\$51,651.48
Other Miscellaneous Projects**	532	3,203	128 projects	\$79,082.07
Planted Trees	500	2,329	10,466 trees	\$57,503.01
Pre-activity Planning	389	2698	245 projects	\$66,613.62
Photo Point Monitoring	42	164	48 photos	\$4,049.16
Presentations to Other Groups	2,430	4,509	147 presentations	\$111,327.21
Rain Garden/Barrel or Green Roof	59	168	10 projects	\$4,147.92
Recruitment (new members)	33	31	54 people	\$765.39
River Observation (possible pollution event)	2	2	2 projects	\$49.38
Stream Access Maintenance	8	6	4 projects	\$148.14
Storm Drain Stenciling	37	178	239 drains	\$4,394.82
Streambank Stabilization Projects	23	97	5 projects	\$2,394.93
Watershed Mapping	4	4	2 inventories	\$98.76
Workshops (attended or conducted)	451	3,809	451 attendees	\$94,044.21
Water Quality Monitoring	4,473	8,716	1,104 trips	\$215,198.04
<b>Totals</b>	<b>37,157</b>	<b>141,045</b>		<b>\$3,482,401.05</b>

\*\$24.69/hour is the current national wage rate for the estimated value of volunteer time (U.S. Dept. of Labor).

\*\*Includes projects like website development, newsletters, scout programs, fundraising, etc.



*A young member of Stream Team 5617 collects trash from Pomme de Terre lake in Hickory County.*

## What's to come ...

Moving forward in 2018, the only thing that's ever constant is change! It's never just business as usual with the Stream Team Program as we continue to take on new initiatives within our sponsoring agencies while striving to meet the complicated digital needs emerging in the 21st century. As we phase into an increasingly paperless world, we find challenges and rewards in how we communicate with Teams and how Teams network together in collaborating on larger projects.

This program would not be possible without the dedication of our amazing volunteers across Missouri. Your enthusiasm is contagious and continues to inspire the formation of new Teams. As always, we welcome your feedback on ways we can better serve you and your individual or collaborative goals to improve our water resources, so please don't hesitate to contact us with your ideas to make this truly the best volunteer stream stewardship program in the country.

Questions? Please contact us at:  
 1-800-781-1989 (voicemail)  
[streamteam@mdc.mo.gov](mailto:streamteam@mdc.mo.gov) or [streamteam@dnr.mo.gov](mailto:streamteam@dnr.mo.gov)  
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[facebook.com/mostreamteams](https://www.facebook.com/mostreamteams)

## 2017 Fast Facts

During 2017, Stream Teams . . .

- ◆ collected **473** tons of trash
- ◆ planted **10,466** trees
- ◆ stenciled **239** storm drains
- ◆ conducted **1,104** water monitoring trips
- ◆ gave **147** presentations to other groups
- ◆ completed **266** educational events
- ◆ reported **141,045** total volunteer hours

## 28-year Fast Facts

Since 1989, Stream Teams have . . .

- ◆ collected **12,346** tons of trash
- ◆ planted **344,043** trees
- ◆ stenciled **19,084** storm drains
- ◆ conducted **30,598** water monitoring trips
- ◆ given **3,263** presentations to other groups
- ◆ completed **5,302** educational events
- ◆ reported **2,885,367** total volunteer hours