

A study evaluating the Assessment Methodology for Chlorophyll-A and Secchi Transparency Criteria at Beaver Lake has been released and is available on the BWA website. Read about this study, as well as recent developments for Nutrient Trading in Arkansas, and learn more about upcoming education and stewardship activities in this month's newsletter!

# BEAVER WATERSHED ALLIANCE



 [Like us on Facebook](#)

 [Follow on Twitter](#)

 [Forward to a Friend](#)



## About BWA

The Beaver Watershed Alliance was formed in 2010 to establish programming to maintain high quality drinking water in Beaver Lake and improve water quality in the Beaver Lake Watershed. The Alliance represents a diverse stakeholder group from conservation, education, water utilities, technical and science, agriculture, recreation, business, and local government groups working together for the goal of clean water.

## February 2015



## Numeric Criteria Assessment Methodology Study Released

A broad-based partnership between BWA, Washington County Farm Bureau, CH2MHILL, City of Fayetteville, Tyson Foods Inc., and Beaver Water District, commissioned a three-phase, two year project with the University of Arkansas-Division of Agriculture and Arkansas Water Resources Center. The findings from the first phase have recently been released and submitted to the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality for consideration of inclusion in the next triennial review cycle. The recommendations of the assessment methodology for chlorophyll-a and Secchi Transparency are listed below:

Please take a minute to update your contact information for us by clicking on "update subscription preferences" at the bottom of this page. Thank you.

---

## Upcoming Events

### February 13

Multi-Basin Regional Water Council Meeting - Benton County Extension Office, Bentonville

### February 17

Lakeside Watershed Opportunity Assessment Community Meeting - Inn of the Ozarks, Eureka Springs

### February 19

Speaker Series - Rogers-Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce, Lowell

### February 28

Middle Fork of the White River Cleanup - Bunch Park, Elkins

### March 7

Streamside Landowner Workshop - Carroll Electric, Huntsville

### March 14

Streamside Planting - various in the Beaver Lake Watershed

### March 21

War Eagle Creek Cleanup - War Eagle Mill, Rogers

1. The minimum number of exceedances that trigger a water-quality violation should be greater than one-half the number of years in the assessment period.
2. A long-term assessment period should be considered.
3. Coupling the standards for chlorophyll-a and Secchi transparency.

Bob Caulk, President of BWA states "a better understanding of lake water-quality, uncertainty associated with the assessment protocol, and long-term trend analysis of water quality will ultimately be beneficial for all parties involved, including water drinkers in NWA." According to John Pennington, Executive Director of BWA, this understanding will aid in garnering and directing resources to voluntary watershed protection efforts of the future, while also maintaining the designated use of drinking water for the lake and being responsible to all parties involved. "Realizing that more analysis will be useful to help ensure the most accurate and scientifically defensible assessment methodology protocol, to ensure to the maximum extent that the community of NWA is protected from unnecessary regulation, and that Beaver Lake is adequately protected is what this is all about," Pennington stated. The report from this study is located on the BWA website at <http://www.beaverwatershedalliance.org/pdf/assessment-methodology-final-report.pdf>.

---

## Nutrient Trading on the Horizon in Arkansas

Nutrient Trading is on the horizon in Arkansas, which means that market-based opportunities and solutions to water quality improvements could soon be possible. Often, costly gray infrastructure retrofits such as waste water treatment plant upgrades are not the most efficient or logical investment to achieve water quality improvements at a stream or even watershed scale. Rather, investing finances into landscape based water quality improvements such as stream restoration, a

**March 21**

Devil's Eyebrow  
Reforestation Workday -  
Devil's Eyebrow Natural Area

**March 29**

Septic Smart Program -  
Hobbs State Park, Rogers

**April 4**

Town Branch Cleanup -  
Walker Park, Fayetteville

**April 25**

East Fork Cleanup - Bunch  
Park, Elkins

Check out our [online  
calendar](#) for more detailed  
information on upcoming  
events!

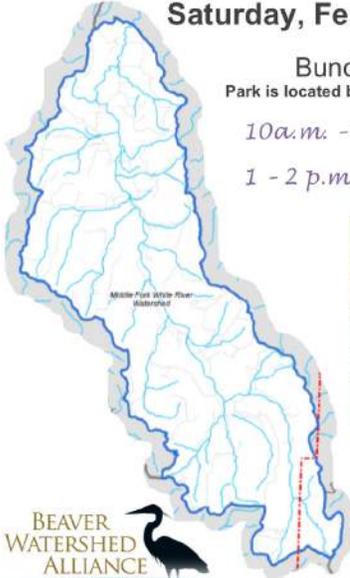
Please share this newsletter  
with your friends and  
neighbors so that they can  
have the opportunity to  
become active members in  
the Beaver Watershed  
community.

range of agricultural and urban best management  
practices, and land conservation can be much more  
effective and efficient. House Bill 1067 aims to provide  
such a market-based opportunity and solution to more  
effectively achieve watershed improvements right here in  
Arkansas. To read more about HB 1067 check out the  
Mitchell Williams Law Blog:

<http://www.mitchellwilliamsllaw.com/90th-arkansas-general-assembly-arkansas-water-quality-trading-legislation-introduced>

Join us for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual  
**Middle Fork** *of the White River* **Cleanup**  
Saturday, February 28<sup>th</sup>, 10am – 2pm

Bunch Park Pavilion, Elkins  
Park is located behind the old Harps on Hwy 16 and 1<sup>st</sup> Ave.  
10a.m. - 1 p.m. Check-in & Cleanup  
1 - 2 p.m. Lunch & Door Prizes




Cleanup will take place at various sites along the river  
- volunteers will be directed to the sites at check-in




**BEAVER WATERSHED ALLIANCE**



For more information, contact us at [info@beaverwatershedalliance.org](mailto:info@beaverwatershedalliance.org) or by calling (479) 750-8007

## BWA Speaker Series to cover ADH's Source Water Protection Program

The next installment of the Beaver Watershed Alliance Speaker Series, "Investing in Water Source Protection: It's good for business, agriculture, communities, nature, recreation, and you", will feature Darcia Routh of the Arkansas Department of Health (ADH). Routh will give an

overview of the ADH Source Water Protection program and an update on the tools and resources available to protect drinking water sources under the US EPA's Safe Drinking Water Act in Arkansas. The speaker series will take place on Thursday, February 19th, at the Rogers-Lowell Chamber of Commerce in Lowell from 11:30am until 1:00 pm. This quarterly speaker series is free and to RSVP, call or email BWA at (479) 750-8007 or [info@beaverwatershedalliance.org](mailto:info@beaverwatershedalliance.org).

Look out for the May Speaker Series, which will feature Allan Gates of Mitchell Williams Law Firm who will present about Nutrient Trading.

---

## **BWA to host workshop for Streamside Landowners and Land Managers on March 7th**



Matt Van Eps, with the Watershed Conservation Resource Center, explains stream processes at last year's workshop in West Fork

BWA's Streamside Landowner Workshop will feature a variety of speakers focusing on topics relevant to streamside landowners, such as:

- The basics of stream flow, channel changes, and streambank erosion
- Best Management Practices to implement in streamside areas
- Available resources through NRCS
- Stream work permitting process
- How to plant trees and shrubs

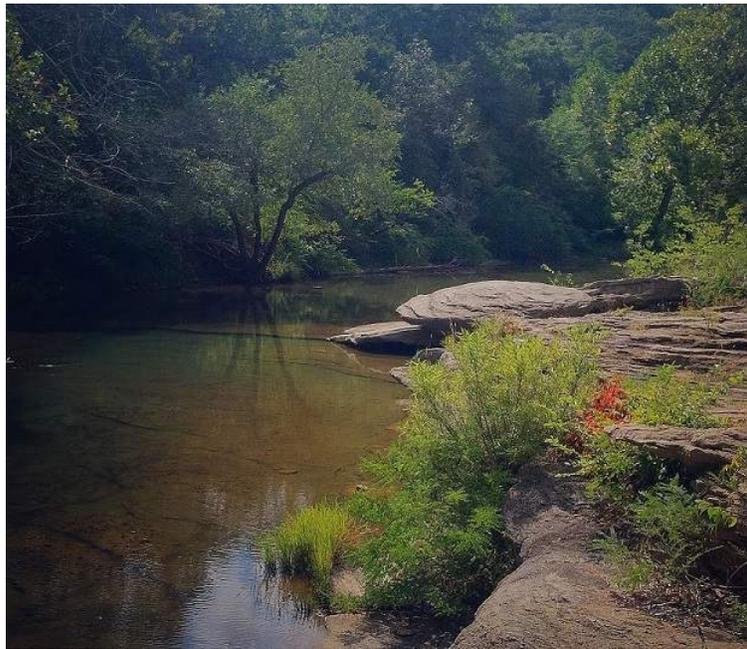
The workshop will take place on Saturday, March 7th, from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm at Carroll Electric in Huntsville. If you have questions or concerns about your streamside areas, or would like to learn more about stream processes and improvement opportunities, please join us for this free educational program! If you are interested in attending this event, RSVP by calling BWA at (479) 750-8007 or by emailing [info@beaverwatershedalliance.org](mailto:info@beaverwatershedalliance.org)



West Fork Watershed landowners assist a fellow landowner with planting and caring for native trees and shrubs to enhance a riparian buffer at last year's workshop

---

## **Feedback from Northwest Arkansas Residents Requested for Open Space Plan**



The West Fork of the White River at Brentwood Roadside Park

Do you have a favorite park, scenic view, fishing spot, or farm that you would like to see protected for the future? The Northwest Arkansas Regional Planning Commission (NWARPC) is seeking your feedback on these open spaces, and more, in Benton and Washington counties as they work to develop the Northwest Arkansas Open Space Plan to manage open space as growth and development continue in the region. Open space includes a variety of land uses such as wildlife observation areas, urban parks, spaces of cultural and historic value, and rural family farms. The benefits of open space include generating economic activity, sustaining water quality, protecting wildlife habitat, and more! Find out more about the plan, and provide your input and comments by visiting [www.nwaopenspace.com](http://www.nwaopenspace.com)

---

## **January Stewardship Events**



Volunteers from the University of Arkansas and Rockline Industries remove trash on Highway 412 through the Adopt-a-Highway Cleanup

[follow on Twitter](#) | [friend on Facebook](#) | [forward to a friend](#)

*Copyright © 2015 Beaver Watershed Alliance, All rights reserved.*

MailChimp

[unsubscribe from this list](#) | [update subscription preferences](#)