



Beaver Watershed Alliance April e-News

Upcoming Events

April 2

Rain Garden Workshop

Hobbs State Park Visitor Center
Rogers, AR
9:00 am - 2:00 pm

April 2

Tree Protector Installation

Springdale, AR
8:00 am - 12:00 pm

April 5

Native Tree & Shrub Planting Events

West Fork, AR
8:30 am - 11:30 am
2:00 pm - 4:00 pm

April 10

Riparian Planting Event

Rocky Branch Park
Rogers, AR
2:00 pm - 4:00 pm

April 22

Earth Day - Mullins Creek Cleanup

University of Arkansas Lot 56
Fayetteville, AR
2:00 pm - 4:00 pm

April 23

East & Middle Fork White River Cleanup

Bunch Park
Elkins, AR
9:00 am - 1:00 pm

May 21

West Fork River Cleanup

Riverside Park, West Fork, AR
and
Walker Park, Fayetteville, AR
9:00 am - 1:00 pm

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[View this email in your browser](#)

WATERSHED
PHOTOGRAPHY
CONTEST

Get out there and snap some pictures!

The 2016 Watershed Photography Contest will take place May 1st through May 27th. The theme is "Water for Life!" Show us your appreciation for Beaver Lake, its watershed, and the water it provides to Northwest Arkansas.

Rain Garden Workshop Set for Sat. April 2nd

The Rain Garden Workshop, to be held on **April 2nd, 2016 at Hobbs State Park from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm**, will provide attendees with the latest information on rain garden functions, design considerations, native plants, and cost-effective methods for installation. Existing rain gardens will be showcased and participants will have an opportunity for hands-on garden maintenance.

A rain garden is a landscaped area designed to capture and hold excess stormwater runoff from hard surfaces like a driveway, roof, or parking lot. The water ponds in the rain garden for a short period, allowing it to soak into the soil, slowing the speed of runoff, filtering pollutants, and allowing groundwater recharge. Other benefits include aesthetics and wildlife habitat creation.

For more information or to RSVP for the workshop, please contact Bryant Baker at bryant@beaverwatershedalliance.org or 479-750-8007. Lunch will be provided.



rain garden *project*

Rain Garden Workshop

Saturday, April 2nd • 9 am to 2 pm

Registration begins at 8:30

Hobbs State Park Conservation Management Area

20201 Arkansas 12, Rogers, AR 72756

Learn How to Build a Rain Garden!

Rain gardens capture and filter rain water.

ATTENDEES RECEIVE:

- General information on rain gardens
- DIY tips for creating cost-effective rain gardens
- Opportunity to apply for rain garden mini-grants
- Lunch



RSVP required for this FREE workshop! Call us at 479-750-8007 or email Jenny@beaverwatershedalliance.org to register.



Protecting Drinking Water with Healthy Forests

Forests Play an Important Role in Protecting Drinking Water

Did you know that 2 out of 3 Americans drink water that comes from a forest? Healthy, working forests can provide clean drinking water with significant cost savings compared to other land use types.

The U.S. Endowment for Forestry and Communities highlighted the special role that forests play in water quality by hosting a special session at the 2016 Sustainable Water Management Conference in March. The session featured six speakers (including BWA Board Member, Dr. Bob Morgan)



who spoke about recent studies, new opportunities, and strategies to promote good forestry practices for water quality purposes.

[Read the Full Article Here](#)

Volunteers are Valued for Stewardship

Volunteers Concentrate Efforts in the War Eagle Creek Watershed this Month

Thank you, volunteers, for all of your efforts! Together we cleaned up War Eagle Creek and added thousands of plants to the watershed that will help maintain the water quality of Beaver Lake.

Forty volunteers braved the chilly weather and helped remove several boatloads of trash from War Eagle Creek! Our volunteers in canoes and on foot found almost 40 tires along 4.5 miles of the creek and at several tributaries.

Many locations throughout the Beaver Lake Watershed received native plants, including private landowners and public parks in Huntsville, Hindsville, Avoca, West Fork, Elkins, and all around the lake. These plants will help slow down erosion and filter pollutants as water moves over the landscape and into the waterways. This is one of the best techniques to improve water quality and enhance the overall health of the watershed, so we are truly thankful and inspired by the contributions of our volunteers and sponsors: Arkansas Natural Resources Commission, EPA Region 6, Arkansas State Parks, Arkansas Game and Fish Commission Stream Team, Keep Arkansas Beautiful, Boston Mountain Solid Waste District, Ozark Mountain Trading Company, Arvest Bank, Pack Rat Outdoor Center, Gearhead Outfitters, Cargill, Fayetteville, and Coca-Cola.

Thank you all for your stewardship and efforts to enhance the health of our watershed and improve water quality!



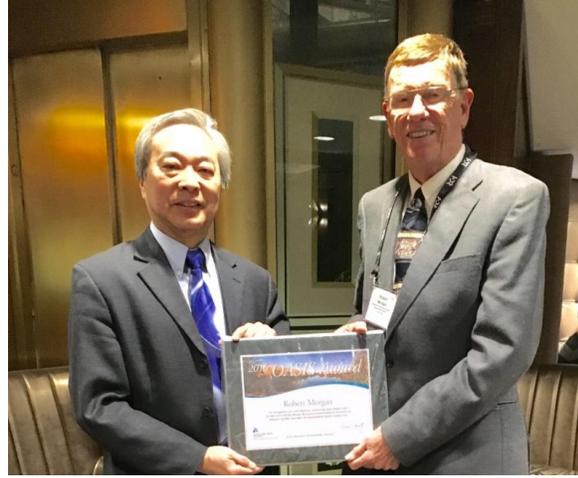
Spotlight on BWA Board Member, Bob Morgan

Congratulations to our Board Member, Bob Morgan of Beaver Water District, who was recently honored with the 2016 OASIS Award.

The OASIS Award nationally recognized Dr. Morgan as an outstanding volunteer in the American Water Works Association (AWWA) Water Resources Sustainability Division, given based on contributions and dedication to the work of AWWA Water Resource Sustainability Division. Alan D. Fortenberry P.E., CEO, of BWD, notes that Dr. Morgan "has an amazing energy that he devotes to his endeavors. He loves water, he

loves his profession, and it shows."

Dr. Morgan is a great asset to the Board of Directors for BWA, and we are grateful to have his experience and enthusiasm for clean water on our team.



Washington County Adopt-A-Road



We adopted a county road and you can too!

At our first cleanup, we removed 24 bags of trash, a carpet, a large umbrella, and some other bulky items from Habberton Rd. off of Hwy 412. Thanks to Washington County Environmental Affairs & Road Department for starting this program and collecting the trash to put it in its proper place and keeping it out of our waterways.

If you or your organization want to participate in the new Adopt-A-Road program, contact Leah Saffian at Environmental Affairs at 479-444-1725.

Rain Garden Mini-Grants Available Now

Each year, the Beaver Watershed Alliance provides financial assistance for landowners who want to install rain gardens on their property through the Rain Garden Mini-Grant Program. To date, the Alliance has assisted landowners, public organizations, and businesses with installation of 46 rain gardens in the Beaver Lake Watershed.

Mini-grants will support costs associated with the garden construction, as well as the purchase of native plants, compost, rock, soil, and mulch.

[Download Mini-Grant Application](#)

[Click Here for More Information](#)



Water Quality Protection in Our Daily Lives

You can do simple things in your everyday life to help protect water quality.

Spring is the time for planting, and as you consider which herbs, flowers, or native plants you want to have in your garden or pasture this

year, we urge you to get a soil test.

Testing your soil will provide recommendations on how much fertilizer to apply which can prevent excessive fertilization and fertilizer runoff while also saving you money.

It's *FREE* and the best part is we can do it for you if your property is within the Beaver Lake Watershed. If your property is outside of the watershed, you can contact the UA Cooperative Extension office in your county.



Water for Life!

The value of your interest and involvement in the voluntary watershed protection effort of our regional water supply is priceless and appreciated! Read, like, and share this newsletter to show off YOUR contributions and to encourage your friends and family to get involved!

About Beaver Watershed Alliance

BWA was formed in 2011 to proactively protect, maintain, and enhance the water quality of Beaver Lake and the integrity of its watershed through outreach and education, voluntary best management practice implementation, and scientific investigation. BWA 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.

Your financial contribution will help BWA fulfill our mission to proactively protect, maintain, and enhance the water quality of Beaver Lake and the integrity of its watershed through outreach and education, voluntary best management practice implementation, and scientific investigation.

[Click Here To Donate](#)

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