



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 to your friends and family the value of YOUR contributions!

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About BWA

The Beaver Watershed Alliance 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.

Forest Management Catches Like Fire with Landowners

This past weekend a few dozen landowners participated in a workshop designed to give owners and managers of forested lands a few more tools and options to consider as they begin or continue their work to maintain healthy forests for wildlife, water quality, peace of mind, or income.



Speakers included Kevin Hickie from Arkansas

Upcoming Events

February 10

Mullins Creek Cleanup

UA Parking Lot 56
Corner of MLK Jr. Blvd &
Razorback Rd.
2:00 - 4:00 pm

February 27

Richland Creek Cleanup

Goshen Community Building
244 Clark St., Goshen, AR
9:00 am - 1:00 pm

February 27

Learn to Burn: Introduction to Prescribed Fire for Landowners

Northwest Arkansas
Community College
Walmart Auditorium at
Shewmaker Center B102
1 College Dr., Bentonville, AR
10:00 am - 4:00 pm

February 29

Garlic Mustard Pull

Hobbs State Park
Visitor Center
20201 E. Hwy 12, Rogers, AR
9:00 am - 12:00 pm
2:00 pm - 5:00 pm

March 5

Streamside Management Workshop for Landowners & Riparian Buffer Planting Events

Carroll Electric

Forestry Commission of Benton County, Thom Dodd from Natural Resource Conservation Center of Huntsville, and Levi Horrell from Arkansas Game & Fish Commission. They offered several options for managing forest land, but it all depends on what the landowner's goals are. You may want to manage for timber production, for wildlife habitat, for aesthetics, or a combination of goals. If your forest is too dense (lots of small trees), you may want to consider thinning. This can be accomplished by selective thinning (and possibly selling good timber), prescribed burns, or selective application of herbicide. A combination and repetition of treatments will be necessary. While some results may be immediate, the best results from prescribed burns will be most noticeable after a few years. We recommend starting with a [Forest Management Plan](#), which you can get for FREE by contacting the [Arkansas Forestry Commission](#). If you own productive land (such as cropland, hay, pasture, or timber) you may be able to get technical or financial assistance from the [NRCS](#).



There will be another opportunity to learn more about prescribed burns on Feb 27th. The Arkansas Game & Fish Commission will host a workshop to

5056 Hwy 412B
Huntsville, AR
9:00 am - 3:00 pm

March 12
**Riparian Planting
Events**

War Eagle Watershed
9:00 am
Stay tuned for more details

March 15
**Agriculture
Appreciation Day**

Northwest Arkansas
Community College
1 College Dr., Bentonville, AR
1:00 - 3:30 pm

March 19
War Eagle Cleanup

Withrow Springs State Park
33424 Spur 23, Huntsville, AR
9:00 am - 1:00 pm

April 2
**Rain Garden
Workshop**

Hobbs State Park
Visitor Center
20201 E. Hwy 12, Rogers, AR
9:00 am - 2:00 pm

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.

help landowners learn how to safely use prescribed
burns as a management tool. The workshop will
take place from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm at the
Northwest Arkansas Community College in
Bentonville.

Click [here](#) for more information and to register.

Thank You, Volunteers!



Protecting, maintaining, or improving watershed
health is simply not possible without volunteer
power. Whether helping to plant 10,000 trees along
several miles of newly created riparian
buffers, helping to remove thousands of pounds of
invasive plants from the watershed, helping to
remove tons and tons of trash from our local
environment, helping to fold and label 10,000
newsletters for landowners - BWA will always need
and appreciate your help to maintain and improve
the watershed of our regional water supply. BWA
and our partners, the community, and individual
landowners are deeply grateful for your efforts.

Water Quality Protection in Our Daily Lives

You can do simple things in your everyday life to help protect water quality. Most people don't realize that water that flows down the street and into storm drains does not get treated - it goes straight to the creek and into our water supply. Washing your car on the driveway can send detergents down the street and into the storm drain. But, if you wash your car in the yard, the water and detergents have time to soak into the ground before entering the water supply. Another option is to take your car to a car wash, where the waste water will be treated. For more tips on how you can protect water quality at home, check out our [Pollution Prevention Tips Fact Sheet](#).

Over the next few months we will have more watershed improvement volunteer events than anyone has ever seen conducted by an organization in the region. We hope that you'll want to come on out and feel the JOY and LOVE from all of the thankful folk and wildlife you will be lending your helping hands to in order to make a positive difference that will have lasting impacts.



Streamside Management Workshop

When? Saturday, March 5th, 2015

Where? Carroll Electric
5056 U.S. 412 Business
Huntsville, AR

What? A workshop to provide needed information for streamside landowners and land managers.

Why? Many landowners want and need to know more about maintaining a healthy riparian buffer zone. Learning more about topics such as stream processes and in-stream work permitting will help landowners who are interested in taking actions to slow and prevent streambank erosion. Information on stream basics, streambank erosion, available assistance for streamside problems, and best management practices will be discussed. Landowners will also learn how to establish and increase their riparian buffer by planting native trees, as well as pick up plants ordered through the Free Tree Program.



Workshop Agenda

8:30 - 9:00 Registration; Coffee and Donuts

9:00 - 12:00 Presentations on:

Fluvial Processes

Stream Restoration Projects

Riparian Best Management Practices

Managing Riparian Pasture

Financial Assistance Through NRCS

Stream Work Permitting

12:00 - 12:45 Lunch

12:45 - 3:00 Riparian Buffer Planting

RSVP to Bryant at 479-769-4266 or bryant@beaverwatershedalliance.org by March 2nd if you plan to attend. Please call or email with any questions. We look forward to seeing you there!



Don't miss out on this free workshop opportunity!



Workshop for Streamside Management set for March 5

Nearly 15,000 landowners in the Beaver Lake Watershed have streams on their property, and many of them are experiencing erosion to some degree. Streambank erosion causes problems for the landowners, wildlife, and our regional water supply because it is the primary source of sediment and phosphorus delivery to Beaver Lake. To help landowners and land managers better understand the problems they are experiencing, causes of the insidious problem, and their *solutions*, Beaver Watershed Alliance is providing a *FREE* workshop to equip land owners and managers with practical knowledge to prevent, slow or stop stream bank erosion.

One of the best management practices for streamside landowners is to maintain a healthy riparian buffer, which is a vegetated strip along the banks and floodplain of a stream. The workshop will cover buffer installation and maintenance techniques, buffer management in a pasture setting, and the process of restoration, permitting, and acquiring financial assistance for projects. To top it all off, landowners and volunteers can get hands-on experience during a riparian buffer planting demonstration after lunch, and there will be more opportunities for hands-on experience the following Saturday, March 12th in the War Eagle Watershed.

This will be a great opportunity to learn how to do it yourself, hear stories of lessons-learned, and see how other folks are making it work. We'll need your help to keep water quality high so whether you want to mostly learn or volunteer, we encourage you to join us.

The Streamside Management Workshop will take place on March 5th from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm at Carroll Electric in Huntsville. Presentations will take place from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm, lunch will be provided, and the hands-on riparian planting demonstration will occur after lunch. If you are interested in attending this FREE educational program, please RSVP to Bryant Baker at (479) 769-4266 or bryant@beaverwatershedalliance.org

Waste Management Options Grow in the Beaver Lake

Watershed

[Boston Mountain Solid Waste District](#), [Benton County Solid Waste District](#), [Benton County](#), [Carroll County Solid Waste Authority](#), [Madison County Solid Waste & Recycling Center](#), and [Washington County Environmental Affairs](#) all provide a wide range of valuable recycle, waste and hazardous waste recycle options. Many people let old electronics, batteries, pesticides, paints, and used tires pile up. Instead of sending these unwanted items that can fit in the dumpster to a landfill, where they may sit forever, take up space, and contribute to environmental pollution, try recycling them or taking them to places that can dispose of them safely. You can contact your county's solid waste or environmental office and find out where to take them and how much disposal will cost. While many items, like 4 tires per month, are free to drop off, some items will carry a fee. If the fee is more than you can afford to pay, ask your local county provider when and if they plan to have a free bulky, hazardous, or e-waste roundup and mark your calendar! Finally, Boston Mountain Solid Waste District recently expanded their program to include the recycling of plastic shopping bags. To find out more about what your local service provider has to offer check out their websites or give them a call!

BWA Welcomes New Outreach Coordinator



Bethany Alender, of Bentonville, was recently named Outreach Coordinator for the Beaver Watershed Alliance. Bethany joined the Alliance in after completing her Master of Environmental Studies from the Evergreen State College in Olympia, Washington. Her graduate studies focused on ecological restoration, volunteer motivations, and citizen science. She grew up in Marietta, Georgia and earned a Bachelor of Arts in Journalism at the University of Georgia. Bethany has spent many summers (and one winter!) in Alaska, where she worked as an instructor and hiking guide in Denali National Park. Bethany is passionate about connecting people to their environment, fostering ecological literacy, and promoting lifelong stewardship. She currently lives in Bentonville, where she enjoys riding mountain bike trails and the Greenway. Bethany can be reached at bethany@beaverwatershedalliance.org or by phone at 479-310-5768.



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