



Beaver Watershed Alliance April e-News

Five Things *You Can Do* this Spring to Protect Water Quality

Protecting Beaver Lake starts with land and water stewardship. You can help! Whether you live in town or in the country, you can prevent non-point source pollution such as sediment, excess nutrients, oil, and grease by taking simple actions on your property or in your community. Together, we can all make a difference!

1. Take a hard look at your outdoor surfaces.

In urban areas, stormwater flows across hard surfaces, also known as impervious surfaces, such as concrete or asphalt, and into storm drains—picking up debris and non-point source pollutants and sending them directly into streams and creeks. Capturing rainfall on your own property can reduce the amount of surface flow to these stormdrains. Rain gardens, bioswales and porous surfaces, like paver stones and gravel, help soak up water and prevent runoff. Rain barrels, cisterns and underground water storage systems can collect rainfall for you to reuse. BWA provides opportunities to learn about these techniques throughout the year, and we can help you have a property that is Rain Ready!

2. Test your lawn & pasture soils.

Applying excessive amounts of fertilizers or animal manures can lead to nutrient runoff into area streams and lakes and can be extra dollars going down the drain. Soil test results provide a complete soil nutrient profile with recommendations for fertilizer applications. Following soil test guidelines will save you money while maximizing lawn, garden, and pasture growth and prevent runoff of fertilizer into

3. Create And Enhance Riparian Corridors...or simply plant trees!

Riparian corridors are the vegetated buffer zones between land and stream. A well-established riparian corridor can help protect the bank from erosion, filter pollutants from storm water runoff, regulate water temperature and more! You can start improving your riparian corridor by allowing natural growth, rather than mowing along the stream bank. Allowing native plants to establish, as well as planting trees and shrubs will help increase the function of your corridor. If you don't have streamside property, planting native trees and shrubs will also help to increase forest canopy and absorb rainfall, every plant helps!

If you are a resident in the Beaver Lake watershed, the Beaver Watershed Alliance can help you establish a native plant riparian or help with your forested land. [Contact us](#) to learn more about our mini-grants and native plant program. BWA is working to plant over 10,000 native tree seedlings this spring, help us reach this goal by participating in a tree planting!

4. Volunteer at a stewardship event.

Volunteering is a real-world experience that can have a lasting impact in your community! From helping to plant trees and native plants, to cleaning up trash from a creek or stream, to exploring citizen-science, you will gain new skills and meet great people, while making a difference in your neighborhood, park or hometown! Beaver Watershed Alliance offers a variety of ways to volunteer to help improve and protect the water and land in the Beaver Lake watershed. Stay in touch through our e-news, [facebook](#) and [website](#) calendars to catch the next volunteer event!

5. Participate in a bulky waste round up or cleanup.

NWA has many organizations that also offer ways to give back and reduce environmental impacts. Counties and cities often hold events to collect and recycle bulky waste such as old furniture, appliances, construction debris and e-waste, which can help reduce dumping in nearby streams and rivers. Check your local county for a bulky waste or county cleanup!

[Benton County Environmental Division](#)
[Boston Mountain Solid Waste](#) (Madison & Washington County)
[Carroll County Solid Waste Authority](#)
[Madison County Solid Waste & Recycling Center](#)
[Washington County Environmental Affairs & Recycling](#)

These simple measures can have a big impact for water quality for the Beaver Lake Watershed. You can also increase your knowledge and know-how by attending BWA watershed workshops like the upcoming Rain Garden Academy or Discovery Farm Day, or participate and get involved with volunteer opportunities that help community waterways!



We are celebrating Earth Day with watershed stewardship activities!

Join us at the Marion Orton Recycling Center for the Mayor's Earth Day Proclamation and Trail Litter Removal event at 9 a.m.

Trail Cleanup volunteers will be given supplies and a cleanup location on the trail system (carpooling is encouraged to reach outer trail areas). Volunteers helping remove invasive plants along the Razorback Greenway will meet at 10 a.m. at the former City Hospital parking lot (419 W. Rock St.) to receive supplies and instruction.

Bagels, coffee and t-shirts provided at kickoff. Tools, supplies, snacks and water will also be provided at both locations. Please wear sturdy

Upcoming Events

April 21
[Earth Day Trail Cleanup and Invasive Plant Pull](#)
Fayetteville, AR
9 am - 12 pm

April 26
[White River-Richland Creek Community Meeting](#)
St. Paul, AR
6:00 pm

April 26
[Mt. Sequoyah Invasive Plant Pull](#)
Fayetteville, AR
3:00 pm-5 pm

April 28
[Native Plant Sale](#)
Compton Gardens and Conference Center
Bentonville, AR
8:00 am

April 28

closed-toe shoes and weather appropriate clothing.

Event sponsors and collaborators include: Beaver Watershed Alliance, Washington County Cooperative Extension Agency, Illinois River Watershed Partnership, Keep Fayetteville Beautiful, Boston Mountain Solid Waste District, Einstein Bros Bagels and Jammin Java.

Contact parksvolunteer@fayetteville-ar.gov or 479-444-3467 for questions. This event is rain or shine, but may be delayed in the case of a downpour or thunder and lightning. See you there!



Protecting and restoring Beaver Lake, our regional drinking water source!



White River and Richland Creek Watershed Opportunity Assessment Meeting & St. Paul Library Fundraiser

WHERE:
St. Paul Activity Center

WHEN:
Thursday
April 26th
6pm – 7pm

COST:
Donations for Library

RSVP:
melissa@beaverwatershedalliance.org
479-750-8007

Join us to learn more about what's going on with the Water Quality in the White River, Middle Fork, and Richland Creek watersheds of Beaver Lake, and help raise money for the St. Paul Library!

Your Input Matters!!!!

You Can Make A Difference

Got Stream Bank Erosion?

Know About a Bad Road?

Interested in Conserving Your Land?

What do you want to know about?

Library Fundraiser

Help raise money for non-fiction & environmental books!!

Donations for dinner will go toward St. Paul Public Library.



Thanks to our Event Partners and Sponsors:



Beaver Water District



White River-Richland Creek Community Meeting and Library Fundraiser

Community input and participation is crucial to our work in protecting your drinking water source - Beaver Lake, and we would like to hear from you! Join us for a Watershed Community Meeting on Thursday, April 26th, from 6:00 pm to 7:00 pm at the St. Paul Activity Center.

Come and learn more about the White River and Richland Creek watersheds of Beaver Lake, provide input about water quality improvement opportunities in this area, and find out how you can use Best Management Practices (BMP's) to improve your land and water quality. Meet with Beaver Watershed Alliance staff to assist you with resources to improve the quality of water running off your land by:

- Identifying and improving eroding streambanks
- Identifying and improving bad dirt roads
- Creating wildlife habitat
- Managing and conserving your land

Also we are partnering with the St. Paul Library to have a fundraiser.

[Kudzu Kill](#)

Tunnel Park
Winslow, AR
1:00 pm

SAVE THE DATE!

May 4

Invasive Plant Pull
Mt. Sequoyah

May 8

[St. Paul Rain Garden Stewardship](#)

May 8

Devil's Eyebrow Natural Area Invasive Plant Removal

May 19

[West Fork Cleanup](#)

May 31

BWA Speaker Series

June 2

War Eagle Appreciation Day

Water for Life!

The value of your interest and involvement in the voluntary watershed protection effort for our regional water supply is priceless and appreciated!

Read, like, and share this newsletter to help spread the good water quality word and to help get your friends and family involved.

Together, we can make a difference!

[Events Calendar](#)

Participants will receive a free dinner after donating to the library!
Donations will go toward non-fiction and environmental books.

RSVP to Melissa Welch at melissa@beaverwatershedalliance.org or by calling (479) 750-8007, so we know how much food to order.



Thank you to youth from the Huntsville 4-H club and Huntsville Explorers for coming out and helping us maintain a rain garden in Huntsville, AR.

If you are interested in learning more about volunteer opportunities for your club or organization within the Beaver Lake Watershed, please contact BWA at info@beaverwatershedalliance.org.

We are always in need of more volunteers helping to preserve and protect our drinking water source--Beaver Lake!



Thank you to volunteers who came out to and planted native trees in various locations in the Beaver Lake Watershed. The top pollutant in the Beaver Lake Watershed is this dirt that gets washed into streams during floods and heavy rains. Planting trees along streambanks helps to keep the soil together and reduces the amount of dirt (or sediment) that enters the stream.

Keep a look out the saplings we planted. Most saplings will be protected with blue tree protector such as pictures above. With help from landowners and volunteers we planted more than 10,000 trees in areas that include:

- Bunch Park Elkins
- Lake Sequoyah
- West Fork-White River
- Taylor Park Greenland

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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Great Partners = Clean Water

The
WALTON FAMILY
FOUNDATION



Beaver Watershed Alliance

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[Click Here To Contact Us](#)