



Beaver Watershed Alliance June e-News



Meet our New Executive Director, Clell Ford

After an extensive search, the Beaver Watershed Alliance (BWA) Board of Directors selected Clell Ford as the new Executive Director of BWA. Ford began work on the BWA team on May 14, 2018.

Ford is responsible for overseeing the activities of BWA, managing grants for watershed protection and education, as well as identifying new opportunities for support of BWA's mission to maintain high quality drinking water in Beaver Lake and improve water quality in the Beaver Lake Watershed.

Prior to joining BWA, Ford spent a decade conducting water quality and sediment investigations on the Clinch River for the Environmental Sciences Division at Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL) in eastern Tennessee near Knoxville. ORNL is the largest U.S. Department of Energy science and energy laboratory, conducting basic

and applied research to deliver transformative solutions to compelling problems in energy and security.

After a job interruption, Ford and his family moved to Highlands County, Fla., where he invested 21 years as the Lakes Manager for the Highlands County Board of County Commissioners. There, he worked to protect and improve the more than 100 lakes in the headwaters of the Lake Okeechobee watershed, partnering with numerous local, regional, state and federal cooperative funding partners.

Ford has a B.A. in Biology from Hendrix College and a M.S. in Ecology from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville.

Throughout his career, he has focused on watersheds, investigations, restoration and protection, which have cemented his passion for environmental education, watershed research and protection.

"I'm very excited about joining Beaver Watershed Alliance and its excellent staff," he said. "I look forward to continuing this work in the Beaver Lake Watershed."

Ford is returning home. A Fayetteville native who grew up enjoying and engaging in all the outdoor

activities the Ozarks have to offer, his love for protection of the environment, particularly lakes, began with swimming, waterskiing and fishing on Beaver Lake, canoeing on the Buffalo, and hiking in the Ozark mountains. Ford and his wife, Toni, have two grown daughters who travel the world.

War Eagle Appreciation Day

Saturday, June 2, 2018

Withrow Springs State Park - Keith Ham Pavilion
33424 AR-23 Spur, Huntsville, AR 72740 (5 miles north of Huntsville on Hwy 23)

Explore the War Eagle watershed through education, recreation and interactive activities!

10 am - 1 pm

Float 4 miles of the War Eagle River

9 am - 11:30 am

Enjoy live, local bluegrass with the Ozark Highballers

11 am - 1 pm

Music sponsored by the William Rufus Stephens Jr. Memorial Fund

FREE Lunch
11:30 am - 1 pm
or until food runs out

A FREE Family Friendly Event!



Boat Reservations:

Pre-registration required.
Shuttle service & limited number of canoes and kayaks available. First come, first served.
Shuttle service also available, please RSVP.
Call Beaver Watershed Alliance to reserve, 479-750-8007 or info@beaverwatershedalliance.org.

War Eagle Appreciation Day is made possible by these event partners:

Arkansas State Parks (Withrow Springs & Hobbs), Arkansas State Tourism, Arkansas Dept. of Health, Beaver Water District, Beaver Watershed Alliance, City of Huntsville, Coca-Cola, Keep Arkansas Beautiful, Lewis & Clark, NWACC, Ozarks Water Watch, Pack Rat, Patagonia, War Eagle Mill, Watershed Conservation Resource Center, Arkansas Canoe Club, Arkansas Master Naturalist

Don't forget your lawn chairs! For general information, call (479) 559-2593
www.arkansasstateparks.com/withrowsprings

Celebrate and discover the War Eagle River through education, recreation, music and community fun!

Saturday, June 2, come to Withrow Springs State Park, Huntsville, AR for an afternoon of family-friendly events.

Local organizations will have fun, interactive displays for kids and adults to learn all about water, ecosystems, wildlife, arts and more. Booths will be open 10 am to 1 pm.

Free lunch, including veggie burgers, hotdogs and hamburgers, will be grilled by Weichert-Griffin Realty! Lunch will be served at 11:30 am and go until supplies last. A free bluegrass concert by the Ozark Highballers will be from 11 am to 1 pm.

Hop over to Huntsville after this event and enjoy more at Bluegrass and BBQ event! A great day for family-friendly activities, just 30 minutes from downtown NWA.

Upcoming Events

June 2

[War Eagle Appreciation Day](#)

Withrow Springs State Park
Huntsville, AR
10 am - 1 pm

June 9

[Kill the Kudzu](#)

Tunnel Park
Winslow, AR
1 pm - 4 pm

June 13

[Adopt A Hwy Cleanup](#)

Hwy 412
Springdale, AR
10 am - 12 noon

SAVE THE DATE!

July 23-24

[2018 AWRC Annual Water Research Conference](#)

Fayetteville, AR

August 18

Secchi Day on Beaver Lake

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



The month of



July is Lakes Appreciation Month!

You work and play on them.
You drink from them. How
do you appreciate them?

Growing population,
development, and invasive
species stress your local
lakes, ponds, and
reservoirs, but together, we
can work towards proactive
protection of our natural
resources!

Governor Asa Hutchinson
has declared July 2018 as
Lakes Appreciation Month
for the State of Arkansas.

Beaver Watershed Alliance
will be conducting a variety
of activities that engage
with our local lakes, such
as kayaking trips, secchi
dip ins, cleanups, and
more!

Stay tuned for these
activities and ways you can
celebrate Lakes
Appreciation Month!

Lakes Appreciation Month
is a signature program of
the North American Lake
Management Society
(NALMS) whose mission is
to foster the management
and protection of lakes and
reservoirs for today and
tomorrow.

13th Annual West Fork Cleanup BIG Success!

The 13th Annual West Fork Cleanup, held on Saturday, May 19th, was a big success!

Over 107 volunteers picked up 2,560 pounds of trash at 10 locations throughout the West Fork - White River watershed!

Thanks to our partners and sponsors, and the many volunteers that made this event possible and successful!



Public Meeting for the Low Head Dam Removal Well Attended

Beaver Watershed Alliance, along with the Watershed Conservation Resource Center, City of Fayetteville Parks Dept. and the Arkansas Canoe Club - Northwest Chapter, presented on the topic of low head dam removal to the City of Fayetteville's Environmental Action Committee on Monday, May 21. The presentation included the benefits of removal of the Low Head Dam located along the West Fork of the White River, on Pump Station Rd., Fayetteville, Ark. Removal of the dam and restoration of the river and streambanks would reduce sediment loads to Beaver Lake, would allow fish passage for bass, walleye, and other sensitive species, and would solve a safety concern, as the dam is an aging structure and no longer safe. Other potential concepts were presented, such as a paddle park, fishing opportunities, swift water rescue training grounds and access areas for kayaks and canoes.

Similar presentations are being delivered by other groups around the

Northwest Arkansas area, with education in mind. We encourage you to learn more about the pros and cons of removing low water structures and attend educational meetings to learn more!

The Beaver Watershed Alliance offers technical assistance for helping you address water quality concerns on your property, and we can offer a variety of practices and programs that can help you reach your goals. Call BWA at 479-750-8007 or email info@beaverwatershedalliance.org.

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.

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Great Partners = Clean Water



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[Click Here To Contact Us](#)

