



**WEST VIRGINIA STREAM PARTNERS**

**2013 YEARBOOK**

# West Virginia Stream Partners

**West Virginia Stream Partners Program** is a cooperative effort of the Department of Environmental Protection, the Division of Forestry, the Division of Natural Resources and the West Virginia Conservation Agency.

## **Purpose**

To support community groups that are dedicated to assuring that their local rivers and streams are safe for: swimming, fishing, recreation, public and commercial purposes and provide habitat for plant and animal life.

## **How to get started**

\$5,000 seed grants are available each year to applicants that are willing to organize community members to plan and complete a watershed improvement project. Applications are available online at [www.wvca.us/stream.cfm](http://www.wvca.us/stream.cfm).

## **Basin Coordinators**

Four regional basin coordinators are available to:

- Help complete applications
- Advise on projects with agency and assist with partnership building
- Get your community involved by helping to organize and facilitate meetings

## **The Partners**

In January of 2013, the West Virginia Stream Partners Program awarded 21 local watershed associations grants of up to \$5,000. These watershed volunteers spent the year coordinating their goals with those of state and federal agencies, local government and watershed stakeholders to implement projects that range from educational field days to on the ground stream restoration. Each of these organizations is very unique. Each has its own set of skills, abilities and obstacles.

The Stream Partners Program provides the volunteers with a small financial resource, technical support, and organizational skills. This annual yearbook highlights each association's individuality and successes.

The West Virginia Stream Partners Program is truly a state-wide cooperative effort. Program support is provided by staff from each of the four/five partner agencies and the grant fund is an annual legislative appropriation.

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# BUCKHANNON RIVER WATERSHED ASSOCIATION

**AMOUNT OF GRANT: \$5,000**

## Organization

The Buckhannon River Watershed Association (BRWA) was formed on March 27, 2001, incorporated in the state of West Virginia in March 2002, and approved by the IRS as a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization in October 2002. It has a Board of Directors consisting of a minimum of seven and maximum of nine voting members, and the city and county governments each have a nonvoting seat on the Board of Directors. The latter two have supported BRWA by providing facilities free of charge for public meetings, for providing free display space for newsletters and flyers, and the city made and paid for a few hundred membership cards that BRWA designed. The association's members come from varied backgrounds, including forestry, municipal and state government, construction, education, journalism, law, and the timber industries. Participants range in age from 20 to 70 years old.

## 2013 Project Summary

With this grant, BRWA planned to pay for lab fees, mileage for monitoring, an intern to write the Watershed Based Plan, the collection of benthic and GPS data, newsletters, costs associated with the Strawberry Festival, Earth Day, and a high school chemistry program.

## Partners

- WV Wesleyan College
- Upshur County Board of Education
- Ralston Press
- Strawberry Festival Committee
- City of Buckhannon
- WV DNR
- Office of Surface Mining
- Wolf Run Mining
- Pickens Improvement and Historical Society
- Buckhannon-Upshur High School

**Counties:** Upshur,

Barbour, Randolph

**Contact:** Paul Richter

Buckhannon, WV

304-472-3317

**E-mail:**

[brwainc612@gmail.com](mailto:brwainc612@gmail.com)

**Website:**

[www.buckhannonriver.org](http://www.buckhannonriver.org)

**Issues:**

- Acid mine drainage
- Coliform bacteria
- Erosion/Sediment
- Marcellus Shale gas drilling
- Public access
- Garbage



**One condition affecting Buckhannon River include acid mine drainage. This AMD seep kills a patch of forest on its way downstream toward Swamp Run.**



## Accomplishments

- Obtained Swamp Run & TenMile baseline data
- Held an annual high school water analysis project
- Published two newsletters
- Worked on channeling Swamp Run seeps
- Participated in Watershed Celebration Day
- Held a Project WET Training Day
- Collated water quality data
- Printed 2,500 copies of the BRWA brochure
- Sponsored the Strawberry Festival Canoe Race
- Displayed at Festival Friday

## Photo Gallery



Martin Christ (left), Northern Basin Coordinator for WV DEP, assisted in the installation of a flow pile on Swamp Run in April.



WV Water Resources Institute professionals Ben Mack and Jason Fillhart assessed Swamp Run alongside BRWA's Paul Richter.



Kim Bjorgo-Thorne collected flow data at "KimOut" on Swamp Run.



Kim Bjorgo-Thorne collected water samples while Martin Christ channelled the seep for flow measurements at WL1 site, the eastern-most seep along the tree line at the head of the Swamp Run tributary being studied.

# BUFFALO CREEK WATERSHED IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

**AMOUNT OF GRANT: \$5,000**

## Organization

After a period of inactivity, Buffalo Creek Watershed Association (BCWA) has tried to pick up where the former left off. BCWA lost members and interest dwindled until the winter of 2009 when the past president and some members did a final call for new membership interest or they were going to dismantle the project. In February of 2010 a meeting was called and 10 members, 2 DEP staff and 1 DNR officer attended. This was the catalyst that was needed to jump start the Buffalo Creek Watershed Association. The membership rosters now shows a diverse organization made up of 29 volunteers all working toward a common goal of restoring the water quality of Buffalo Creek and its tributaries. BCWA continues the limestone treatment project initiated in the spring of 2007 by the original membership with the help of the WV DNR and DEP. The ultimate goal is to have several tributaries treated with limestone sand to neutralize the acid mine drainage and improve water quality so that trout can once again survive in the streams.

## 2013 Project Summary

With this grant BCWA planned to pay for administrative costs, its website, food for cleanups, a brochure, trout stocking, a Trout in the Classroom project, stream liming, and monitoring supplies.

## Partners

- Clay County High School
- Big Knob Hunting Club

## Accomplishments

- Completed a spring liming project
- Held a summer stream cleanup
- Held Trout in the Classroom at local schools
- Held two trout stockings

**Counties:** Clay

**Contact:** Mitchell

DeBoard

Indore, WV

304-587-2924

**E-mail:**

[deboard@frontiernet.net](mailto:deboard@frontiernet.net)

**Website:** [www.bcwia.com](http://www.bcwia.com)

**Issues:**

- Acid mine drainage
- Stream bank erosion
- Inadequate sewage treatment
- Fecal contamination
- Open dumps
- Protecting unimpaired water
- Improve the fisheries



**Volunteers pitched in for spring cleaning**



## ***Photo Gallery***



**Clay County High School students raised trout in the classroom.**



**Limestone sand was poured downstream to neutralize the acid so that trout could survive in Taylor Fork.**



**Volunteers stocked trout into Buffalo River.**



**Following the trout stocking, residents started fishings again.**

# CACAPON AND LOST RIVERS LAND TRUST

**AMOUNT OF GRANT: \$5,000**

## Organization

The Capacon and Lost Rivers Land Trust (the Trust) assists landowners and communities in maintaining healthy rivers, protecting forests and farmland, and in preserving rural heritage for the enjoyment and well-being of present and future generations. The Trust works throughout the Lost/Cacapon River watershed through partnerships with local landowners as well as key stakeholders and has protected over 10,221 acres of important farmland, stream corridors and wildlife habitat using permanent conservation easement agreements and has helped restore a mile of failing streambanks along the Cacapon River. The Trust has over 750 members since inception who represent all counties through which the river runs. The board of directors includes local businessmen, farmers, landowners, as well as regional leaders.

## 2013 Project Summary

With this grant the Trust planned to hire staff to refine and update the Healing Waters Land Protection Plan, host Healing Headwaters II, complete some GIS mapping and analysis, and hold a partners meeting.

## Partners

- National Parks Service
- U.S. Forest Service
- Trout Unlimited
- WV DNR
- The Nature Conservancy
- West Virginia University
- Open Space Institute

## Accomplishments

- Secured GIS layers of regional initiatives
- Completed GIS modeling
- Completed the initial planning for the Trust's new Strategic Plan
- Completed regional partner identification
- Held a partner meeting with Open Space Institute
- Began the website upgrade

**Counties:** Hardy,

Hampshire, Morgan

**Contact:** Kelly Watkinson

High View, WV

540-740-3083

**E-mail:**

[kellyjwatkinson@gmail.com](mailto:kellyjwatkinson@gmail.com)

**Website:** [www.cacapon.org](http://www.cacapon.org)

**Issues:**

- Uncontrolled residential home development
- Coliform bacteria



## ***Photo Gallery***



**This was some of the Hampshire county property containing important farmland, forestland and aquatic habitats that was protected by the Trust.**



**Staff and Board of the Trust met with Wink Hastings of the National Parks Service to discuss and plan a new organizational strategic plan.**



**Morgan county property that was protected by the Trust in partnership with the Open Space Institute and American Rivers/EPA Potomac Highlands Implementation Grant.**



**Conservation partners from across West Virginia met to promote a portion of the State being selected as a priority area for the Open Space Institutes Resilient Landscape Initiative.**

# COAL RIVER GROUP

**AMOUNT OF GRANT: \$5,000**

## Organization

The Coal River Group (CRG) was established in 2003 by avid fishermen and outdoorsmen Bill Queen and Bill Currey, who were both exploring the outer reaches of the Coal River Watershed. The watershed, which covers 90 miles, was in need of clean up and improved water quality to support recreational activities. CRG is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to the protecting, preserving, and promoting the Coal River watershed. Since 2004 the Group has been working to restore the quality of the watershed and increase river recreation in southern West Virginia. The mission of the Coal River Group is to Clean up, preserve, and improve the Big, Little, and main Coal Rivers; create and promote recreational opportunities on the rivers to improve the region's economy; and to preserve the history of the Coal Rivers and the region.

## 2013 Project Summary

With this grant, CRG planned to obtain a VISTA to organize tire clean ups, outreach events, and educational tours, and pay for insurance.

## Partners

- West Virginia and Marshall Universities
- University of Charleston
- Toyota Motor Manufacturing
- WV Conservation Agency
- Appalachian Stream Restoration
- Stantec
- Andrew Heights, Central, Nellis and Montrose Elementary Schools
- City of St. Albans
- Kanawha-Charleston Health Department
- Camp Virgil Tate
- WV DNR
- Gateway Christian Education Center
- WV State University Extension Service
- 4-H Program
- WV American Water Company

**Counties:** Boone, Lincoln,  
Kanawha

**Contact:** Bill Currey

St. Albans, WV

304-419-4417

**E-mail:**

[Bike1@suddenlink.net](mailto:Bike1@suddenlink.net)

**Website:** [www.coalrivergroup.com](http://www.coalrivergroup.com)

**Issues:**

- Fecal coliform bacteria
- Sedimentation
- Heavy metals deposition
- Commercial and public buildings with inadequate waste collection systems
- Litter



**Members from AmeriCorps NCCC Team River 6 help CRG volunteers construct an outdoor classroom.**



## Accomplishments

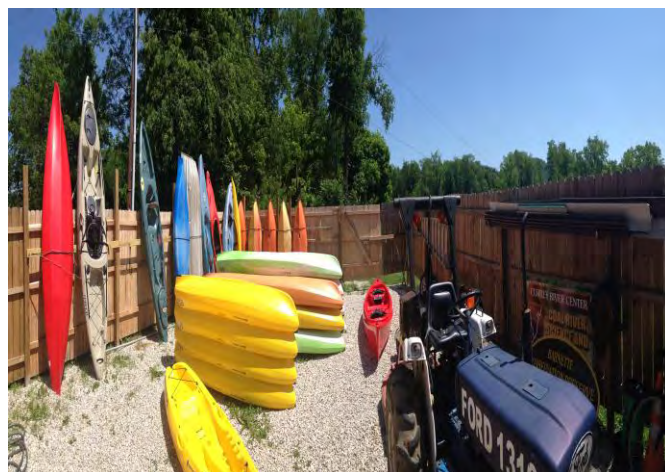
- Acquired Coal River Kayak business with fleet of 34 rental boats
- Completed six-week internship program with three summer interns
- Completed six-week project with Madison Middle School for \$40,00 prize from Samsung

- Held a water festival for 150 children from three local elementary schools
- Held a “Learn to Kayak” clinic for 50 children from Montrose Elementary
- Acquired equipment for the water lab
- Held a “Learn to Paddle” event for 90 children

## Photo Gallery



Students from Madison Middle School learned about stream surveys with WVU PhD student Eric Miller (left).



CRG acquired the Coal River Kayak and Canoe Rental business in early 2013. Proceeds from the rentals went directly back toward cleaning up the Coal River and to help the sustainability of the organization.



CRG hired three interns for its new internship program: (from l to r): Lauren Carte, Bryan Shamblin and Kali Cuttaia.



The CRG summer interns coordinated learn-to-paddle events for 90 children over the summer of 2013.

# COAL RIVER MOUNTAIN WATCH

**AMOUNT OF GRANT: \$5,000**

## Organization

The mission of Coal River Mountain Watch (CRMW) is to stop the destruction of the communities and environment by mountaintop removal mining, improve the quality of life in the area, and help rebuild sustainable communities. CRMW is comprised of local leaders and community members, volunteers and students, and works in close partnership with many local, regional, and state environmental and educational groups. CRMW was formed in 1998 by a group of citizens concerned about the growing problem of mountaintop removal coal mining.

## 2013 Project Summary

With this grant, CRMW planned to pay for tadpole project stream clean ups, a community mapping program to identify areas of need, rent, utilities, travel, publications and food for volunteers.

## Partners

- WV REAP
- Mountain Justice



During CRMW's "Big Dip Day" staff and interns explained water test methods and stream health to local youth and volunteers.

**Counties:** Raleigh

**Contact:** Vernon Haltrom

Naoma, WV

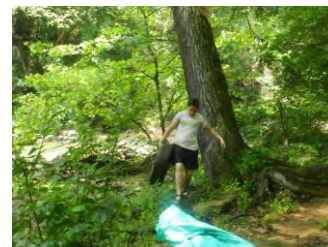
304-854-2182

**E-mail:** [vernon@crmw.net](mailto:vernon@crmw.net)

**Website:** [www.crmw.net](http://www.crmw.net)

**Issues:**

- Acid mine drainage
- Streambank erosion
- Litter
- Unauthorized dumps



CRMW held a "Big Dip Day" where local youth and volunteers removed trash and debris from the Marsh Fork stream bed.



## Accomplishments

- Collected and properly disposed of over 1,300 tires and four dumpster loads for spring and fall cleanup week
- Engaged local youth in river cleanups
- Cleaned local swimming holes and beauty spots
- Educated community members about stream testing procedures and water quality
- Hosted and trained over 150 Mountain Justice Fall Summit participants
- Established a four-mile Adopt-A-Highway segment, improving appearance and keeping that trash out of the river

## Photo Gallery



CRMW said it wants to make the river and streams safe and healthy for people...



...and children.



CRMW held a cleanup day on the beautiful Little Peachtree Falls.



Little Peachtree Falls looked breathtaking after the cleanup.

# FRIENDS OF BLACKWATER

**AMOUNT OF GRANT: \$5,000**

## Organization

Friends of Blackwater (FOB) is a non-profit conservation organization working effectively in the Mid-Atlantic Appalachian Highlands with a mission to protect key landscapes and watersheds, natural and human communities, and to support economic development that maximizes biodiversity and outdoor recreational opportunities for future generations. The project office is located in Davis along the Blackwater River in Tucker County where recruitment of supporters and volunteers is coordinated.

## 2013 Project Summary

With this grant, FOB planned to pay for AMD monitoring lab fees, staff fees and office expenses.

## Partners

- Friends of the Cheat
- Whitegrass & Winter Wildlands Alliance Fundraiser
- Backcountry Film Fundraiser
- Lowe's
- WV University's Three River Quest Program
- Americorp Vista
- Davis City Park Manager
- City of Thomas
- Tucker County Historical Society
- Tucker Community Foundation
- Boomtown Java
- Trout Unlimited
- WV DNR
- Green Rivers LLC
- Save the Tygart Watershed Association

**Counties:** Tucker

**Contact:** Judy Rodd

Charleston, WV

304-345-7663

**E-mail:**

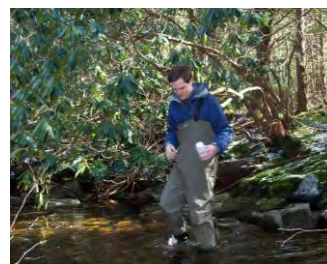
[info@saveblackwater.org](mailto:info@saveblackwater.org)

**Website:**

[www.saveblackwater.org](http://www.saveblackwater.org)

**Issues:**

- Acid mine drainage
- Metal Deposits
- Aquatic life
- Impacted tributaries



**Ben Wiercinski collected water samples from the stream.**



**Volunteers were trained to measure flow of the water.**



## Accomplishments

- Obtained a report on Beaver Creek sediment and press coverage in the Charleston Gazette
- Held the North Fork Task Force Meeting
- Held three River Quest Trainings
- Conducted monthly water monitoring
- Sent in quarterly lab samples
- Obtained articles on Tub Run remediation
- Hired a part-time field staffer
- Recruited three new volunteer water monitors
- Constructed the kiosk for Thomas City Park
- Upgraded the pH meter with a new probe
- Began work on updating North Fork Watershed Based Plan with summer VISTA
- Installed historical marker for Coketon “colored school” along the North Fork
- Held a community event/reenactment with the local Historical Society
- Received equipment and funding from Three River Quest Program
- Received free coffee from Boomtown Java

## Photo Gallery



Katie Dopkowski mans a table at the Harper's Ferry Outdoor Festival.



A group prepared to tour AMD sites in the North Fork Watershed after the stakeholders meeting in July 2013



June 1, 2013, was named National Trails Day. Friends of Blackwater staff and volunteers installed signage at Thomas City Park Trails.



Rick Buckley from OSM, Jim Baczuk from WVDEP and Jon Knight of WVDEP discuss local water quality issues with FOB Director Judy Rodd and volunteer Lon Marshall.

# FRIENDS OF DECKERS CREEK

**AMOUNT OF GRANT: \$5,000**

## Organization

Friends of Deckers Creek (FODC) started in 1995 with the thought that Deckers Creek is beautiful, but abused, and needs friends. An informal group of kayakers, rock climbers and other creek lovers started organizing cleanups of illegal dumps and monitoring water quality. By 1997, this group began receiving small grants to support its work. FODC then obtained 501(c) (3) nonprofit status in 2000 and held its first membership drive in 2001. FODC's mission is to improve the natural qualities of, increase public awareness for, and promotes the enjoyment of the Deckers Creek watershed. FODC members include business owners, students, parents, kayakers, rock climbers, bikers, tax payers, educators and concerned citizens who are dedicated to make Deckers Creek a viable aquatic habitat and a recreational and economic asset to the local community. Deckers Creek is a direct tributary of the Monongahela River.

## 2013 Project Summary

With this grant, FODC planned to pay for an Executive Director, a newsletter, the Clean Creek Program, an OSM VISTA match, and a part-time volunteer coordinator.

## Partners

- Morgantown Brewing Company
- Adventure WV
- WV Botanic Garden
- West Virginia University, Middle Tennessee State University, and Montgomery County Community College
- Appalachian Institute and Coopers Rock Foundation
- Downstream Strategies
- Green County (PA) Watershed Association
- Morgantown Newcomers Club
- St Paul's Lutheran Church
- Monongalia County Master Gardeners and Master Naturalists
- Hugh O'Brien Leadership Youth and FODC Youth Advisory Board
- Morgantown Board of Park and Recreation Commissioners
- Friends of the Cheat
- National Research Center for Coal and Energy

**Counties:** Monongalia,

Preston

**Contact:** Timothy Denicola

Dellslow, WV

304-292-3970

**E-mail:**

[tim@deckerscreek.org](mailto:tim@deckerscreek.org)

**Website:**

[www.deckerscreek.org](http://www.deckerscreek.org)

**Issues:**

- Acid mine drainage
- Aquatic life
- Untreated sewage
- Illegal solid waste dumping
- Storm water discharge
- Public acceptance



**Friends of Deckers Creek OSM-VISTA, Doug Gilbert, collected water samples along Tibb's Run for the Clean Creek Program.**



## Accomplishments

- Produced the 2013 Spring Meltdown fundraiser
- Conducted annual macro-invertebrae sampling and two quarterly water chemistry monitoring for Clean Creek Program
- Held five public outreach meetings
- Continued implementation of a management and maintenance plan for our Outdoor Learning Park,

including construction of a picnic pavilion

- Continued environmental education activities
- Produced and distributed one newsletter to 1,500 supporters
- Began sorting and preparation of macro-invertebrae samples for Clean Creek Program
- Paid a partial administration fee for OSM-VISTA

## Photo Gallery



FODC volunteer Amanda Renick, left, and Hannah Spencer, right, conducted macro-invertebrate sampling.



Friends of Deckers Creek Education Coordinator, Jen Osha, right, stood with the contractors responsible for construction of Outdoor Learning Park and pavillion.



FODC Education Coordinator, Jen Osha, displayed newly printed informative tree sign for the Outdoor Learning Park.



Members of Friends of Deckers Creek Youth Advisory Board helped to complete the Outdoor Learning Park.

# FRIENDS OF THE CHEAT

**AMOUNT OF GRANT: \$5,000**

## Organization

Since the formation of Friends of the Cheat (FOTC) in 1994, the organization's primary focus has been addressing the severe acid mine drainage (AMD) pollution issues in the lower reaches of the Cheat River watershed. FOC works with state and federal agencies to coordinate reclamation and remediation efforts, academic institutions to facilitate research projects, and a variety of other stakeholders from the business and non-profit sector. Restoring water quality alone will not solve the long-term problems and ongoing challenges the Cheat Watershed faces. FOTC works to educate the public about local and regional issues, best management practices, and environmental stewardship in addition to providing and promoting opportunities to appreciate natural resources through outdoor recreation. One such initiative is the CAPABLE volunteer monitoring program, a citizen scientist based initiative to monitor waterways that may be at risk for degradation from oil and gas industrial activity. The CAPABLE program is currently supported by 15 volunteers who monitor over 20 sample sites throughout the Lower Cheat River Watershed.

## 2013 Project Summary

With this grant, FOTC planned to pay for maintenance to the group's monitoring vehicles, volunteer support, outreach interfaces, and water quality monitoring supplies and fees.

## Partners

- Dickinson College's ALLARM Program
- West Virginia University's Three Rivers Quest Program



This picture was taken of Jenkinsburg Bridge in Cheat Canyon.

**Counties:** Monongalia,  
Preston, Tucker, Randolph,  
Pocahontas

**Contact:** Amanda Pitzer  
Kingwood, WV

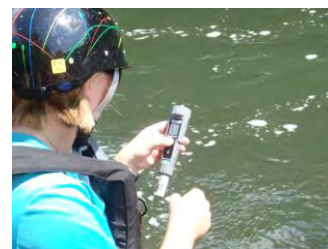
304-329-3621

**E-mail:** [amanda@cheat.org](mailto:amanda@cheat.org)

**Website:** [www.cheat.org](http://www.cheat.org)

## Issues:

- Acid mine drainage
- Shale natural gas exploration and production
- Sediment control
- Invasive species



A FOC volunteer measured conductivity in the Cheat Man Stem.



## Accomplishments

- Deployed five data-loggers in the Big Sandy subwatershed
- Created a data-logger inventory and deployment log
- Developed a technical report describing base-line water quality of selected streams
- Developed a chain of communication plan to help volunteer monitors with reporting observances
- Held an ALLARM-FOC Quality Assurance Workshop featuring equipment checks and identification of reportable water quality observances
- Created volunteer monitoring coordinator position
- Added two new bi-weekly monitoring sites to the CAPABLE program
- Performed maintenance on the Jeep
- Developed a new field data collection form
- Developed a standard operating procedure field handbook
- Published the annual technical report
- Held the Watershed=Foodshed Benefit dinner
- Conducted third party QA/QC testing of volunteer electrical conductivity pens and baseline chemical testing

## Photo Gallery



Frank Jernejcic negotiated rapids in the Cheat River Canyon during low summer flows.



Rapids brought the Cheat River to a calm pool beneath misty autumn slopes.

# FRIENDS OF THE LOWER GREENBRIER RIVER

**AMOUNT OF GRANT: \$5,000**

## Organization

Friends of the Lower Greenbrier River began in 1990 when an ad hoc group of citizens organized to protect the river and the safety of local drinking water from a newly built CAA pressure-treated wood plant within the flood plain of the River at Alderson, WV. The efforts resulted in the enforcement of state environmental laws requiring the property owner to comply with permitting regulations. The group was chartered as a 501(c) 3 in 1991 and was renamed the Friends of the Lower Greenbrier River (FOLGR) in 1999. The 1999 name change reflected a broadening of the geographical scope of the group's activities to include the entire lower Greenbrier River watershed and expansion of the group's mission to include other issues affecting the River and its tributaries. The lower Greenbrier River watershed is located in southeast West Virginia, encompassing the town of Caldwell to the mouth at Hinton where it flows into the New River.

## 2013 Project Summary

With this grant, FOLGR planned to pay for office rent, utilities, a newsletter, the VISTA match, and website maintenance.

## Partners

- WV Conservation Agency
- Alderson Mainstreet
- Town of Alderson
- Alderson Elementary and Eastern Greenbrier Middle School
- Greenbrier Academy for Girls
- Greenbrier Episcopal School
- Greenbrier Valley Dreamscapes and Enchanter's Garden
- Groundworks Nursery
- Downstream Strategies
- Greenbrier River Campground
- Wolf Creek Printery
- Hamilton College
- Chesapeake Bay Trust for Education

**Counties:** Greenbrier,

Monroe, Summers

**Contact:** Chris Chanlett

Alderson, WV

304-445-2005

**E-mail:**

[info@lowergreenbrierriver.](mailto:info@lowergreenbrierriver.com)

[com](http://www.lowergreenbrierriver.org)

**Website:**

[www.lowergreenbrierriver.o](http://www.lowergreenbrierriver.org)

[rg](http://www.lowergreenbrierriver.org)

**Issues:**

- Fecal Coliform bacteria
- Algae
- Public Drinking Water Source
- Recreation
- Phosphorus levels
- Trash



**The Interpretative Watershed Model has been completed by FOLGR.**



## Accomplishments

- Muddy Creek meeting and water monitoring
- 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Alderson BridgeFest
- School visits with 3-D topographic model
- EnviroScape demonstrations
- Rain garden completed
- Spring newsletter
- Monthly e-mail newsletters
- Make-it-shine riverside cleanup

- Sustainability Week
- EGMS “Know your watershed” curriculum
- 3rd Annual DeckFest
- Fall newsletter
- Monthly virtual newsletters
- New office
- Annual public meeting

## Photo Gallery



FOLGR assisted with the History Alive! Presentation at Ostenaco.



FOLGR conducted a Make-it-Shine cleanup.



FOLGR held an EnviroScape demonstration at White Sulphur Springs Elementary School.



The Aldersen rain garden at the elementary school has been growing by leaps and bounds.

# GREENBRIER RIVER WATERSHED ASSOCIATION

**AMOUNT OF GRANT: \$5,000**

## Organization

Founded in 1992, Greenbrier River Watershed Association (GRWA) is one of the oldest watershed groups in West Virginia. The Greenbrier River Watershed includes 1,637 square miles of land and 270.86 stream miles in Pocahontas, Greenbrier, Monroe and Summers counties. GRWA is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that partners with other environmental nonprofits, government organizations, and like-minded groups to educate the public. GRWA depends on grants and public support to assist the public with issues such as, water quality, water quantity, protection of forests to alleviate pollution, prevention of substandard and/or illegal developments, using sinkholes and cave systems for trash disposal, leaking septic tanks, water sampling, straight piping, and wastewater treatment plant issues.

## 2013 Project Summary

With this grant, GRWA planned to pay for the printing and publishing of its newsletter.

## Partners

- Birthplace of Rivers National Monument Initiative
- Elk River Touring Center
- Ronceverte Development Corporation
- WV Department of Agriculture
- US Department of Agriculture
- WV Conservation Agency
- White Sulphur Springs Fish Hatchery
- Lewis Theatre
- Stand Up for Monroe, The WV Wilderness Council and Eight Rivers Council
- Greenbrier Valley Community Foundation
- Greenbrier Valley Visitors Center
- Greenbrier Land Conservation Trust
- National Committee for the New River
- New River Technical and Community College

**Counties:** Pocahontas,  
Greenbrier, Summers,  
Monroe

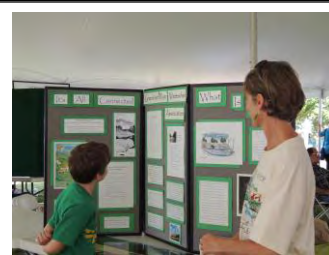
**Contact:** Leslee McCarty  
Lewisburg, WV  
304-646-7563

**E-mail:**  
[lesleemac@frontier.com](mailto:lesleemac@frontier.com)

**Website:**  
[www.greenbrierriver.org](http://www.greenbrierriver.org)

## Issues:

- Malfunctioning sewage treatment plants
- Agriculture runoff
- Algae
- Karst development
- Main drinking water source
- Recreation
- Fecal Coliform



**GRWA displayed at the  
Freshwater Folk Festival  
in White Sulphur  
Springs.**



## Accomplishments

- “Make-it-shine”-sponsored cleanups in Pocahontas County and Ronceverte River Park
- Sponsored showing of “Promised Land” at the Lewis Theatre
- Recruited supporters for Cranberry “National Monument” hearings for Greenbrier County Commission
- Involved members in studying of proposed waste treatment facility in Ronceverte
- Attend “Water and Wellness” conference at WV Wesleyan, Ronceverte Green Energy Fair and

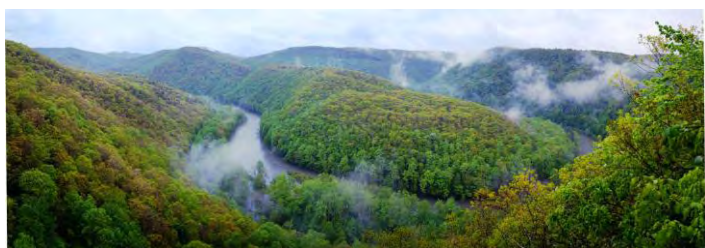
White Sulphur Springs Fish Hatchery Freshwater Folk Festival

- Upgraded computer and watershed network and streamlined website
- Increased Facebook membership from 160 to 600 followers
- Held screening of “Gasland Part 2” at the New River Community and Technical College
- Committed to monitoring of County Landfill for drilling waste
- Co-hosted National Monument event at the Irish Pub in Lewisburg

## Photo Gallery



Landowners, Downstream Strategies staff and a GRWA board member looked at the baseline survey of the cliff easement.



GRWA took a picture from the Cliff Conservation Easement.

### Greenbrier River Watershed Association receives grant from Stream Partners

The Greenbrier River Watershed Association was recently awarded a Grant from The Stream Partners Program, a cooperative effort of the West Virginia Conservation Agency, West Virginia's Department of Environmental Protection, Division of Forestry and the Division of Natural Resources. Stream Partners supports the efforts of the local watershed volunteers, citizens, industry, environmental groups, sportsmen, local government and landowners interested in improving the quality of life in and around their stream and watershed.

This year's grant will be used for educational programs, especially karst-related themes. The Greenbrier Watershed promotes the maintenance, preservation, protection and restoration of the ecological integrity of the Greenbrier River and its watershed. For more information, call the GRWA at 304-647-4792 or visit the website at [www.greenbrier.org](http://www.greenbrier.org).

This article was published in the Mountain Messenger newspaper on March 9, 2013.

# INDIAN CREEK WATERSHED ASSOCIATION

**AMOUNT OF GRANT: \$5,000**

## Organization

Indian Creek Watershed Association (ICWA) has been an active watershed organization since 1996. The focus and mission is “the preservation and protection of Monroe County’s abundant, pure water.” ICWA’s broad membership includes individuals from public and private sectors, self-employed and retired individuals, outdoor enthusiasts, farmers, homemakers, school employees, social workers, scientists, geologists and historians. The organization is committed to providing the public with information, but also receiving feedback from concerned local citizens. ICWA welcomes all members who believe that land and water stewardship is the responsibility of all citizens.

## 2013 Project Summary

With this grant, ICWA planned to pay for a coordinator, bookkeeping costs, travel to Water Celebration Day, to hold a Citizen Science workshop, to publish a water information booklet, a calendar project and postage.

## Partners

- Monroe County Public and Peterstown Public Libraries
- Boy Scouts of America
- Monroe County Commission
- Artist Joan Menard
- Town of Union
- Bas Relief
- Dr. Fred Ziegler
- Rocky Parsons
- Literacy West Virginia
- Sweet Springs Valley Water Company
- WVU WV Extension Service
- Friend of the Second Creek
- WV Fish and Wildlife Service
- Mountain RC&D

**Counties:** Monroe

**Contact:** Judy Azulay

Union, WV

304-832-6331

**E-mail:**

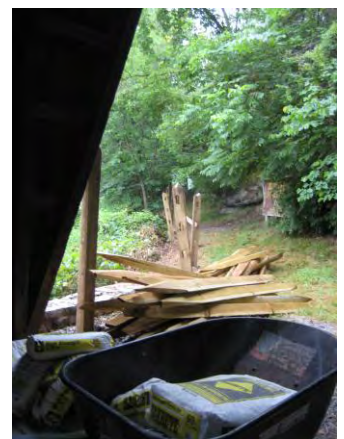
[judyazulay@frontier.com](mailto:judyazulay@frontier.com)

**Website:**

<http://indiancreekwatershedassociation.com>

**Issues:**

- Unregulated development
- Agricultural and foresting activities
- Household septic systems
- Illegal dumping
- Marcellus shale drilling



Materials were made available to replace a split rail fence at the Indian Creek Covered Bridge.



## Accomplishments

- Exhibited A Tribute to Tributaries show at Monroe and Peterstown Public Libraries
- Cleaned up and restored Indian Creek at Indian Creek Covered Bridge Site
- Completed water-themed quilt square for Town of Union water treatment plant to bring attention to water issues
- Developed a community and classroom

presentation to accompany karst poster

- Developed karst and geologic terms vocabulary presentation and activities
- Printed and distributed 2013 Calendar to members, Monroe County Commission and Planning Commission

## Photo Gallery



The 2014 ICWA calendar culminated a year of public outreach and contributions.



ICWA exhibited at Festival in the Hills, Salt Sulphur Springs, on October 19, 2013.



California Troop A103 attending the Boy Scout Jamboree cleaned the historic the Indian Creek Covered Bridge.



After lunch at the Boy Scout Jamboree, scouts made sinkholes-in-a-cup.

# MORRIS CREEK WATERSHED ASSOCIATION

**AMOUNT OF GRANT: \$5,000**

## Organization

On March 21, 2002, the Morris Creek Watershed Association (MCWA) was officially formed. MCWA is a non-profit organization made up of citizens from the local area joining together in an effort to protect and improve the watershed community to benefit all citizens. MCWA's mission is: to improve the safety of the Morris Creek Watershed, restore its natural beauty, and return the watershed to a safe environment for all residents; to restore the water quality to a condition capable of supporting aquatic life and local recreational activities; and address other key concerns such as flood prevention, stream bank stabilization, acid mine drainage remediation, maintenance and water quality testing.

## 2013 Project Summary

With this grant, MCWA planned to pay for administrative costs, office supplies, a Trout in Classroom project, building supplies, accountant fees, a stream clean up and project supplies.

## Partners

- Office of Surface Mining
- WV Division of Natural Resources and Division of Forestry
- AEP, Chesapeake Energy and Triana Energy
- Trout Unlimited
- WVU Institute of Technology and Bridgemont Community College
- Clonch Industry
- City of Montgomery
- Pardee Resources
- Pratt, Pinch, and Chesapeake Elementary Schools
- Charleston, South Charleston and Valley High Schools
- Concord, Dartmouth and Marshall Universities
- Oliverian School
- WV Conservation Agency
- Appalachian Energy and Environmental Partnership
- Appalachian Coal Country Team
- Marsico Brothers

**Counties:** Fayette,

Kanawha

**Contact:** Wanda King

Montgomery, WV

304-442-4113

**E-mail:**

[peewandie@hotmail.com](mailto:peewandie@hotmail.com)

**Website:**

[www.morriscreekwatershed.org](http://www.morriscreekwatershed.org)

**Issues:**

- Acid mine drainage
- Sediment control
- Streambank stabilization
- Solid Waste cleanup
- Flooding



The MCWA Nelson Swedish tank system, designed by WV DEP's Save Our Streams Coordinator Glenn Nelson, has been utilized by the WV University Institute of Technology Biology Club as a water monitoring project.

## Partners (continued)

- Sweet Dreams Bakery
- St. John's Baptist and Montgomery Presbyterian Churches
- Morris Creek United Church of Jesus Christ
- Maple Coal and Walter Coal Companies
- Virginia Beach Catholic Church
- U.S. Department of Agriculture
- AmeriCorps National Civilian Community Corp
- Jarvis Hardware
- Asphulanda Tree Service

## Accomplishments

- Held an annual Stream cleanup
- Repaired and maintained Environmental Learning Center
- Participated in Trout in the Classroom project with five elementary schools
- Constructed and maintained five K-dams
- Studied the rattlesnake populations
- Built a self-sustaining hydro power unit utilizing the water from a wet seal on a mine portal.
- Completed its yearly tree plantings
- Maintained two cemeteries
- Received an Embrace a Stream grant from Trout Unlimited
- Established 20 brush piles for wildlife habitat, planted two acres of pollinating plants, and obtained 100 tons of rock for in-stream structures
- Obtained a tiller
- Hosted a Will Harmon Stream workshop
- Received grants from WV American Water for monitoring equipment
- Rewrote and received approval for the Watershed plan
- Continued to work with WV DEP to support the limestone fines program at four locations and the Swedish "Nelson" tank project

## Photo Gallery



MCWA organized and led an Energy Tour from March 17-21, 2013 for Dartmouth University students.



MCWA was the outdoor classroom location for Will Harmon's Assessing and Restoring Headwater Mountain Streams Workshop on June 24-28, 2013.



# NEW RIVER CLEAN WATER ALLIANCE

**AMOUNT OF GRANT: \$5,000**

## Organization

The New River Clean Water Alliance (NRCWA), formed in 2009, is a partnership dedicated to promoting clean water and community efforts in the New River and its tributaries in Fayette, Summers, and Raleigh Counties. The following organizations have representatives in the Alliance: Piney Creek Watershed Association, National Park Service, Plateau Action Network, Mountain Resource Conservation and Development, West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection, West Virginia Professional River Outfitters Association, National Committee for the New River, and National Parks Conservation Association. Together, the Alliance continues to build support for priority infrastructure projects including repairing leaky sewer pipes and raising awareness for alternative green infrastructure and decentralized sewer solutions.

## 2013 Project Summary

With this grant, NRCWA planned to pay for lab analysis, travel, and a program coordinator.

## Partners

- National Committee for the New River
- WV Professional Rafting Outfitters
- Plateau Action Network
- Piney Creek Watershed Association

**Counties:** Fayette

**Contact:** Heather Lucas

Oak Hill, WV

304-469-4433

**E-mail:** [hluacs@npca.org](mailto:hluacs@npca.org)

**Website:** [www.ncnr.org](http://www.ncnr.org)

**Issues:**

- Fecal coliform bacteria
- Aluminum, iron, pH and biological impairments



**Volunteer monitor Bobby Bower created a new sampling gadget to use in the water monitoring program for NRCWA.**

## Accomplishments

- Held six monitoring events with 29 fecal coliform results
- The NRCWA's monitoring project was used in a promotion video

## Photo Gallery



**Volunteer monitor Bobby Bower checked his sample after conducting water monitoring on the New River.**



**Volunteer monitor Bobby Bower checked his sample a second time after conducting water monitoring on the New River.**

# PINEY CREEK WATERSHED ASSOCIATION

**AMOUNT OF GRANT: \$5,000**

## Organization

Piney Creek Watershed Association (PCWA) is a volunteer non-profit organization founded in 2004 by local government, business, and community members. PCWA's mission is to improve and protect the water resources by educating the community about water quality issues and performing service projects. Membership includes a broad-based cross section of the community, local government, private business, the local sanitary board, the Chamber of Commerce, significant private landowners, the local Solid Waste Authority, public service districts, local realtors and outdoor enthusiasts.

## 2013 Project Summary

With this grant, PCWA planned to pay to travel to Watershed Celebration Day, books and canopy for outreach, an Executive Director, mileage, financial services, office utilities, rent and supplies.

## Partners

- Beckley-Raleigh County Chamber of Commerce
- Beckley Sanitary Board
- Raleigh County Solid Waste Authority
- Little Beaver State Park
- Raleigh County Memorial Airport
- Humane Society of Raleigh County
- New River Clean Water Alliance
- City of Beckley
- New River Gorge National River
- Register Herald Newspaper
- Raleigh County Historical Society
- Raleigh County Cycle Club
- University of Charleston
- Raleigh County Board of Education

**Counties:** Raleigh

**Contact:** Tammy Toney

Beckley, WV

304-228-1680

**E-mail:**

[PineyCreekWatershedAssociation@gmail.com](mailto:PineyCreekWatershedAssociation@gmail.com)

**Website:**

[www.pineycreekwatershed.net](http://www.pineycreekwatershed.net)

**Issues:**

- Acid mine drainage
- Fecal coliform bacteria
- Litter
- Streambank erosion
- Stormwater runoff



**Scouts at the 2013 National Boy Scout Jamboree took a rest from construction of a section of the Piney Creek Trail.**



## Accomplishments

- Utilized STEAM (science, technology, engineering and math) grant from Beckley Area Foundation to complete clean water poster contest for three high schools
- Completed stream/trail cleanup on banks of Piney Creek
- Participated in Earth Day at YMCA soccer complex
- Developed plan for hiking trail along Piney Creek
- Completed bacterial source tracking workshop
- Received grant funding for community pet waste stations
- Hosted members meetings
- Participated in New River Festival
- Hosted 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Water Celebration at Little Beaver State Park
- Donated children's water quality books to 19 elementary schools
- Coordinated first 2.5 miles of Piney Creek Trail with Boy Scout Jamboree
- Appointed new executive board members
- Renovated website
- Cleaned up the Beckley Mill site
- Conducted an executive director search

## Photo Gallery



WV Save our Streams Coordinator Glenn Nelson (right) instructed PCWA's executive director Jim Fedders on sampling techniques.



Matthew Wade (left), Chairman of PCWA, presented books to Theresa Lewis, principal of Crescent Elementary and President of the Raleigh County Elementary Principals Association.



This is the book packet that was sent to 19 schools in Raleigh County.

# PLATEAU ACTION NETWORK

**AMOUNT OF GRANT: \$5,000**

## Organization

The Plateau Action Network is a citizen's coalition working within the community to promote responsible economic development and sustainable environmental management. Incorporated in 1998, PAN has been involved in a variety of projects and issues related to watersheds and the communities within them. These issues vary from powerline routes through scenic and sensitive areas, proposed gas line routes, water quality issues (wastewater treatment and management, acid mine drainage, flooding, and stormwater management), long term planning efforts within the county (e.g. land use, zoning and building codes), and responsible economic development.

## 2013 Project Summary

With this grant, PAN planned to publish a newsletter, purchase a 60-inch monitor for its conference room, and participate in the River Rally.

## Partners

- New River Clean Water Alliance
- National Committee for the New River
- Rapid Media
- Fedukovich Enterprises
- Baker Engineering
- Ryan Environmental
- Aspen Corporation
- New River Alliance of Climbers
- WVU Law Clinic



This photo was taken before the Wolf Creek restoration project began.

**Counties:** Fayette

**Contact:** Levi Rose

Fayetteville, WV

740-591-1750

**E-mail:** [levirose@gmail.com](mailto:levirose@gmail.com)

**Website:**

[www.plateauactionnetwork.org](http://www.plateauactionnetwork.org)

[g](#)

**Issues:**

- High levels of iron and aluminum
- Fecal coliform bacteria
- Low pH
- Sedimentation
- Abandoned mine lands
- Streambank erosion
- Pasture/Cropland
- Onsite Sewer Systems



This photo was taken after the Wolf Creek restoration project began.



## Accomplishments

- Completed Summerlee AMD Treatment Phase 1.2
  - Completed the Wolf Creek Stream Restoration
  - Completed the Fayette Square Rain Gardens
  - Removed 1,200 pounds of trash from Hawks Nest Dam
- Held the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual New River Festival
  - Acquired matching funds for Watershed Coordinator
  - Published and distributed quarterly newsletter
  - Purchased office equipment

## Photo Gallery



A live auction was held at the 2013 New River Festival.



PAN's Levi Rose and Heather Lukacs enjoyed the New River Festival.



DEP's Project WET Coordinator Kim Maxwell helped set up the Puppet Parade at the 2013 New River Festival.



The rain gardens at Fayette Square in Raleigh County were completed in November 2013.



# POTOMAC RIVERKEEPER

**AMOUNT OF GRANT: \$5,000**

## Organization

The mission of Potomac Riverkeeper (PR) is to stop pollution and restore clean water in the Potomac and Shenandoah Rivers and tributaries through community action and enforcement. The Potomac River is a resource vital to the health and welfare of residents in its watershed. It is a drinking water resource, a place of recreation, and a creator of jobs and economic activity for a variety of river based businesses. PR works to restore water quality to a level that is fishable, swimmable, and safe source of drinking water. PR programs and activities span the entire Potomac Watershed and have two main focuses including the Clean Water Enforcement Program as well as the Community Engagement Program.

## 2013 Project Summary

With this grant, PR planned to pay for stakeholder meeting materials, posters, mailings, access site materials and map production.

## Partners

- WV Division of Natural Resources
- WV Department of Transportation
- Mineral County Parks and Recreation
- Eagles Nest RV Park
- The Trough General Store

**Counties:** Mineral

**Contact:** Sarah Sorenson

Washington, DC

202-222-0729

**E-mail:**

[sarah@potomacriverkeeper.org](mailto:sarah@potomacriverkeeper.org)

**Website:**

[www.potomacriverkeeper.org](http://www.potomacriverkeeper.org)

**Issues:**

- Urban and suburban development
- Agriculture runoff
- Sedimentation
- Mineral extraction
- Recreational awareness
- Inadequate access points



**Brent Walls, Upper Potomac River Manager, rowed his boat on Opequon Creek.**

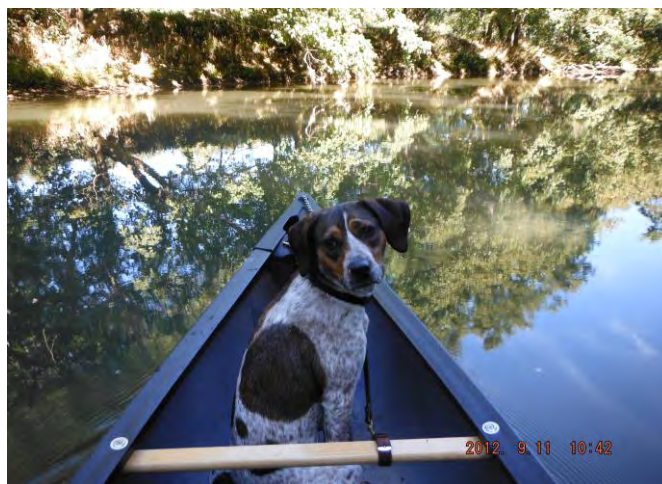
## Accomplishments

- Completed 95% of the Patterson Creek map
- Entered into a preliminary agreement with WV DOT to develop a DNR approved river access site during the Beaver Creek Bridge construction
- Made agreement with Mineral County Parks and Recreation to develop a river access site at their soccer field complex across from Larnim Park
- Communicated with Eagles Nest RV Park about advertising to their patrons
- Communicated with the Trough General Store and Canoe Livery to extend their area for future trips down Patterson Creek

## Photo Gallery



**Brent Walls, Upper Potomac River Manager, rowed the Potomac Riverkeeper canoe on May 19, 2013.**



**Pepper was a great mascot on many trips down the Opequon accompanying Brent Walls.**



**Brent Walls said that being a “riverkeeper” is not just about advocating for clean water, but about connecting people to the river or stream as well.**

# SAVE THE TYGART WATERSHED ASSOCIATION

**AMOUNT OF GRANT: \$5,000**

## Organization

The Save the Tygart Watershed Association (STTWA) mission has not changed since 2001. The organization's goal is to provide a clean Tygart River for people to enjoy, clean drinking water, water of good quality to enhance every aspect of human activity and enhancement for fish and wildlife. Water monitoring and analysis remains the primary tool to accomplish this mission. Monitoring is coupled with a proactive approach to intervention and prevention with results driven strategies and tactics to guide various projects and programs.

## 2013 Project Summary

With this grant STTWA planned to pay for monitoring supplies, food, website maintenance and community meetings.

## Partners

- Laurel Mountain Fellowsville Watershed Association
- U.S. Army Corp of Engineers
- WVU's Three Rivers Quest Program
- North Fork of Blackwater Watershed Association
- WV Watershed Network
- National Mine Land Reclamation Center
- Pamela and Art Dodd
- Liz Delaney
- Paradise and Wildwood Lake Environmental Committee
- The Nature Conservancy
- Morris Creek Watershed Association

**Counties:** Taylor, Barbour,

Marion, Preston

**Contact:** Leroy Stanley

Grafton, WV

304-265-8047

**E-mail:**

[savethetygart@gmail.com](mailto:savethetygart@gmail.com)

**Website:**

[www.savethetygartriver.org](http://www.savethetygartriver.org)

**Issues:**

- Acid mine drainage
- Natural gas exploration and extraction
- Permitted discharges
- Litter
- Public awareness
- STTWA Library



**STTWA personnel lead large trash cleanups on Tygart Lake.**



## Accomplishments

- Monitored 156 times on three sites analyzing 733 parameters
- Visited Morris Creek Watershed to learn monitoring techniques
- Held “Hooked on Fishing, Not on Drugs” festival
- Held fundraiser at Grafton’s Memorial Day parade
- Met with WV DEP’s Office of Special Reclamation concerning bad water quality downstream from a bond forfeiture site
- Held Tygart Lake cleanup
- Hosted World Water Day celebration with North Fork of Blackwater Watershed Association
- Held Watershed Awareness Day
- Received Friends of Fish award from WVWN
- Attended WV Watershed Pilot Project
- Participated in Ground Truth Project
- Collaborated with Laurel Mountain Fellowsville Area Clean Watershed Association to support improved treatment of AMD from F&M site

## Photo Gallery



STTWA set up the signs they had printed to help protect the watershed.



Leroy Stanley inspected a water-wheel lime doser device to determine if it is treating acidity that might pollute the Tygart River watershed.



DEP’s Martin Christ discussed macroinvertebrates with Scouts who attended one of the watershed meetings.



The City of Grafton donated a Jeep to the watershed association in support of its work.

# UPPER GUYANDOTTE WATERSHED ASSOCIATION

**AMOUNT OF GRANT: \$5,000**

## Organization

The Upper Guyandotte Watershed Association (UGWA) was founded in response to the devastating flood event of July 2001. Through investigation and community outreach, the various problems and issues facing the watershed were identified, and UGWA continues to develop projects to address these issues. UGWA is a grassroots community organization striving to empower citizens to take a leadership role on environmental issues in the watershed.

## 2013 Project Summary

With this grant, UGWA planned to pay for an executive director, litter cleanups, participation in the River Rally, outreach and office supplies, and telephone expenses.

## Partners

- Coal Heritage Highway Authority
- Wyoming County Board of Education
- Groundwork Wyoming County
- Boy Scouts of America
- Great Eastern Trail

**Counties:** Wyoming,

Randolph

**Contact:** Randolph Greer

Mullens, WV

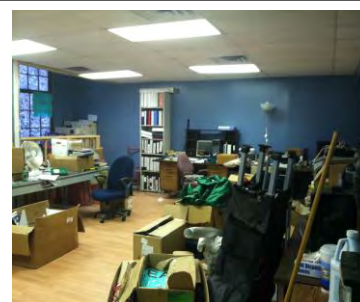
304-250-7053

**E-mail:** [info@ugwawv.org](mailto:info@ugwawv.org)

**Website:** [www.ugwawv.org](http://www.ugwawv.org)

## Issues:

- Inadequate waste water treatment
- Abandoned mine drainage
- Sedimentation
- Streambank erosion
- Litter
- Coal mining and logging
- Flooding
- Poverty
- Invasive weeds

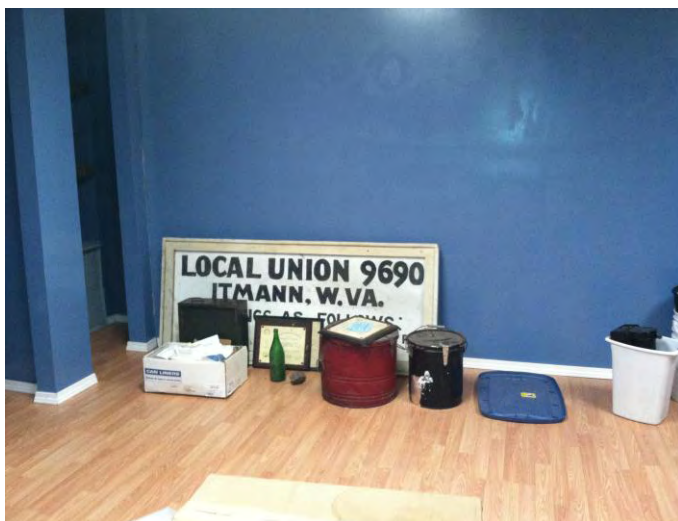


**UGWA representatives moved all their watershed and office supplies into the newly finished Itmann Building, where their office will be housed, along with a museum.**

## Accomplishments

- Received the National Coal Heritage Area Grant for \$14,000
- Completed renovations to the Itmann Building, the future office and museum of UGWA
- Merged with Groundwork Wyoming County to create Groundwork Guyandotte of Southern West Virginia
- Hired a new Project Coordinator
- Created a new brochure
- Prepared outreach material to be sent to the printers
- Held a litter cleanup

## Photo Gallery



UGWA put down new floors and painted the interior of the Itmann Building.



UGWA representatives Peni Adams, Sue Cline and Randolph Greer helped put together the new office for UGWA.



# UPPER MONONGAHELA RIVER ASSOCIATION

**AMOUNT OF GRANT: \$5,000**

## Organization

The purpose of the Upper Monongahela River Association (UMRA) is to promote the general development of the area encompassed by the drainage basin for the Upper Monongahela River, primarily in West Virginia. Primary concerns are economic development and quality of life issues related to the environment and recreational opportunities. Activities directed towards this purpose include:

- Recreational boating activities;
- Development of river-based facilities, e.g., campsites, marinas, shore-side restaurants, etc., by government, commercial, and recreational organizations and entities, in support of recreation in the Upper Mon region;
- Development of river-based commerce;
- Working with government, business, recreational, environmental, and civic organizations on behalf of UMRA goals;
- Congressional passage of legislation that adds boating recreation to the waterways mandates of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (COE); and
- Ensuring that COE has sufficient funds to operate and maintain the locks on the Upper Monongahela, and other rivers, on schedules that fully facilitate river commerce and recreation.

## 2013 Project Summary

With this grant, UMRA planned to pay for public meetings, rent, a recorder, monitoring supplies, a videotape of meetings, a map, a property search and locks work.

## Partners

- Save the Tygart Watershed Association
- Mon River Trails Conservancy
- Pittsburgh District U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
- Guardians of the West Fork
- WV Bass Federation and B.A.S.S. Nation of WV
- Friends of Deckers Creek and Friends of the Cheat

**Counties:** Monongalia

**Contact:** Donald Strimbeck

Granville, WV

304-599-7585

**E-mail:**

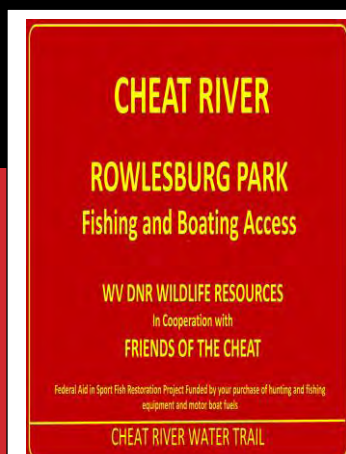
[dcsoinks@comcast.net](mailto:dcsoinks@comcast.net)

**Website:**

[www.uppermon.org](http://www.uppermon.org)

**Issues:**

- Resource extractive industry
- Operation and maintenance of river navigation infrastructure
- Quality of water resources
- Public access
- Public information and opinions



UMRA put up a sign at the Rowlesburg Park access point in Preston County.

### Partners continued

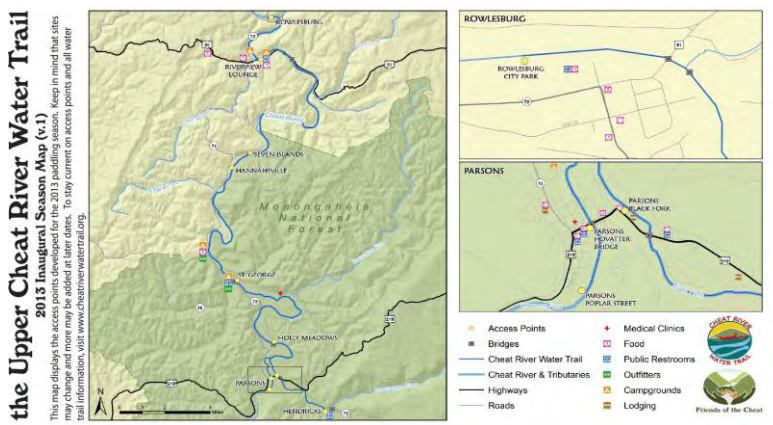
- White Day and Mountain Watershed Associations
- Mon Rowing Association and WVU Mens Rowing Club
- Cheat River Water Trail Committee
- Monongalia County Commission and Development Authority
- WV DNR
- WV Region VI Planning & Development Council
- Allegheny River Development Council
- Ohio River Headwaters Resource Committee
- MEPCO Fort Martin/Granville/Maidsville Community Advisory Panel
- WVU Extension Service Natural Gas Education Team

- Star City

## Accomplishments

- E-mailed Daily News Updates to 450+ recipients
- Reviewed and commented on proposals for hydroelectric power projects
- Searched for potential public access sites in Hildebrand and Opeliska pools
- Worked with USACE and MCC on a “Contributed Funds Approach” to re-opening the Mon River Locks
- Provided quarterly updates regarding Mon River issues and opportunities
- Began detailed review and preliminary concept for Quality Glass site kayak/canoe access to Mon River

## Photo Gallery



### 100 Years 1918: Is it still that healthy?

100 Years 1918: Is it still that healthy? And how healthy is the Chesapeake Bay? The answer is, "It's still healthy, but it's not the same as it was in 1918." The Chesapeake Bay is still a healthy ecosystem, but it's not the same as it was in 1918. The Chesapeake Bay is still a healthy ecosystem, but it's not the same as it was in 1918. The Chesapeake Bay is still a healthy ecosystem, but it's not the same as it was in 1918.

**Life Jacket/Personal Flotation Devices (PFDs):** While the Chesapeake Bay is still a healthy ecosystem, it's not the same as it was in 1918. The Chesapeake Bay is still a healthy ecosystem, but it's not the same as it was in 1918. The Chesapeake Bay is still a healthy ecosystem, but it's not the same as it was in 1918.

**Drugs Apparent:** In the summer moon fully will be comfortable in bathing suits, and a t-shirt. Considered a sign of good weather, and a sign of good weather. Considered a sign of good weather, and a sign of good weather. Considered a sign of good weather, and a sign of good weather.

### Upper Chesapeake Water Trail

**Chesapeake Bay Foundation** and **Volunteers** are the backbone of the Chesapeake Bay Foundation. The Chesapeake Bay Foundation is a non-profit organization that works to protect and restore the Chesapeake Bay. The Chesapeake Bay Foundation is a non-profit organization that works to protect and restore the Chesapeake Bay.

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### the Upper Cheat River Water Trail

#### 2013 Inaugural Season Map & Guide

**Planning**

**Chase a Starling Point** from the top and bottom of the Chesapeake Bay. The Chesapeake Bay is a large body of water, and it's not the same as it was in 1918. The Chesapeake Bay is a large body of water, and it's not the same as it was in 1918. The Chesapeake Bay is a large body of water, and it's not the same as it was in 1918.

**Planning**

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### Use this guide to plan your trip on the Upper Cheat River Water Trail

**Content Includes:**

- Maps and mileage matrix
- Flow guidelines
- Water level tips
- Local amenities
- Scenic & historic sites

**Chesapeake Bay Foundation** and **Volunteers** are the backbone of the Chesapeake Bay Foundation. The Chesapeake Bay Foundation is a non-profit organization that works to protect and restore the Chesapeake Bay. The Chesapeake Bay Foundation is a non-profit organization that works to protect and restore the Chesapeake Bay.

# WARM SPRINGS WATERSHED ASSOCIATION

**AMOUNT OF GRANT: \$5,000**

## Organization

Warm Springs Watershed Association (WSWA) is a model example of a broad-based community organization founded in 2008. The mission is to protect, preserve and restore Warm Springs Run and its watershed through action, based on education and the establishment of partnerships with concerned citizens, civic organizations, and governmental agencies in Morgan County, West Virginia. *“Warm Springs Run suffers from an ‘out of sight, out of mind’ condition. Although the stream is twelve miles long and flows through the heart of Berkeley Springs, it is invisible to most people.”* Such was the very accurate conclusion reached in the 2007 Corridor Assessment of Warm Springs Run. Since its inception in 2008, the Warm Springs Watershed Association has made great progress in reversing that conclusion.

## 2013 Project Summary

With this grant, WSWA planned to conduct water monitoring and analysis.

## Partners

- Cacapon Institute
- WV Eastern Panhandle Regional Planning & Development Council 9

**Counties:** Morgan

**Contact:** Kate Lehman

Berkeley Springs, WV

304-279-0717

**E-mail:**

[goldfairy@gmail.com](mailto:goldfairy@gmail.com)

**Website:**

[www.wswawv.wordpress.com](http://www.wswawv.wordpress.com)

**Issues:**

- Flooding
- Artificial channelization
- Riparian buffer zones
- Construction/ industrial projects
- Invasive species
- Sewer/stove pipes
- Litter



**Kate Lehman (left) and Neil Gillies (right) took a water sample at Sand Mind Road.**



## Accomplishments

- Studied requirement for writing a Quality Assurance Program Plan (QAPP)
- Clarified goals that would establish a TMDL
- Established a Memorandum of Understanding with Cacapon Institute to do fecal coliform bacteria testing
- Determined eight sites to be tested for fecal coliform bacteria
- Collected first round of six samples for fecal coliform bacteria
- Arranged for training to do volunteer assessment of sediment levels
- Wrote a QAPP and waiting for approval

## Photo Gallery



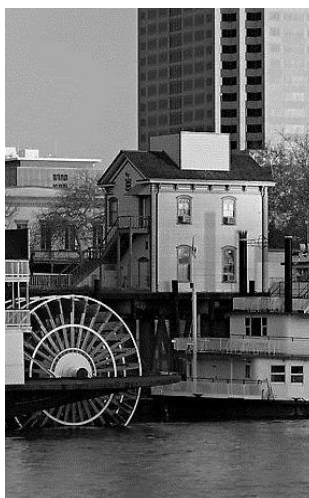
**Booms collected spilled gasoline in a tributary of Warm Springs Run in November 2012.**



**Many minnows died as a result of the gasoline spill in November 2012.**



**Warms Springs Volunteers collected macroinvertebrates in the area of the gas spill, also in November 2012.**



# **WEST VIRGINIA STREAM PARTNERS**

**West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection  
Division of Water & Waste Management  
NonPoint Source Program  
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