

MSTWC Annual Report 2014



MSTWC works to further the efforts of the Stream Team Program and Stream Team Associations by focusing on the following goals. Check out some of the ripples we made as we flowed through 2014.

The Missouri Stream Team Watershed Coalition (MSTWC) is a not-for-profit organization made up of representatives from Stream Team Associations throughout the state. Associations are groups of Stream Teams who work together within watersheds. MSTWC promotes and supports watershed-based Stream Team Associations and the Stream Team Program by serving as a resource for information, education, stewardship, and advocacy; facilitating communication among Associations; and serving as a voice for healthy watersheds in Missouri. There are currently 18 Stream Team Associations across the state.

Education and Outreach

MSTWC provides educational tools and resources to the Stream Team Program, Stream Team Associations, and Stream Team members.

- With partner Ozarks Water Watch continued to develop and implemented the Missouri Clean Marina Program. 12 Marinas were inspected and designated that were enrolled in the program in 2013. Learn more at www.mocleanmarina.org
- Not-for-profit status was utilized to act as sponsoring entity for 2 grant projects: \$10,000 Missouri Department of Natural Resources 319 grant provided by MoDNR for the [Mill Creek Watershed Coalition's](#) education/outreach program and a \$5,000 grant provided by REI for the [River Des Peres Watershed Visual Assessment Project](#).
- Continued to support an electronic e-mail system with a distribution of 6,000 contacts that can be utilized by Stream Team Program staff, MSTWC, and Stream Team Associations allowing Stream Team members to receive Program and Issue information via e-mail.
- Attended the annual River Rally Conference
- Assisted in the development and participated in the new event [Cruise the Creeks](#) in Columbia, Mo that will become an annual event in subsequent years.
- Participated in the Nine Network-Water Matters Initiative, including participating on episode [212 of Stay Tuned](#)
- Developed and Disseminated a MSTWC electronic monthly newsletter and provided quarterly stories to the *Channels* publication.
- Developed and published the [Stream Team 25th Anniversary Blog](#)

Technical

MSTWC acts as a technical resource for Stream Team members and the Stream Team Program.

- Continued to disseminate the recently published “State of Missouri Streams” reports.
- Served as technical stakeholder on issues related to water resource management and protection.
- Submitted petition for LaBarque Creek to be enlisted as a Missouri Outstanding State Water Resource.

Sustainable Funding

MSTWC is working to establish sustainable funding to support the operational expenses of the organization. We are hopeful that a sustainable funding revenue stream will also improve our ability to support Stream Team Associations and the Stream Team Program.

- Manage the Stream Team license plate program. For each plate purchased and renewed, a donation goes to MSTWC. 41 License Plates were renewed in 2014 with an income of \$2,050.00
- Manage the Chuck and Sharon Tryon Revolving Tire Fund which provides financial assistance to Stream Teams disposing of tires collected during cleanup events. A total of \$2,144.00 in tire disposal fees assisted Stream Teams in 2014.
- A Giving Campaign was developed and implemented in 2014- the first effort of its kind to solicit ST volunteers for financial support and raised \$5,943.00 in total.
- Plans for diversification of funding were developed and will be implemented in 2015.
- A Technology Grant was secured through the Norcross Foundation that assisted with 2 iPads for MSTWC.

Advocacy

MSTWC acts as an advocate on issues that affect the quality of our state’s water resources. MSTWC works to provide information to Stream Team members, provide comments to agencies, legislators, and other governmental officials on specific issues, and encourages Stream Team members to voice their concerns on water-related projects.

- Encouraged advocacy in the Stream Team community through electronically disseminated “Issue Alerts.” These issue alerts reach 6,000 individuals who have shown an interest in Missouri’s waterways and the Stream Team Program. Issue Alerts were disseminated on 5 issues with an open rate of 30%.
- Represent water resources in stakeholder engagement processes.
- Host the MSTWC Social Media pages-Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram which educates followers about current water resource issues and water happenings across the state.
- Developed and published the [#MoWater](#) news map that informs and educates about current news related to water across Missouri and highlights National water news.

- Began developing a framework for the advocacy component of the Stream Team Program. Began the discussions on priorities/needs with the MSTWC board at MSTWC board meetings.
- Participated in the Missouri Environmental Summit that brought advocate groups statewide to discuss partnerships and advocacy planning.
- Communication and a partnership agreement was developed and presented to MSTWC and CFM Board of Directors to explore developing a partnership between CFM and MSTWC focused on advocacy for water issues.

To learn more about MSTWC, please visit www.mstwc.org.