

MISSOURI

RIVER RELIEF

2012 at a glance

RESULTS SNAPSHOT

missouri river - st. charles - brunswick - omaha - council bluffs - st. joseph - kansas city

22 River Clean-ups

1,365 Volunteers

1,293 Students & Teachers

79 Rivermiles Cleaned

42 Tons of Trash removed

364 Tires

25 Communities in **7** States

7,524 Volunteer Hours

43 Missouri River Presentations

20 Educational River Trips

1 Missouri River Stream Team

(Watershed Coalition) Association

Hands On - On The River

The mission of Missouri River Relief is to **engage individuals and communities** along the Missouri River in the **exploration, enjoyment, restoration and care** of the river through hands-on river **clean-ups, education events & stewardship activities.**

Allow us to extend a sincere thank you on behalf of River Relief for joining our efforts along the Missouri River in 2012.

The past two years have been uniquely challenging in the Missouri River basin with record-breaking floods followed by record-breaking heat and drought. Many people are rethinking their relationship to the river but one thing remains the same - Missouri River Relief's mission to bring people to the river with the common goal of improving it.

We started 2012 conducting cleanups in Missouri communities and then we moved upriver in the fall season to help cities recovering from the Flood of 2011—Omaha, Council Bluffs, St. Joseph and Kansas City. We discovered major differences following the flood—high mortality of trees in riparian forests and different accumulations of trash. We cleaned up more industrial-style debris while smaller litter tended to wash out far from the shores at the high-water line.

What makes it possible is a nucleus of engaged community partners, citizen groups, families, individuals, a dedicated volunteer crew, state and federal agencies, local river businesses and infrastructure, and a long list of sponsors to help provide the cash and services it takes to mobilize this clean-up effort, all with a simple, but difficult goal; bringing their community together across city and state boundaries to work along a single river system.

It's a true Missouri River, community effort.

2012 was Missouri River Relief's 11th year of serving as the central hub of all of these community groups and it was a great success thanks to you!

To see our full results report, photos and more in depth stories, visit:

<http://www.riverrelief.org/results/2012/>



*Our seasoned crew hauls a load of trash in collected just upstream of the Omaha skyline
Photo by Steve Schnarr*

“I bet you find the craziest stuff in that river..”

Here's a sample of what volunteers hauled out of the Missouri River in 2012:

1,124 bags of Trash	1 Basket Ball Goal	9 pieces of Carpet	1 Library Card
364 Tires	1 Oar	1 set of Cabinet Doors	1 Toy Airplane
10 Refrigerators	1 Metal First Aid Kit	2 ½ Doors	1 Solar Powered Light
3 Chest Freezers	2 Buoys	30 ft. of Wiring Conduit	1 Crossbow Pistol
85 Chucks O' Styrofoam	1 Wooden Recycle Bin Topper	1 plastic Step Ladder	1 BB Gun Handle
19 Propane Tanks	1 Wooden Bench	2 Wooden Lattice Fences	1 Soggy Mitten
2 Large Propane Tanks (100 lbs)	2 Life Jackets	1 – 10'x20' Dock	6 boxes Assort. Fireworks
30 - 55 gal. Plastic Barrels	1 Boat Bimini Cover	3 glass Windows	2 Paint Cans
1 Plastic 35-gallon Barrel	1 Cast Iron Pan	1 Window Screen	3 – 250 gal. square Tanks
21 - 55 gal. Metal Drums	1 Fork and Knife	400 lbs of assorted Metal	1 Gallon Bottle Gear Oil
34 - 5 gal. Plastic Buckets	1 Drink Pitcher & Cup	120 ft. of 1-inch Cable	5 Gallon Engine Oil
4 - 5 gal. Metal Buckets	1 Partial Park Bench	100 lbs of Rebar	1 Full Quart Engine Oil
137 - Plastic Jugs, Tubs, Crates, etc.	1 Silk Red Rose	100 ft. of Cable	1 Jug of Insecticide
1 - 500 gallon Metal Diesel Tank	1 Unopened Can of Beans	300 Misc.pieces of Scrap Metal	1 Fire Hose
4 Couches	3-1/2 Flip Flops	61 pieces of Tow Boat remains	3 Fire Extinguishers
36 Chairs	1-1/2 Pair of Sunglasses	4 Duck Decoys	1 giant Man Purse (full)
13 TVs	1 Fraggie Piggyback Snails Toy	2 Goose Decoys	2 Patio Umbrellas
15 Coolers	1 Green Fuzzy Stuffed Animal	1 headless Turkey Decoy	1 plush Yellow Duck
10 ½ Box Springs	1 pc. of Pumice w/Raccoon Pawprint	1 Bike Spoke w/ Plastic Bags	2 Fishing Poles
8 Bed Frames	25 Lottery “scratcher” Tickets - scratched	1 Nintendo Gun	1 pink zebra Women's Briefs
7 Mattresses	2 Flashlights	7 Misc. Toy Dolls	1 Glow in the Dark Watch
1 Crib Mattress	A gazillion styrofoam cups, straws, bottles & plastic bags	1 Toothbrush	1 leopard print Cat House
1 Hot Water Heater	Several bags of Fisherman's Trash (beer cans, bait boxes, fishing line)	2 Sinks	1 old Leather Satchel
3 Bbq Grills	2 Garden Hoses	2 Gas Stoves	1 Hoop Earing
2 Bicycles (1 red, 1 blue)	1 Lawn Mower	2 Mylar Balloons	1 Toilet
3 Bicycle Tires and 1 Wheel	9 Orange Traffic Cones	1 plastic Big Wheel Tricycle	1 Bathtub
4 unopened Cans of Beer	2 Shopping Carts	1 25 ft. Tape Measurer	1 Vacuum Cleaner
1 unopened bottle of Whiskey	2 Horse Shoes	1 Blow-up Can of Pork & Beans	2 iPods
1 Fan	4 Couch Cushions	A 2-headed Dragon	1 Sleeping Bag
2 Folding Tables	1 Refrigerator Door	1 pair of dirty Socks	9 Tarps
1 Hula Hoop	1 Hammock	1 white lacey Bra	1 Tent
2 Hockey Sticks	1 Picnic Table	1 size-11 High Heel Shoe	1 Hot Tub
4 Baseball Hats	4 Counter Tops	8 Light Bulbs	6 Gas Tanks
1 Football Flag		1 pink Flamingo	1 “Official” Message in a Bottle
40+ Balls		1 Pig-shaped Cutting Board	1 set of national bylaws from the Hell's Lovers Motorcycle club
1 Dollar		1 Plastic Hand Grenade	

How can I help?

- **Donate** - It takes cash to turn the props!
- **Volunteer** - at one of our community clean-ups.
- **Share your knowledge** - at a river education event.
- **Partner with us!** - We are looking for partnering agencies, businesses and non-profits that want to leave the river a better place. If you have ideas on projects that need accomplished, let's work together to make it happen.
- **Sponsor an event** - Show your business cares about the river. Sponsor one of our clean-up or restoration efforts.
- **Keep posted on our website** - as details develop, we'll keep our needs and events posted on the web. That's where you can sign-up to help, www.riverrelief.org.
- **Spread the word!** - Help us get the word out! Recruit your friends!



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