

St. Charles Mission Clean Stream – APRIL 14 – 2012

Missouri River Clean Up

78 VOLUNTEERS § 39 TIRES § 5 TONS OF TRASH § 4 BIG MUDDY MILES § 2 TONS RECYCLED

Mission: Clean Stream is one of the biggest single-day stream clean-ups in the state. Which is saying a lot considering there are over 4,000 Stream Teams in the state. The clean-up is hosted by the Greenway Network and organized by over 20 different municipalities, stream teams and other groups.

For the first time, we turned our St. Charles clean-up into one of the sites at Mission: Clean Stream. We set up camp at the Lewis and Clark Boathouse at Bishop's Landing and made a long clean-up weekend out of it. In addition to the Saturday Clean Stream clean-up, we decided to make another run on Sunday with crew, then work with a group of REI employees on Monday afternoon.

We started the day in pouring rain with a thunderstorm. The volunteers who show up in the rain are always the most amazing people and just want to get out there and do it. As it turned out, all of the other sites of Mission: Clean Stream postponed their clean-ups, but since we had come from all over to pull this off we just bulldogged ahead as soon as it was safe and the lightning had passed.

We stress that everyone takes their time. Slippery boats and banks are real, but we can do this safely if we're steady and smart. First everyone fanned out into the woods and hauled trash out of nearby Blanchette Creek. Then we started taking groups to river sites. Most of these sites were nasty dumps near bridges...not really the ideal site to clean, but in this case they were the most important to make sure we hit.

It was a tough, soggy day, but everyone worked with smiles and pride. We smoothed out the speed bumps and made an impressive haul for a group of 70 volunteers.

Our crew retired to camp after packing up what we could. Trailhead Brewery donated a complete dinner to us, with pulled pork, chicken, chili and great sides. The rain stopped and we got a fire going.

All of sudden it was a beautiful, pleasant and warm afternoon. I guess some of us felt like we deserved it!



Event Snapshot

Total Volunteers: 78

MRR Crew: 28

Boats: 3 MRR boats

River Miles Cleaned: 4

Landfill: 2.5 tons

Scrap Metal Recycled: 1.46 tons

Recyclables (Glass, Plastic, Aluminum): .43 tons

Tires Recycled: 39 (.7 tons)

Total Tonnage: 5.1 Tons!

Groups & Agencies Involved: Missouri River Relief, St. Charles Public Works, Arnold Stream Team 211, Lindbergh High School Human Anatomy, Ameristar, 1 Mississippi, Greenway Network, Boeing Employees for Environmental Protection (BEEP), REI.



Partners

Allied Waste • Confluence Greenway
Lewis & Clark Boat House and Nature Center
Missouri Stream Team • Greenway Network
Stream Team 211 • Miracle Marine
Missouri Stream Team Watershed Coalition
US Army Corps of Engineers

75 Bags of Trash • 39 Tires • 2 Couches • 1 Computer Monitor • pieces of a Desk • 1 Plush Chair • 2 Camp Chairs • 1 Bathtub • several large pieces of Carpet • 1 35 gal. Plastic Tub • 1 Truck Bench Seat • 1 set of blinds • 1 plastic Road Barrier • 1 Hot Water Heater • 2 55-gal. Metal Barrels • 7 large Chunks O' Styrofoam • 1 Hockey Stick • 1 Cooler • 2 Basketballs • 2 Soccer Balls • 6 Tennis Balls • 1 set of national bylaws from the Hell's Lovers Motorcycle Club

Sponsors



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BOEING

Bernie Arnold

Pat Jones

Trailhead Brewing Co.



For more about the St. Charles Clean-up, see:

<http://www.riverrelief.org/event/mission-clean-stream-st-charles-missouri-river/>