

Greetings!

In 2011 we celebrated our 10th year engaging the people of the Missouri River valley in physically getting out there and cleaning up the river we love.

In addition to our usual schedule of clean-ups and river education, we added the **Big Muddy Clean Sweep** - a cross-state clean-up by barge.

Missouri River Relief is a unique project, and it would be impossible without your help. Here's some of what makes River Relief tick:

River Clean-ups

This is the best way to develop a relationship between people and the river, which is the best way to guarantee we'll care for our river into the future. Hands-on & on-the-river action.

River Education

From film festivals to our **Big Muddy Speaker Series** (now held monthly in Kansas City & Rocheport), from student watershed festivals and group river excursions, our education program is designed to increase our community's knowledge of the river we share through direct experience.

The River Relief Crew

The MRR volunteer crew is the backbone of our clean-up machine, and these folks dedicate many weekends travelling throughout the valley to get people out on the river.

Our Fleet

Boats, trucks, equipment. We added our third trash-hauling plate boat to the mix this year, and by chartering the Living Lands & Waters' River Cleanup trash barge we leveraged our equipment base into massive results.

Amazing Partners

We are nothing without our partners all up and down the river. Agencies, organizations, businesses and individual river lovers. They bring the local knowledge to leverage success.

The Hardest Working Volunteers on the River

Volunteers turn our capabilities into results. **2,333 volunteers** donated **8,514 hours** of labor into our project this year.



2011 Accomplishments

Green - Education Red - Clean-up

February –

- 9 Wild & Scenic Film Festival Columbia, MO
- 20 Old Plank & River Road Cleanup

March -

- 11-12 Aerial Trash Scout Kansas City to St. Louis, MO
- 25 (Away Team) Confluence Trash Bash – St. Louis, MO

April -

- 1-3 River Relief Benefit Rummage Sale – Columbia, MO
- 2 (Away Team) Project Blue River Rescue – Kansas City, MO
- 12-14 Missouri DNR Leadership Ladder River Trips – Rocheport to Cooper's Landing, MO
- **23** River Trip with Shawnee Mission High Schools – Kansas City, MO
- 29 Missouri River Watershed Festival - Kansas City, MO
- 30 Omaha/Council Bluffs Cleanup

May -

- **3-4** Missouri River Recreational River Clean-up
- 6 Missouri River Watershed FestivalYankton, SD
- 7 (Away Team) Yankton Missouri River Clean-up - Yankton, SD
- 7 Siouxland Missouri River Cleanup - South Sioux City, NE
- **18** River Trip with Douglass High School Hunstdale, MO
- 21 Master Naturalist Clean-up -Kansas City, MO

June -

- 16 (Away Team) Marine Industry Cleanup Challenge – Paducah, KY
- 23 River Kids Clean-up St. Louis, MO

July -

- **9-10** River Relief Boat Operators Academy – Osage River
- 22-23 (Safety Boats) Kawnivore Race – Kansas River

August -

- 13 Stream Team Academy -Missouri River Summit
- 27 (Away Team) Operation Clean Stream – Meremec River, Fenton, MO

September

- **Big Muddy Clean Sweep** our Missouri River cross-state clean-up begins.
- 10 (Land based) Kansas City Cleanup
- **17-25** Cooper's Landing Clean-ups and Education
- 17 (Away Team) Earthtone Festival and Clean-up Alton, IL

October

- Big Muddy Clean Sweep We move onto the barge in Jefferson City and move downstream.
- 1 Jefferson City & Mokane River Clean-ups
- 2 Race to the Dome paddle race from Providence to Jefferson City
- **4-5** Hermann/Owensville Missouri River Watershed Festival
- **8-9** Hermann Octoberfest River Clean-up
- **11-14** (Safety Boats) Missouri River 340 Race KC to St. Charles
- **12-13** Washington Riverside Education Experience
- 14 New Haven Crew Clean-up
- **15-16** Washington River Festival and Clean-up
- 19 St. Charles Clean-up with REI
- **22-23** St. Charles/Bridgeton River Clean-up
- 25 Confluence Clean-up with REI & Whole Foods
- 26 Missouri American Water Barge Luncheon
- 27 River Reflections River Trips with Confluence Partnership
- 29-30 Confluence River Clean-up

November

- 1-2 Big Muddy Clean Sweep Trash
- **18** Big Muddy Madness Benefit with River Kids St. Louis, MO



The final trash haul of the Big Muddy Clean Sweep. photo by Steve Schnarr



Cleaning up the Siouxland area. photo by Dylan Lehrbaum.



Finding trash treasures on a Missouri River sandbar. photo by Andy "Tex" Bugh