# 2015 at a glance

## MISSOURI RIVER RELIEF

### **RESULTS SNAPSHOT**

21 Clean-ups - 13 Education Events - 17 River Trips - 5 River Races 34 Big Muddy Speakers Series in 3 cities - 1 "Big River Experience" Summer Camp

2015 was a year of growth and exciting changes for Missouri River Relief. We brought on two new staff members with a deep well of talents, worked with new partners on a variety of new projects, and deepened our relationship with many of our old friends along the Missouri River valley - from St. Louis to Omaha.

We continue to find new ways to introduce people to the Missouri River and give them an opportunity to learn more about this amazing resource and work to make it better.

Our dedicated volunteer crew continued to grow with us and took on new roles in making the organization more sustainable. We added a part-time event coordinator, Jen Davis, who has worked to expand our event fundraising and outreach.

River Relief received a jolt of rejuvenation this year with three big highlights—acquiring bigger and better vehicles, expanding our Education Program with our new Education Coordinator, Kristen Schulte, and brought a human-powered twist to our river clean-ups (via canoe).

A Big Muddy Thanks to all of you that helped make this an epic year of working for the Missouri River --we could not do this without YOU.

Read the full story of 2015, view photos and more: www.riverrelief.org/results/2015/

#### **SERVICE**

- 1,508 Volunteers
- worth \$150,000

### **ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

- 41 Tons of Trash
- 485 Tires Removed

#### **IMPACT**

- 1,209 Students

### 91 Events - 19 Communities - 5 States

Volunteers removed a total of 41 Tons of Trash from the Missouri River in 2015 Omaha: 5.5 tons Carrollton Kansas City: 3.3 tons Boonville: Rocheport 1.4 tons St.Louis Area: Alligator Cove: .9 tons Katfish Katy's: 1.8tons 11 tons .84 tons St. Charles: Easley: 2.4 tons Hermann 7.7 tons Washington: 5.9 tons Jefferson City 650 PEOPLE INTRODUCED TO THE MISSOUR

# "I bet you find the Craziest stuff in that river..."

What can we say about 15 years of tallying trash?

### 2015 PARTIAL TRASH TALLY

1,340 bags of trash 139 bags of recyclables 7,070 lbs of scrap metal

485 tires

312 chunks o' styrofoam

32 propane tanks 150 fireworks

remnants 6 refrigerators

1 chest freezer

4 hot water heaters

27 coolers

13.5 chairs

4 TVs

3 gas cans

5 metal gas tanks

2 duck decoys, 1 goose

4 fishing poles

9 - 5-gal. metal buckets

16 - 55-gal. metal drums

43 - 55-gal. plastic barrels

61 – 5 gal. plastic buckets

9 2-gallon plastic jugs

2 20-gallon plastic water tanks

3 mattresses

3 box springs

3 fire extinguishers

# Top 10 Items Found in the Missouri River

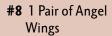
- #1 Styrofoam
- **#2** "single-use" Plastic Bottles, Bags & Wrappers
- **#3** Other "single-use" Plastics (bottle caps, straws, six-pack rings, tobacco cans and 5-hour energy bottles)
- #4 Tires
- #5 Plastic Buckets, Barrels, Tubs & Coolers



- #6 Scrap Metal
  (appliances, tanks, steel cables, rods,
  angle iron, poles, t-posts, sheet metal,
  rebar, etc.)
- **#7** Childrens Toys and Balls of every shape, size & color
- **#8** Construction Dumping (shingles, carpet, pvc, lumber)
- #9 Fireworks Remnants, Party & Fisherman's Trash
- #10 Shoes & Flip Flops

### TOP 15 FINDS IN 15 YEARS

- # Messages in Bottles
- #2 1 Chicken Dance Elmo
- **#3** 1 Sturgeon DNA Sample
- #4 1 Beavis & Butthead doll set
- #5 1 Bud Light Bottles
  Wind Chime
- #6 1 pair of Ruby Red Slippers
- **#7** 1 Jug of Atrazine



- **#9** 1 Giant Strawberry-shaped Candle
- #10 1957 fiberglass Saber boat
- #11 1 set of national bylaws from the Hell's Lovers Motorcycle club
- **#12** 1 duct-taped Kilo of Cocaine
- #13 Cobbler's Shoes
- #14 1 shot-up Metal Sign that reads: "\$50 Reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of any person found willfully mutilating or destroying this sign. -The O.J. Gude Co. NY"
- **#15** Dead Baby Dolls--Doll Parts--and one Inflatable Love Doll

### 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! 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 education 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!



### Missouri River Relief

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