



Rocheport Bend Day of Caring

April 18, 2009

Rocheport, MO, & Big Muddy National Fish & Wildlife Refuge

Results Snapshot

Total Volunteers: 133 (73 clean-up volunteers)

MRR Crew: 32

Boats: 4 (3 Missouri River Relief; 1 Mo. Dept. of Conservation)

Stream Teams: The Mighty 211, 1875, 1876, 2489, 2793

Rivermiles: 2

River level: 10.8 (Boonville gage)

Scrap Tons: 1 ton

Landfill Tons: 3 tons

Tires: 111 (est. 1.7 tons)

Total Tonnage: 5.7 tons

Bags of Garlic Mustard Pulled: 56 large bags

Trees Planted: 300 trees



Over 130 volunteers worked on both sides of the Missouri River on Rocheport Bend, cleaning up trash, planting trees and removing invasive garlic mustard. Our river clean-up volunteers removed over 5 1/2 tons of trash from the floodplain and along the Katy Trail!

Volunteers showed up to clean-up a collapsed house site along the Katy

Trail, scour the trailside woods for tires and trash, and hop on our boats on the river to remove trash illegally dumped or deposited by floods.

Thanks to the relentless muscle of Don Dougherty and Alvin Sweezer, we got rid of a massive commercial freezer and a pile of tires we'd wanted to get for several years.

Volunteers also helped Big Muddy Refuge staff to pull invasive garlic mustard plants from the bottomland forest. And....over 50 West Junior High students worked all morning with the Americorps Stream Team Assistants from Missouri River Communities Network planting over 300 trees along Moniteau Creek and the parks of Rocheport.



Top: Volunteers Don Dougherty and Alvin Sweezer tore a freezer to bits so it could be hauled to a boat and removed from the riverbank. photo by Scot Heidbrink.

Bottom: After a great lunch served up by Friends of Rocheport and Missouri River Relief, volunteers posed for a group shot in front of a dump truck full of junk. Over 130 volunteers helped out on Rocheport Bend for the Day of Caring.

for links to more stories and photos, check out our event webpage:

<http://www.riverrelief.org/event/rocheport-bend-day-of-caring/>

Trash Tally!

More than 114 Large Stream Team
Bags
111 Tires: 72 on the rim, 37 w/o rims,
1 truck tire, 2 inner tubes, 1 bicycle
4 Refrigerators
1 Chest Freezer in parts
1 Hot Water Heater
1 Dryer
5 Coolers
1 Bed Frames
4 Box Springs
5 Chairs
4 30-gallon Trash Cans
4 5-gallon Plastic Buckets
80 feet of 1" Poly Tubing
9 1-gallon Paint/Varnish Cans
10 feet of Garden Hose
10 feet of Plastic Piping



Mary Anne Auer came all the way from Chesterfield to help, and found this mask on a sandbar. photo by Melanie Cheney

17 assorted Scrap Metal pieces
1 Hot Tub w/ Cover
1 Ironing Board
1 very ugly old woman rubber mask
1 Lock Pick Set
1 Lot Fence Wire
3 3-gallon Metal Buckets
1 Typewriter
3 55-gallon Metal Drums
1 Park Bench
1 Camping Table
1 Truck Bed Liner
1 Fire Extinguisher
1 Toilet
Several hundreds of pounds of roof
shingles
1 Kitchen Sink
13 Mason Canning Jars

Thanks and Praises

Sponsors

Missouri Department
of Natural Resources

City of Rocheport

John & Alex Jansen

Pat Jones

Partners

Americorps - Vista

Big Muddy

National Fish & Wildlife Refuge

City of Rocheport

Friends of Rocheport

Katy Trail Bed & Bikefest

Jim's Tire Salvage

Missouri Department of Conservation

Missouri River Communities Network

Missouri River Relief

Missouri Stream Team

West Junior High School

Veolia Environmental Services

in-Kind Donations

Eric Hempel

Indi Frank

Su Saragenese

MegaScout Recovery

In 2006, we accomplished a unique project: the MegaScout trash survey. This was a 754 mile trip on the Missouri River, from Ponca, NE, to St. Louis, MO. Along the way, we rated the trashiness of each rivermile, GPS-located large trash items and dumps, and "tagged" the rivermile and date with spraypaint on large, floatable trash items.

At the mouth of Moniteau Creek near Rocheport, we found a pile of tires, trash and a large commercial freezer. When the idea of doing a clean-up in Rocheport emerged, we knew we wanted to get this stuff. Thanks the hard work of Don Dougherty and Alvin Sweezer, we got it out of there!

Top photo - Racin' Dave Stevens tags the freezer during the 2006 MegaScout. Bottom - MRR crewmember Jody Coats poses with a piece of the freezer. photo by Scot Heidbrink.

