

# 2023 ANNUAL REPORT

Uniting Stream Teams for Healthy Waters and Watersheds in Missouri, "The Great Rivers State"

www.streamteamsunited.org <u>573-586-0747</u>



The Missouri Stream Team Watershed Coalition, doing business as Stream Teams United, is a not-for-profit 501c3 organization that is a coalition of Stream Team Associations throughout the state. Associations are groups of Stream Teams that work together within watersheds. Stream Teams United promotes and facilitates education, stewardship, and advocacy for Missouri's rivers and streams and works to build a culture of river conservation in Missouri. Twenty-two regional Stream Team Associations across the state each work in their own watersheds to improve and conserve the quality of water in area lakes and streams.



Our goal is to foster a culture of river conservation in Missouri, where Missouri youth and adults have knowledge and appreciation of our state's water resources and are equipped to be part of the solution, which will help ensure a better environment and quality of life in our communities. Specific program focus goals are listed below:



Education
Outreach
Stewardship
Advocacy

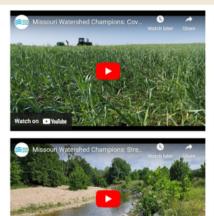


#### **EDUCATION**

We hosted 100 paddlers on two
Paddle MO multi-day educational
programs, our first 115 mile journey
on the Missouri River starting at
Jefferson City, and our 5th Paddle
MO Ozarks program on the Upper
Current River. Paddle MO 2024
registration begins January 2 at

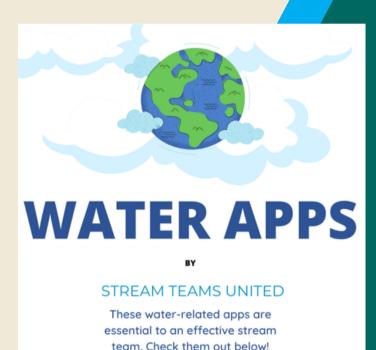
www.paddlemo.org.

We revamped the Educational Resources Page of the Stream Teams United website, and featured a "Water app of the week" during the summer of 2023. If you haven't checked out all the water apps we shared, make 2024 a year you try a new water app!









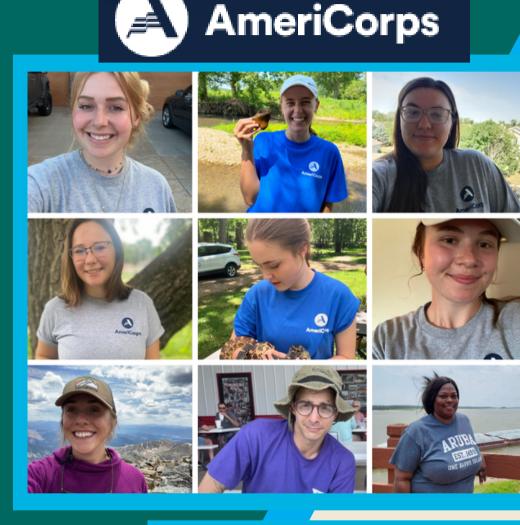
In 2023, Stream Teams United, through a Section 319 grant, created a brand new video series, featuring people taking positive actions for our river and stream resources. Have you watched them all? View the entire series at <a href="https://www.streamteamsunited.org/missouri-watershed-champions.html">https://www.streamteamsunited.org/missouri-watershed-champions.html</a>

## **OUTREACH**

In 2023, we recruited and placed 8 full year AmeriCorps members and 4 Summer Associate AmeriCorps members to serve at 8 Stream Team

locations around the state!

In the last four years, the Stream Teams United AmeriCorps project has placed 24 full-year members and 8 Summer Associates at Stream Team sites throughout Missouri, helping to grow water quality education and recruitment of youth for Stream Team efforts. Thank you to our AmeriCorps members in the Stream Teams United VISTA Program and all the participating sites! Stay tuned for our <u>next open positions in</u> the Summer of 2024!





#### **STEWARDSHIP**

We provided support to 12 Missouri
Stream Team Associations
throughout the state by providing
funding or purchasing for them
cleanup tools, invasive plant
species tools, native plants,
educational supplies, travel
expenses, and prizes for
giveaways at events.

Stream Teams United partnered with the Land Learning Foundation in 2022 and 2023 as part of a collaborative project to restore the Shoal Creek Watershed in southwest Missouri, including an ecological restoration project at the confluence of Hickory and Shoal Creeks, north of Neosho, MO. For more information, visit

shoalcreekwatershed.org.

The Land Learning Foundation is leading an ecological restoration project at the confluence of Hickory and Shoal creeks, north of Neosho, MO. Stream Teams United served as a partner on this project during 2022-2023 through a National Fish and Wildlife Foundation 5-Star grant.



#### **ADVOCACY**

In 2023, we hosted our 3rd Annual Clean Water Day at the Missouri State Capitol, recognizing several legislators who were sponsoring positive legislation for Missouri waterways, and providing an opportunity for Stream Teams and the general public to reach out to their elected officials. Save the date of April 18, 2024 for Great Rivers State Day at the Capitol. We also tracked 206 bills during the legislative session, hosted an advocacy workshop, wrote several comment letters/calls to action, and provided public comments for issues of concern.



### **SUPPORTERS**

Thank you to the 2023 supporters and grant funding organizations of Stream Teams United. There are many ways to support the Missouri Stream Team Watershed Coalition.



















- Donate online through Patagonia Action Works, with no processing fee
- Donate in Memory or Honor of a friend or family member
- Pledge a recurring donation each month, quarter, or year and be recognized as part of our Water Penny Club (recurring donors)
- Showcase a Great Rivers State license plate Donate \$25 annually and show your love for Missouri, the Great Rivers State, as you drive
- <u>Sponsor Paddle MO</u> Support our one-of-a-kind river adventure. Support scholarships, educators, and crew expenses.
- Raffle, Give-a-Way, and Silent Auction items Donations of any kind are welcome. Send us a message or call 573-586-0747.

See our supporters at <a href="https://www.streamteamsunited.org/river-champions.html">https://www.streamteamsunited.org/river-champions.html</a>

See our brochure for the River Champion Donation Levels

"THE GREAT RIVERS STATE"

#### **WHAT'S NEXT?**

To learn more about Stream Teams United, or sign up for our weekly news bulletin, please visit streamteamsunited.org. To learn more about Paddle MO and trip opportunities, visit paddlemo.org. For information about the Missouri Clean Marina Program, visit mocleanmarina.org. Thank you to all of our volunteer board members who make Stream Teams United possible!

#### **KEEP IN TOUCH**

We're also on Venmo @StreamTeamsUnited

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