



**GREETINGS FROM YOUR STONES RIVER WATERSHED ASSOCIATION.
APRIL 2009**

Coming events:

Thursday, April 16, 6:30 p.m. Board and membership meeting, Stark Agricultural Building, MTSU. Stark is near the center of the campus opposite the Business and Aerospace Bldg. Best access is from Rutherford Blvd. on MTSU Blvd. Go through the roundabout and then watch for Stark on the right at the next intersection. Parking should be available at that time of the evening. The meeting is in the downstairs conference room.

Monday, April 20, 5:30 p.m. Regional Opportunity Forum. Come discuss the link between local environmental restoration and the global issue of climate change. The session will be held at the Patterson Park Community Center in Murfreesboro. Several speakers will set a framework for group consideration of personal and community actions in the areas of natural infrastructure, clean energy, energy efficiency, water quality and greenways. Another topic of interest will be proposed legislation for creating a "cap and trade" program for setting limits on carbon emissions. Sponsors are the Tennessee Environmental Council, Murfreesboro Stormwater Program and Stones River Watershed Association. A flyer is attached to this mailing.

For a discussion of cap-and-trade proposals see this [article](#) from the Nashville *Tennessean*.

Tuesday, April 21, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Earth Day event at State Farm headquarters on Memorial Blvd. SRWA will have a table at this employee event.

Wednesday, April 22, 6 p.m. Opportunity to share your views with consultants who are working with the Rutherford County Planning Department to write a new comprehensive plan for the county. SRWA and the Rutherford Neighborhood Alliance will meet jointly with the consultants in room 205 of the County Courthouse.

Saturday, April 25: Earth Day Events. A triple header!!!

Murfreesboro Civic Plaza, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Murfreesboro will again celebrate Earth Day with activities, presentations and information booths on the civic plaza. We will have our booth set up and will again use our Enviroscape watershed model to talk to kids and their families about how pollution gets into our streams. This gets to be a long day if only a few of us work, so volunteers are definitely needed. [More information about this event.](#)

Smyrna Stream Cleanup, 8 a.m. to noon. The Smyrna Stormwater Program is sponsoring a cleanup of Stewarts Creek. SRWA will provide a few volunteers to the effort but more are certainly needed. Gather at Volunteer Park to register and get an assigned area of work. Map to the park.

(A personal comment: it never sounds like big fun to go out and pick up the trash that inconsiderate slobbs left behind when they were fishing, boating or whatever. However, I can tell you that these events generate a lot of good will and there is plenty of satisfaction in seeing an area go from trashed to clean).

Saturday-Sunday, April 25-26, Long Hunter State Park. The Friends of Long Hunter will be hosting exhibits and leading activities all day on both days. Board member Hilary Hargrove will be our representative at the event, and there will be lots of other organizations there. The impressive volunteer corps of the Friends will be available to tell you about this jewel of a park at the bottom of the Stones River watershed. Great event for families. [More information.](#)

Saturday, June 6. Annual Meeting, Sam Davis Home, Smyrna. We'll have a fun float of Stewart Creek, ending at the Creek House of the Sam Davis Home for a potluck lunch, program and business meeting. Watch for more details.

Saturday, July 11. Boat Day! We will again work with Murfreesboro Parks and Recreation and the Smyrna Stormwater Program to help coordinate this free public event in two locations. Each year we offer an opportunity to try out a variety of canoes and kayaks in safe, supervised areas. This one takes a lot volunteers but it is a really fun event. If you would like to help contact Jim Barden (615-896-4645 or hogan_barden@att.net) or Mayo (615-890-2081 or mayo@stoneswatershed.org)

Saturday, August 15, Clean up at Nice's Mill.

Saturday, Sept. 12, Clean up on Volunteer Trail of Long Hunter State Park.

Friday-Sunday, September 18-20, Watershed Summit. This will be the third annual event, hosted this year by the Duck River Watershed Association in the Normandy area. The program is already shaping up to be better than ever and we hear that the facility is exceptional. SRWA is helping with the planning. Put this one on your calendar and watch for more details.

We've had a real set back with the departure of Diane Persbacher from our area. We will miss her as a friend and as an active member. Diane organized one of our best floats last year and hoped to lead one on May 30 this year. If you would like to help organize fun water activities for SRWA please contact Randle Branch (615-893-6992 or cedarbranchfarm@aol.com).