

streaming dialog OF A LITTLE RIVER

reporting water quality from springs to streams



How to Affect the Quality and Quantity of

little river and other local waterways

- Do not pour anything on the ground that you do not want in the river. Rain showers wash off the surface of the earth. All the loose dirt, oils, and anything else on the ground surface goes into the storm drain, which eventually leads DIRECTLY, untreated, to the river.
- If you have bare spots in your yard, or exposed soil along your driveway or construction sites – cover it with a grass cloth or use best management practices on your construction site. Bare soil leads to muddy rivers and streams when it rains. Muddy waters kill fish and aquatic organisms and cost us all more to clean up so we can drink the water. Yes, the muddy water that goes into the river goes into your drinking water source.
- Don't overuse fertilizer, herbicides or pesticides. Read the directions and follow them. Excess fertilizers, and herbicides and pesticides make it into our waterways if not properly used.
- Wash your car on your yard and not the driveway. Soaps and oils from washing cars go directly into the storm drain and into the rivers.
- Landscape with native plants that are tolerant of local conditions and don't require excessive watering to survive. Pay attention to your water use and don't waste it.
- Pick up waste after your pet especially in the park and along greenway trails that run next to a stream. The bacteria from these wastes contribute to the E Coli in our streams.

Need more info? Call us or email and we will be happy to send you more information.

2008 highlights

In the past 12 months we have focused mainly on 2 things: grants and the new expanded Earth Roundup event. The short version of our accomplishments in the last year are:

GRANT COMPLETED: Pistol Creek Assessment Grant through Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC). We spent 2 years collecting samples, compiling data and reporting it back to TDEC in a final report in December 2007.

GRANT COMPLETED: Short Creek Restoration Project was a grant through the TN Department of Agriculture (TDA) to assess the E. Coli levels in the creek. As a result Short Creek was ultimately removed from TDECs List of Impaired Streams (303 (d) list).

GRANT COMPLETED: 'Streams Done Right' program was an outreach educational portion of a grant from the Alcoa Foundation which partially supported the stream buffer demonstration project in Springbrook Park.

(More information about these grants will soon be available on our website which is under reconstruction: www.littleriverwatershed.org)

EARTH ROUNDUP: Co-chaired the newly formed Earth Roundup committee.

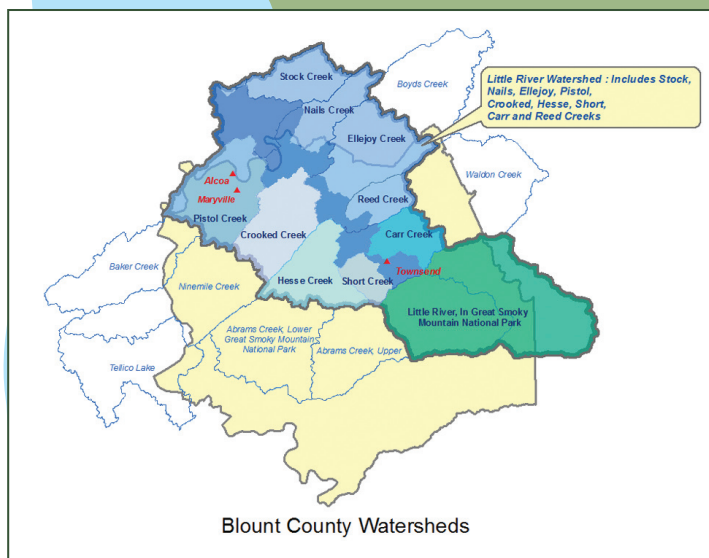
how you can help

The focus of the LRWA is on protecting that piece of our home, health, and heritage known as the Little River and the watershed that feeds it. That's a big job, and we are currently just a staff of one with a limited budget. If water quality, conservation, or supply issues are important to you – and we hope they are – please add us to your list of donations in the coming year or plan to attend our fun winter gala event on March 21, 2009. If you would like to be on our mailing list please let us know. We do good work for the community at the LRWA. We sincerely hope you decide to support and join with us. We are headed into a strategic planning session in January. If you would like to participate in a stakeholder survey...please give us a call at the office. We would love to have community input into this process.

our sponsors



What is a watershed



A Watershed is an area of land that drains to a common point, such as a nearby creek, stream river or lake. Every small watershed drains to a larger watershed that eventually flows to the ocean.

The waters from the following creeks drain into the Little River:

Short Creek, Carr Creek, Hesse Creek, Ellejoy Creek, Nails Creek, Pistol Creek, Crooked Creek and Stock Creek.

Each of those creeks receive water from smaller streams or 'branches'. It all comprises the Little River Watershed.

Baker Creek and Nine Mile Creek are also in Blount County, but across the ridgeline of Chilhowee Mountain and therefore drain to a different river - the Little Tennessee River. The ridgelines that separate where rainfall drains to are the defining edges of a watershed.



Volunteer

corner

Sally Fager is a new volunteer with LRWA. She moved here in July with her husband, Jeff, from Danville, Virginia. She has a master's degree in early childhood education and has experience teaching young children and college students. She has been director of a city-county commission on children in Owensboro, KY, and most recently worked at Averett University. She says she comes to conservation work with years of experience: "When I was a child in Rhode Island, my mother worked on recycling with a group called 'Save the Bay.' My most vivid memory is of being allowed to crush the collected glass containers in an oil drum with a sledge hammer." We're happy to have Sally helping in the office two mornings a week! Thanks Sally!!

What's Coming Up?

Dec 2008- Feb 2009
Alcoa Foundation Little River Corridor Project

January 2009
Strategic Planning

March 21, 2009
Winter Gala: We promise new fun and with Kathy Wilbanks heading up our event again this year... you know it will be top notch.

April 25, 2009
Earth Roundup

About Us

The Little River Watershed Association is a local not-for-profit organization (501-c3) with the mission of protecting, preserving, and enhancing the Little River and it's tributaries by mobilizing public support, building public awareness and promoting best management practices. Our key objectives are to promote educational activities that benefit the river and the watershed, distribute information to the community and assist citizens in taking positive action.

Here is our contact information:
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