



Sat, Sept 14

is our next sampling date

Reminder to contact [Lynn](mailto:lynn@butlercountystreamteam.org) 513-615-2538 or [Teresa](mailto:teresa@butlercountystreamteam.org) 513-706-8991 if you cannot sample, or if you have any issues while sampling.

Sampling Reminders

- Coolers are in place from 8 am - 10:30 am.
- Please remember to wear your safety vest.
- Please mark the time and date on your labels of when you collected the sample. None of the sample times should be the same unless you are a time traveler :)
- Remember to sign in your samples in the lock box then place your sample in the cooler. Both coolers use the same code.
- Sign your sample into the cooler with the drop off time.
- Keep the cooler lid closed as much as possible
- Remember to grab bottles for the following month. It's always helpful to have a spare bottle in case one accidentally "jumps" into the creek.
- If there is not enough water to sample, fill out label saying dry, or too low to sample, then attached to a bottle and place in the cooler.
- **Duplicate samples** - when you sign them into the cooler, put the number "2" next to the sample ID.

Lab Sign Up

You can sign up for a shift at the lab through Doodle.

<https://doodle.com/poll/rfkdvqgt4dz6bbq7>



...BEST Volunteer Project for September



Sat, Sept 21 from 9 am - 12 noon

Butler SWCD, 1802 Princeton Rd, Hamilton

Each month, The Butler Environmental Stewardship Team (BEST) picks a different environmental volunteer project in the county to focus on. This month we are going to attack the honeysuckle that is encroaching on our compost demonstration area and give the linden trees a little room to breath. Long pants are recommended. If you have loppers and

other tools

Sign Up: Either contact Lynn and Maddie at butlerswcd@butlercountyohio.org,

Clean Sweep of the Great Miami

Sat, Oct 26 from 9 am - 12 noon

There are lots of locations to choose,

www.GreatMiamiRiverCleanUp.org

Join us to see what weird and wonderful items that you can find.

We have shirts, gloves, grabbers, and water. We also have patches for boy/girl scouts.



Children's Waterfest

Seeking presenters and volunteers

Friday, Oct 11

At Miami Hamilton

Over 1000 elementary kids from around Butler County attend this festival to learn all about water. The festival can't take place without about 35 **presenters** and over 100 volunteers. Every presenter and volunteer receives lunch and a shirt. We also start

the day off with some pretty awesome donuts :)

Find Out More: contact Lynn at whitelr@butlercountyohio.org

Citizen QHEI (cQHEI (Qualitative Habitat Evaluation Index)

Midwest Biological Institute is offering a Qualitative Habitat Evaluation Index workshop.

Sat, Oct 5, 10 am - 3 pm

Shale Hollow Park, Lewis Center

Maddie and I plan on attending, so if you think you may go, let us know and perhaps we can carpool.



<https://midwestbiodiversityinst.org/education/courses/citizen-qualitative-habitat-evaluation-index?>

Streamside Salamander (*Ambystoma Barbouri*)

Streamside salamanders are very unique to southwest Ohio because this is one of the few regions that they live. They are almost identical to a small mouth salamander the only differences are in their range and habitat. They are not yet a threatened species but are becoming one because of logging, urbanization, and pollution in our water.



These changes to our environment are having a negative impact on these salamanders because they breed in forested ravines and live in water part of their lives. The estimated total population of streamside salamanders is down to about 10,000.

A few ways to identify a streamside salamander is its stout dark body which is accompanied by dark blotches down the side of their bodies. Their head is their most unique feature it's small and rounded and they will grow to be about 4.5 to 5 inches long. You can find these salamanders usually hiding in burrows, under rocks, or, in logs in adjacent forests. The main difference between a streamside salamander and a small mouth salamander is where you find them. Smallmouth salamanders are usually found in ponds, pools, and ditches while streamside salamanders can be found near streams and creeks in upland forests. These are the salamanders that you sometimes see crossing the road when they move to a new stream or pond.

Streamside salamanders will begin heading to streams in early spring and winter to begin the courting process. Courting occurs under rocks where the eggs will then attach themselves to the rocks. These salamanders would rather breed in streams near forests rather than ponds which is unusual for salamanders in this family. They will typically breed in streams that lack predator fish. Once the eggs are singly laid by the female there will be a two to three week incubation period followed by a six to ten week aquatic larvae metamorphosis period after hatching. The eggs on average are only around two millimeters in diameter which makes them very hard to spot. After metamorphosis the young will hide in algae to hide from predators that could be lurking in the water. Until the cycle is repeated.

EPA administrator Gina McCarthy to speak at Miami

On Friday, September 13, Miami's Institute for the Environment & Sustainability (IES) begins a weekend celebrating its [50th anniversary](#) and 5 decades of environmental stewardship and problem solving with a keynote address by former EPA administrator **Gina McCarthy**.

<http://miamioh.edu/cas/about/news/2019/05/mccarthy.html>

Run the Riffles Event

September 28, 2019

This full day Mile Fun Run on the Mill Creek Greenway Trail and Mill Creek

Mile Fun Paddle, a kayak race between two former low-head dams surrounding Salway Park. The afternoon will include a Mill Creek urban hike and mini urban stream adventure . A full day festival at Salway Park surrounding the events will include local food trucks, beer from a local brewery, games, music, and a keynote speaker. The day will conclude with an interpretive " Space Walk " on the Mill Creek

Greenway Trail, in conjunction with Great Outdoor Weekend. Details of all five events are attached to this flyer.

More info will be posted at www.themillcreekalliance.org once available



Water & Other News

Marine plastic pollution hides a neurological toxicant in our food

<https://phys.org/news/2019-09-marine-plastic-pollution-neurological-toxin.html>

Nurdles and Mermaid Tears—The Major Source of Plastic Pollution You've Never Heard Of

<https://www.newsweek.com/plastic-pollution-microplastic-nurdles-mermaid-tears-1334483>



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