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# Butler County Stream Team

## August News - 2015



### Next Sampling Day - September 12

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#### Lab Signup

It looks like the Doodle poll/calendar is working for the lab signup....or at least I haven't heard any comments otherwise.

#### Can't Sample?

If you can't sample on Saturday, please let us know in order to have someone else grab your samples.

- Lynn White - [513-615-2538](tel:513-615-2538)
- Teresa Barnes - [513-706-8991](tel:513-706-8991)

#### Potluck at Edge of the Farm Preserve (aka Donna's)

**Friday, Sept 18 at 6:30 pm**

As in past year's we will have our potluck on Donna's patio, then head up the hill to the wetlands. If the weather cooperates, we can sit back and enjoy the wildflowers and birds.

Donna and her husband Hays live in Oxford Twp (I'll send the address to those who RSVP). They have [great photos on their website](#).

Please [RSVP to Lynn](#) if you plan to attend.

#### Great Miami

#### Stream Team Sampling Dates

Sept 12  
Oct 10  
Nov 14

#### Hikeathon

**September 26, 9 am - 3 pm**

Near Dewitt Cabin just East of Oxford on St Rt 73.

Lots of great free activities for the whole family including of course hiking. [See the flier for more info](#).

#### 8th Annual Harvest Moon Festival

**September 27, 1-5 pm**

Uptown Oxford

#### Upper Mill Creek Cleanup

**Saturday, October 3, 9 am**

Twin Creek Preserve, Best Place, Sharonville

Although the cleanup starts in Sharonville, we sill split from there and head out to multiple location around the watershed, including Keeher Park in West Chester.

[Find out more online](#).

#### Great Miami River Cleanup

**Saturday, October 24, 9 am - 12 noon**

The Great Miami River Clean up will be held at various locations along the Great Miami River. See the main article on the left for more info.

## River Cleanup

**Saturday,  
October 24 from  
9 am - 12 noon.**

We have multiple locations from Franklin to the Ohio River. Its a great way to get wet, get dirty, and get involved with our local rivers.



Most locations are on foot along the river bank, though we have sweet talked Jim with Jimco's Kayak Livery to provide a boating option. Contact Jim asap (513-424-1529) if you want to help by boat. We have a limited number of free kayaks available that day, or bring your own and he will drop you off upstream.

Whether you want to volunteer on foot or by boat, its best to signup online before hand. Minors will also have to have a parent/guardian sign a release for them. The signup, release form, and lots more info are available at [www.greatmiamirivercleanup.org](http://www.greatmiamirivercleanup.org).

## Garbage Barge Heading our Way

No not the scary barge from the 80's, but instead a group of people who have so far collected over 8.4 million ponds of debris from the nation's greatest rivers.

At the age of 17, Chad who worked during summer breaks as a commercial shell diver, started making calls to government agencies to notify them of the problem of mass amounts of garbage in the Mississippi, assuming someone would take care of it. Year after year passed by and the problem only worsened. In 1997 Chad decided that, if no one else was going to clean up the river, he would. Today, the organization he founded has grown to include a full staff and fleet of equipment. The crew averages nine states a year along the Mississippi, Illinois and Ohio Rivers, as well as many of their tributaries. Since the project's inception, Chad, his crew, and over 87,000 volunteers have collected 8.4 million pounds of debris from our rivers. Find out more at <http://livinglandsandwaters.org/>

**Ohio River Cleanup** - There is a possibility of a cleanup on the Ohio at Cincinnati on September 18. Yes, I know that it is really soon, but if it goes ahead, I will post the info on the stream team website. I may even send out an extra email, though we do try to avoid

## Butler County Children's Waterfest

**Fun volunteer opportunity  
Friday, October 9, 2015**

About 100 children from schools around the county attend a fun, educational, water themed event at Miami University each year. The event is a success due to the huge number of volunteers that help that day. If you would be interested in volunteering for the event, we are in need to individuals that will walk the campus with a class of kids and their teacher. You will be provided a schedule and your role is to lead the class to each presentation around the campus. It's really easy, and you will get to see some great presenters. Coffee, donuts, lunch and a t-shirt are provided. [Find out more, and sign up online.](#)

## Fall Tree ID Walk October 10, 10 am

Dudley Woods MetroPark in Liberty Twp  
Jacob Hartman, a former stream team volunteer, is leading a fall tree ID hike. Great park for a short hike as it has an abundance of plants and over the last few years, this park has seen some big changes. These include: as invasive plant removal (thanks Chuck and all his volunteers), a stream bank restoration project, and a revamping of the trail.

cluttering your inbox.

## Road salt causes odd growth spurts, early mortality in NE Ohio frogs

The corrosive properties of road salt are apparent all around us, illustrated by the number of rusty automobiles rumbling by with noisy and leaky exhaust systems. Less is known, however, about the harm caused by road salt to the environment and the vulnerable and delicate wildlife that inhabits our surroundings.



A team of biologists from Case Western Reserve University suspected millions of tons of salt dumped each winter on our roadways couldn't possibly be good for ponds and wetlands, and they launched a research project to

find out the extent of the harm.

Their test subject was a common amphibian, about two inches long, found throughout woodlands in Northeast Ohio: the [wood frog](#).

What they found surprised them. Salt-and-snow run-off flowing into breeding ponds and wetlands during the spring mating season actually produced larger wood frog tadpoles, and subsequently larger mature frogs, according to the research team's findings.

But the wood frogs from salt-contaminated breeding pools had lower survival rates than adult wood frogs produced from non-contaminated wetlands, the researchers found.

[Read the rest of the article online.](#)

Butler County Stream Team Monthly Newsletter

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