



Michael B. Coleman,
Mayor



CENTRAL OHIO RIVER PRIDE MONTH BEGINS JUNE 1

The Columbus Department of Public Utilities and partners will kick off the 11th annual Central Ohio River Pride event in June. This month-long event was designed to promote awareness and appreciation of our natural waterways through environmental stewardship and recreation. Activities include stream-bank litter cleanups, invasive plant removal, rain garden workshops and more. Volunteers are invited to participate in the following events:

Date/Time	Location	Contact/Sponsoring Organization
Saturday, June 4 9:00 a.m.	Griggs Reservoir (litter cleanup)	Columbus Department of Public Utilities/ Scioto Boat Club, 645-1748 or 645-1721
Saturday, June 11 9:00 a.m.	Adena Brook (litter cleanup and invasive plant removal)	Adena Brook Community judyrob59@gmail.com
Saturday, June 18 9:00 a.m.	Alum Creek (litter cleanup and canoe float)	Friends of Alum Creek and Tributaries 569-8544 canoe@friendsofalumcreek.org

Dates and times are subject to change and some events may have to be rescheduled due to rain. For updates on Central Ohio River Pride, please visit utilities.columbus.gov or call 645-STREAM (7873).

Other Ways to Get Involved:

Contact any of the listed organizations to participate in additional opportunities they may offer throughout the year.

Plan your own neighborhood or waterway cleanup. Contact Keep Columbus Beautiful for assistance and supplies by calling 645-3111 or visit publicservice.columbus.gov/kcb. If you live outside Columbus, contact your local municipality.

Organize a storm drain marking community service project (back page) in your Columbus neighborhood to get involved on an individual or group level. This is an ongoing project limited to dry weather conditions.

In addition, the following organizations plan periodic events and/or are excellent sources of stewardship information:

Friends of the Lower Olentangy organizes a number of education and service activities including cleanup and removal of invasive plants at several locations along the river; 267-3386 or email info@olentangywatershed.org.

Friends of the Scioto River promotes the protection and enjoyment of the Scioto River valley and organizes several cleanups each year; contact info@sciotoriverfriends.org.

Franklin Soil and Water Conservation District promotes responsible land use decisions for the conservation, protection and improvement of soil and water resources through a variety of activities and educational materials; visit www.franklinswcd.org.

Riverfest On Tour! includes a full month of activities in July, capped by a grand finale July 29 at Genoa Park in partnership with WaterFire Columbus and COSI. A service of the Center for Energy and Environment at the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission, special weekend activities will continue through the month. For a complete schedule, please visit www.riverfestcolumbus.org or call 228-2663.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR WATER POLLUTION PREVENTION PROJECT

Do you or another family member need to complete a community service project? The Columbus Department of Public Utilities' "No Dumping, Drains to Rivers" storm drain marking project is an easy volunteer activity for individuals or groups. While the activity can be done from April to October (weather permitting), it is also a good way to participate in the Central Ohio River Pride month in June.

The vinyl markers are designed to remind residents not to dump household hazardous waste into storm drains. These storm sewers direct water to streams and rivers, untreated. The markers display the phone number to report illegal dumping or accidental spills, which is 645-STREAM (7873), or by calling 311 or 645-3111. The calls are relayed to the city's 24-hour Sewer Maintenance Operations Center, a service of the Division of Sewerage and Drainage. The project is part of the "We All Live Downstream" public education program, which the city developed in part to comply with Ohio Environmental Protection Agency requirements on protecting surface water.

The activity can be done on your own time. You choose the neighborhood in which to place the markers, which must be within Columbus. For areas outside Columbus, please contact your local municipality.

Application of the markers is temperature dependent and therefore seasonal and must also be done during dry weather. The vinyl disks, adhesive and instructions are



provided to the volunteers. Supplemental educational materials are also available. The markers can be applied from the sidewalk. For safety, adult supervision is recommended for children who participate.



Please consider getting involved in protecting our water supplies; we all depend on clean water. To request a storm drain marking information packet and a copy of the We All Live Downstream guide to preventing water pollution, please call 645-2926 or visit our Web site at www.utilities.columbus.gov (see center Features section or use the search box).

For information on how to properly dispose of household hazardous waste, please contact the Solid Waste Authority of Central Ohio at 871-5100 or visit www.swaco.org.

GET NOTICED FOR YOUR HARD WORK, BECOME A GREENSPOT



GreenSpot was inspired by people like you; people who take part in River Pride and the Storm Drain Marking Program, people who looked to the City of Columbus for answers to some important questions. Like, what exactly does green mean? How can I get green? How does being green impact our city?

That's why Mayor Michael B. Coleman founded GreenSpot. It's where people in our city go to learn about living and working greener, and commit to doing it — in their homes, businesses, and communities. Share your helpful

hints or ask questions at columbusgreenspot.org. Click the Share tab to participate in the conversation on Facebook. Or better yet, click the Join tab to commit and sign up for a GreenSpot decal to display in your home or business.



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