



With Your Help We are Making Progress

Friends of the North Fork and White River’s work to protect the water quality of North Central Arkansas’s streams, rivers and lakes requires a combination of “Sound Science” and “Active Conservation” and, with your help, 2019 was a great success.

The most notable success was Friends of the River’s involvement, along with many other organizations and thousands of individuals, in reaching a closure agreement for the hog CAFO (concentrated animal feeding operation) in the Buffalo River watershed. The CAFO is now closed and the area is being cleaned up. We are now moving toward a permanent ban on hog CAFOs in the Buffalo River Watershed.



There were other activities of which we can also be proud.



Stream Team – Working with Mountain Home High School Advanced Placement science students and their instructor, Mr. Tom Ethridge, the Stream Team program introduces students to the “living stream” including macroinvertebrates, water chemistry, stream bank erosion and the role streams play in our lives and the importance of protecting them.



Your Friend's Stream Team developed a PowerPoint presentation that is now being used in the classroom to help show students how streams are part of our "living" ecosystem supporting millions of organisms from beneficial insects to fish to birds.



Storm Drain Art – Additional storm drains were painted on Bomber Boulevard by Mrs. Beth Iven's high school art students. This program draws attention to the role stormwater plays in the health of our streams with the hope people will help protect water quality by not littering or placing other pollutants where they would degrade our streams.



City of Mountain Home Hicks and Dodd Creek Water Testing

– Friend's Stream Team helps the City of Mountain Home test water samples from Dodd and Hicks Creeks for bacteria and nitrates. These pollutants have resulted in Hicks Creek being labeled as "impaired" by the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality. The goal is to identify the source(s) of these pollutants so they can be eliminated or reduced to acceptable levels.



Dry Run Creek Upgrades – Dry Run Creek, located next to the Norfolk National Fish Hatchery, is one of the best trout fishing streams in the nation for youth under the age of 16 and adults with certified health conditions. Friends of the Rivers contributed financially and many hours of volunteer time to help upgrade the walkway and stabilize the stream bank to protect it from erosion.



Conservation Scholarships – With your financial support we provided 3 students with Friends of the Rivers \$1,000 scholarships. These students demonstrated an interest in and commitment to course studies which can aid in the protection of our water resources.



Increase in Membership Activity and Financial Support – We have participation from more volunteers and are fortunate to have Board members trained in Sound Science and dedicated to Active Conservation.

2019 was a record year for membership activity and financial support and demonstrates your commitment to helping protect our precious water resources.



Upcoming Events – Please mark your calendars for:

Sowbug Roundup – March 26-28 at the Mountain Home Fairgrounds. Friends will be there to share more about what we have planned for 2020.

Annual Dinner – Monday, April 20 at the Sheid Center, ASU Mountain Home Campus

Also, please remember we have changed our membership year to a **CALENDAR** year so if you haven't already done so, please submit your **2020** dues to support our efforts to protect our precious water resources. We couldn't have achieved the kinds of successes we had in **2019** without your dedicated support!

If you are currently not a member of Friends of the North Fork and White Rivers, [please join us to help protect our waters.](#)



Thank You

Steve Blumreich

President

Friends of the North Fork and White Rivers

417-839-0193