



Watershed Watch

A Publication of the Arkansas Watershed Advisory Group

Volume 4 ♦ Issue 1 ♦ Spring 2005

L'Anguille Water Festival Makes a *Huge* Splash

The week of April 10-16, 2005 marked National Environmental Education Week across America. To help recognize this national event, area schools were invited to attend a local water festival held in Caldwell, Arkansas. *Make a Splash in the L'Anguille with Project WET* was part of a national day of water education. It was celebrated across the United States with water festivals, which are educational, fun, and interactive water celebrations where students explore a variety of water-related topics. This festival is an annual event sponsored nationwide by Project WET (Water Education for Teachers), Nestle Waters, and locally by the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ). The past four years the event has been held in Central Arkansas, but this year the event came to the L'Anguille River Watershed.



Philip Osborne, ADEQ's Project WET Coordinator, uses a stream table to show students how streams meander.

“This year we decided to take the event on the road and focus on areas that have an impaired waterbody,” said Arkansas Project WET Coordinator Philip Osborne. “The L'Anguille watershed has been deemed impaired by both the US EPA and ADEQ. This was a perfect opportunity to combine efforts of ADEQ's Watershed Awareness Campaign and reaching out to schools that don't get many opportunities like this.”

On Thursday, April 14, fourth graders from Forrest Hills Elementary and Central Elementary in Forrest City attended the day-long festival held at the Caldwell City Park. Presenters from the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality, Arkansas Game and Fish Commission, Arkansas Natural Heritage Commission, Arkansas State Parks, Arkansas Forestry Commission, and St. Francis County Conservation District all came together to present educational, hands-on, water-related activities to the 125 youth and teachers in attendance.

Jane Jones-Schulz, Arkansas Natural Heritage Commission, talks to students about animals native to Arkansas, including the river otter.



Students rotated through 11 educational stations. Stations included the AGFC Mobile Aquarium featuring native freshwater fish common in the L'Anguille River Watershed, an interactive stream table that showed how streambank changes can affect upstream and downstream flow patterns, and a groundwater model that showed how water travels below the surface and can be pumped up for municipal and agricultural uses. The kids' favorite exhibits were the live animal displays featuring a baby alligator, snakes, salamanders, frogs, and toads common to the area.

All in attendance had a fun and educational time. Students and teachers left the event with an abundance of educational materials for the classroom and a wealth of information about the importance of protecting the water resources in the L'Anguille River Watershed.

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ABOUT THE ARKANSAS WATERSHED ADVISORY GROUP

Mission Statement: *The Arkansas Watershed Advisory Group (AWAG) assists interested citizens and organizations by promoting local voluntary approaches to watershed management and conservation.*

AWAG consists of local, state, and federal agencies; concerned organizations; and citizen representatives who meet quarterly. In addition to holding regular meetings, AWAG organizes conferences and workshops for interested citizens. AWAG's activities are coordinated through the Watershed Outreach and Education Section of the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality's Water Division.

For more information about AWAG, visit www.awag.org. The website includes general information about AWAG, a calendar of upcoming events, information about watershed groups in Arkansas, funding information, and much more.

You may also contact Ellen McNulty, AWAG Coordinator, by phone at (501) 682-0022, by email at mcnulty@adeq.state.ar.us, or by mail at:

Ellen McNulty, AWAG Coordinator
Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality
8001 National Drive
Little Rock, Arkansas 72209

ABOUT WATERSHED WATCH

Watershed Watch, the quarterly newsletter of the Arkansas Watershed Advisory Group, is published by the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality's Water Division through a U.S. Environmental Protection Agency grant.

Subscribers to *Watershed Watch* include citizens; local, state, and federal agencies; private organizations; businesses; and county conservation districts, among others.

Watershed Watch is provided at no cost.

To be included on the mailing list for *Watershed Watch*, contact Rob Beadel at the Arkansas Dept. of Environmental Quality by phone at (501) 682-0012, by email at beadel@adeq.state.ar.us, or by mail at:

Rob Beadel
Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality
8001 National Drive
Little Rock, Arkansas 72209

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GRANT ANNOUNCEMENT

The **Laura Jane Musser Fund** seeks to assist public or not-for-profit entities in initiating or implementing projects in rural areas to undertake consensus-based activities in environmental stewardship or dispute resolution.

The Musser Fund encourages communities, whether represented by local governments, state agencies, or grassroots nonprofit organizations to use a consensus-based approach to environmental decision-making. A consensus-based approach is a collaborative process, involving a neutral facilitator where appropriate, that strives to involve all key stakeholders as well as local citizens in developing environmental programs and policies that satisfy common interests.

The Musser Fund is most interested funding the planning or implementation phase of new projects. However, the Fund is willing to fund projects already in progress if the proposal is compelling. The Musser Fund does not provide funding for capital expenses, general operating support for organizations, or ongoing program support.

Applications will be accepted from nonprofit 501(c)(3) organizations, organizations that are forming if sponsored by a 501(c)(3) organization, and units of government at the federal, state, or local level.

Grants will be for amounts of up to \$35,000. The deadline for applications is **October 1, 2005**. For additional information about the Musser Fund, visit www.musserfund.org.

Arkansas Watershed Advisory Group

Participating Agencies

Arkansas Dept. of Environmental Quality ♦ Arkansas Dept. of Health
Arkansas Dept. of Parks & Tourism ♦ Arkansas Forestry Commission
Arkansas Game & Fish Commission ♦ Arkansas Geological Commission
Arkansas Highway & Transportation Dept. ♦ Arkansas State University
Arkansas Natural Heritage Commission ♦ Arkansas State Plant Board
Arkansas Soil & Water Conservation Commission
Pulaski Technical College ♦ Rogers Water Utilities
Central Arkansas Water ♦ U of A Arkansas Water Resources Center
U of A Cooperative Extension Service ♦ U of A at Pine Bluff
National Park Service ♦ Natural Resources Conservation Service
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers ♦ U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
U.S. Forest Service ♦ U.S. Geological Survey

Participating Organizations

Arkansas Association of Conservation Districts
Arkansas Rural Water Association ♦ Audubon Arkansas
The Nature Conservancy ♦ Winrock International
Upper White River Basin Foundation

Participating Citizens

Karen Haralson
Bill Layher
Anne Miners
Jerry Masters
Elvis Vaughn

Featured Watershed
Lower Mississippi River Conservation Committee



Promote the wise use of the natural resources of the Lower Mississippi River through cooperative efforts involving planning, management, information sharing, public education, advocacy and research

The Lower Mississippi River Conservation Committee (LMRCC) is a cooperative, nonprofit organization of state and federal agencies formed to address the challenges of renewing and effectively managing the natural resources of the Lower Mississippi River.

The concept of a formal coalition/coordinating body for agencies and organizations interested in managing the natural resources of the Lower Mississippi River has probably existed for quite some time. Interest began to heighten when the Mississippi Chapter of the American Fisheries Society held a mini-symposium on the fisheries and environment of the Lower Mississippi River at the Chapter's 1989 Annual Meeting in Jackson, Mississippi.

Over the next five years, the ground work was laid for the formal development of the Committee. The LMRCC was officially established in 1994 by the natural resource conservation and environmental quality agencies of the States of Arkansas, Mississippi, Missouri, Louisiana, Tennessee, and Kentucky. The Committee is concerned with protecting, restoring, and managing the natural resources of the Lower Mississippi River from Cairo, Illinois to the Gulf of Mexico. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Atlanta Regional Office, provides a full-time coordinator to the Committee and a part-time secretary/treasurer. In addition, the Committee currently has a full time GIS employee and part time public relations and marketing employees. Numerous cooperators, including other State and Federal natural resource agencies and private entities such as Ducks Unlimited, the Ohrstrom Foundation and the TARA Foundation, work with the LMRCC.

The Committee has accomplished numerous tasks during the first ten years of its existence. One major accomplishment was the development of the "*Aquatic Resource Management Plan (ARMP) for the Lower Mississippi River.*" The ARMP, finalized and approved in 2000, provides a 10-year operational plan to address the primary factors adversely affecting the aquatic resources in the Lower Mississippi

River's active floodplain and backwater areas. It is a far-reaching effort to unite a wide array of federal, state, local governments, and private sector stakeholders to protect and restore the nationally significant natural resources found in the Mississippi River ecosystem. The plan is based upon the premise that these aquatic resources, including recreational and commercial fisheries, are among the most ecologically diverse in the United States and constitute important national assets that contribute substantially to the regional economy as well as the quality of American life. Goals of the plan include: 1) Restore aquatic habitat in the lower Mississippi River; 2) Improve water quality in the lower Mississippi River; 3) Actively manage the biological resources in the lower Mississippi River; 4) Build partnerships to coordinate management activities in the lower Mississippi River; 5) Enhance regional economic opportunities in the lower Mississippi River; and 6) Increase public awareness of the importance of the Mississippi River ecosystem.



Sunset over the Mississippi at the Helena bridge

Another accomplishment was the development of the *Mississippi River Conservation Initiative (MRCI)*, the implementation phase of the LMRCC's *Aquatic Resource Management Plan*. The MRCI is comprised of three primary components: 1) Assessment of conservation needs and opportunities; 2) Project planning and design; and 3) Project implementation. Through this process the LMRCC, in partnership with a wide array of

federal, state, local and non-governmental organizations, implements projects to restore aquatic habitat, improve water quality and provide sustainable economic development.

The MRCI was formally launched in November, 2001 with the first state planning meeting held in Jackson, Tennessee. Thirty representatives from federal and state government agencies, universities and private conservation organizations met to exchange information, review proposed projects, and devise conservation strategies for the Mississippi River floodplain in Tennessee. Approximately 20 projects were identified, including restoration of degraded side channels, creation of channels through dike fields, rehabilitation of floodplain lakes, restoration of floodplain hydrology, and land acquisitions to develop recreational opportunities. State planning meetings have since been conducted in each of the other lower Mississippi River states. Hundreds of similar projects have been identified from those meetings.

See "Featured Watershed" on page 4

Featured Watershed continued...

In cooperation with the Corps of Engineers – Memphis and Vicksburg Districts, many of the projects identified in the MRCI have already been completed. The majority have been the dike notching projects. This involves removing a certain amount of the dike to allow low-flow waters to inundate the area behind the dikes. The flows eventually wash out much of the sand that had been deposited behind the dikes, creating new side-channels and backwater areas. This type of habitat is extremely important to all types of wildlife. It provides resting and nursery areas for fish species, protection to certain bird species, new habitat areas for reptiles and amphibians, and additional fishing habitat for anglers.

The LMRCC has developed a comprehensive *Geographic Information System* comprised of spatial databases covering the Mississippi River Ecosystem and the Mississippi Alluvial Valley to support the implementation of the Aquatic Resource Management Plan. Data holdings include vector files of roads, hydrology, dikes, revetment, levees, and public lands boundaries; satellite imagery; digital orthophotos; low water video; and raster data including soils, land cover/land use, DEMs, and bathymetry. In addition, a series of detailed 1:100,000 scale maps of the active floodplain are currently in production to provide planners involved in the Mississippi River Conservation Initiative a tool to identify and track conservation opportunities.

The LMRCC has developed a GIS model to prioritize wetland forest restoration on private lands in the Mississippi Alluvial Valley to enhance water quality. The purpose of the model is to provide tools to assist conservation planners working on a state or regional level involved with wetland restoration, water quality, and reforestation.

AWARENESS AND EDUCATION

The enormous task of restoring America's greatest river will only be accomplished with the public's awareness and support. The LMRCC is involved in a number of projects and activities to raise awareness and support for the Mississippi River ecosystem. Products include a newsletter, brochures, workshops, displays, and this website.

The River Packet, the newsletter of the LMRCC, is published annually and contains a wealth of information on environmental issues and conservation activities concerning the Mississippi River.

The Mississippi River Fishing Guide is a 16 page, full-color guide to fishing in the Mississippi River that includes information on game fish, fish habitat, water quality, and boating safety, along with maps to publicly accessible boat ramps. When completed, the fishing guide will be published and distributed throughout the watershed for citizen use.

The LMRCC joined the Arkansas Watershed Advisory Group (AWAG) in 2001 and committed to assisting AWAG in attaining its goals and objectives. Likewise, AWAG committed to helping the LMRCC attain its goals by

assisting in the development of watershed groups, not only in the Mississippi River batture (elevated river bed) lands, but also along the tributaries of the river. This will increase public interest and support for the Mississippi River in Arkansas.

ECONOMIC STUDY

The LMRCC contracted for the completion of an *Economic Profile of the Lower Mississippi River Region* in January of 2004. The purpose of the study was to develop a profile of the regional economic activity dependent on the LMR and its floodplain from southern Illinois 954 miles to the Gulf of Mexico. Completed in 2004, the economic profile provides a "snapshot" of economic activity associated with ten



A barge navigates the Lower Mississippi's waters. The Mississippi continues to have a major economic impact on the region.

economic sectors dependent on the river and floodplain in the 113-county/parish corridor surrounding the LMR region today, and it discusses past and future trends. Cumulatively, the ten river-related sectors examined accounted for about \$128 billion in annual revenue and provided approximately 771,000 jobs associated with river-related economic activities. Manufacturing was by far the largest sector; tourism was the second largest sector with \$13.5 billion in revenues and 183,000 jobs.

REPORT TO CONGRESS

The LMRCC, working with the six Governors of the six LMR states, secured Section 402 funding in the Water Resources Development Act of 2000 which authorizes a two year, \$1.75 million study (Lower Mississippi River Resource Assessment) and Report to Congress. The Report, when funded, will make recommendations on river-related information, habitat restoration, recreation, and access needs along the Lower Mississippi River. Unlike the Upper Mississippi River, which has received over \$275 million in the past 15 years to restore and enhance habitat for public recreational uses, the Lower Mississippi River has never received funding specifically for habitat restoration. The objective of the Report to Congress required by Section 402 is to make recommendations for the restoration of America's greatest river for the use and benefit of the LMR Valley's residents.

Much of the material for this article was obtained from the web site of the Lower Mississippi River Conservation Committee. Visit the site at www.lmrcc.org.

Featured Agency



The Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) strives to protect and enhance the state's environment through regulatory programs, proactive programs, and educational activities. ADEQ is organized into six regulatory divisions that focus on specific elements of the environment. The regulatory divisions are: Air, Hazardous Waste, Regulated Storage Tanks, Solid Waste, Mining, and Water. Three environmental assistance divisions offer direct support to citizens, communities, regulated businesses, and other divisions. The assistance divisions are: Public Outreach and Assistance, Environmental Preservation and Technical Services, and Legal. Additionally, the agency supports an Emergency Response Section.

WATER DIVISION

The Water Division's staff works within five branches to protect and enhance the state's water quality.

The **Inspection Branch** investigates citizen's complaints and performs routine inspections.

The **NPDES Branch** administers the permit program for water discharges.

The **State Permits Branch** administers a permit program for no-discharge waste disposal systems and salt water disposal systems.

The **Wastewater Licensing Program** certifies the knowledge and experience of people responsible for operation and maintenance of wastewater systems.

The **Water Quality Planning Branch** develops water quality standards and assesses the quality of the state's waters.

WATER QUALITY PLANNING BRANCH

This branch deals with a variety of issues related to water quality monitoring and standards development, groundwater, and wasteload allocations.

ADEQ maintains a comprehensive website at www.adeq.state.ar.us.

The website includes searchable databases, forms, information on licensing requirements, environmental regulations, recycling, current projects, and much more.

Water Quality Monitoring includes the monitoring of the chemical constituents in the water and sediment of rivers, streams, and lakes within the State and monitoring the biological communities and physical habitat within selected waters.

The chemical monitoring network on rivers and streams includes over 130 stations which are sampled monthly for more than 30 parameters, over 100 stations that are sampled on a bi-monthly or quarterly schedule, and an additional 30-50 stations that are intensively sampled over a short period of time for special purposes. Some of these stations have been

regularly sampled since the 1970s. Collection of the routine, monthly water samples is performed by the Water Division's field inspectors; laboratory analyses are conducted by the Department's Environmental Preservation and Technical Services Division. The quarterly or bi-monthly sampling of unassessed or reassessed waters is conducted by Planning Branch personnel with laboratory analyses by Tech Services. Synoptic, watershed-intensive surveys of the physical, chemical, and biological conditions of a watershed are conducted by the Planning Section personnel.

Development and Update of Water Quality Standards

Arkansas' Surface Water Quality Standards include: designation of uses for all waters of the State; narrative or numeric criteria designed to prevent impairment of the designated uses; and a policy to prohibit degradation of waters of the State (anti-degradation policy). The water quality standards are ecoregion based. Waters within each of the six ecoregions of the State have standards which were developed from data from least-disturbed streams within each ecoregion. These data were developed during an intensive, statewide study of the physical, chemical, and biological characteristics of least-disturbed streams during 1983-1986. At least every three years the water quality standards must be reviewed and updated where appropriate.

Biennial Assessment of the Condition of Waters of the State

Every two years all water quality data from the Department's monitoring networks and any other readily available data are compiled into a report that describes



ADEQ Planning Branch staff use electrofishing equipment to sample fish diversity in Arkansas streams. Staff can often be found in the field examining the chemical and biological conditions of watersheds.

See "Featured Agency" on page 6

Featured Agency continued...

the current condition of the State's waters. Waters which are not meeting the water quality standards or are not supporting their designated uses are noted and scheduled for corrective action. This report, which is required by Section 305(b) of the Clean Water Act, is also used to prepare the statewide nonpoint source assessment report, the list of impaired waters (Section 303(d) of the Clean Water Act), and the Index of Watershed Indicators, and identifies numerous other water quality management needs.

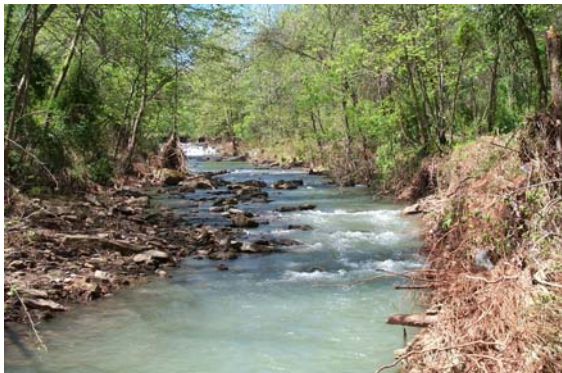
Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDL)

For waters that are not meeting water quality standards or have a significant potential not to meet standards as a result of point source discharges or nonpoint source activities, TMDLs are developed to establish the maximum amount of a pollutant that can enter a specific water body without violating the water quality standards. The values are normally calculated amounts based on dilution and the assimilative capacity of the water body. Calculations are performed by various models which predict safe levels of contaminants based on worst-case conditions and provide a margin of safety. The calculated safe amounts then may be allocated to point source discharges as a wasteload allocation (WLA) and to nonpoint sources as a load allocation (LA). This constitutes a TMDL.

Groundwater Protection Program

The basic responsibilities of the groundwater program include budgeting and grant administration, groundwater quality planning and water quality monitoring, and addressing gaps in groundwater protection through the development of guidelines and regulations. One of the more important functions of the Program is water quality monitoring, which includes ambient monitoring and research-oriented monitoring, such as investigation of pesticides in groundwater in eastern Arkansas, nutrient and bacteria transport in shallow aquifer systems in northwest Arkansas, and salt water intrusion into shallow aquifers in southeastern Arkansas. The ambient groundwater monitoring program was developed in order to document existing groundwater quality in various aquifers throughout the State. Because each area of the State is sampled every three years, the data can be used to document trends and changes in water quality over time. The monitoring program currently consists of 195 well and spring sites in 9 different monitoring areas within the State.

The Water Division shares ADEQ's common mission: "To protect, enhance, and restore the natural environment for the well-being of all Arkansans."



The Watershed Outreach and Education Section works cooperatively with watershed groups and other agencies and organizations to conduct public outreach events.

Watershed Outreach and Education Section

In 2004, an internal restructuring moved the Department's watershed outreach and education activities to the Water Division. As a part of the Planning Branch, the Watershed Outreach and Education Section helps engage the public in the Department's mission by developing and promoting local watershed groups that take responsibility for environmental protection in their community. The Department's Watershed Coordinator and staff offer assistance to citizens interested in voluntary approaches to watershed management and conservation. The Watershed Outreach and Education Section offers a variety of programs to facilitate and promote awareness, appreciation, knowledge, and stewardship of water resources. The Watershed Outreach and Education Section supports the activities of the Arkansas Watershed Advisory Group (AWAG) and maintains AWAG's comprehensive website.

The Watershed Coordinator provides resources to citizens interested in forming a local watershed council. Resources include providing a facilitator during the formation and initial planning process. The Watershed Coordinator also provides a technical advisor through AWAG to assist local groups in watershed planning. For more information about AWAG and ADEQ resources available to citizens, call the Watershed Coordinator at (501) 682-0022. You can also visit the AWAG website at www.awag.org.

Programs that are available to Arkansas schools include the Arkansas Water Education Team (WET) program and the National Project WET (Water Education for Teachers) program. These programs facilitate and promote awareness, appreciation, knowledge, and stewardship of water resources in Arkansas schools. For more information about Arkansas WET or National Project WET, call the ADEQ Education Specialist at (501) 682-0024.

More information about ADEQ and all of its current projects, as well as downloadable forms and reports, can be found at www.adeq.state.ar.us.

The Turf Battle Begins!

Tips for a Healthy Lawn from Cooperative Extension Service

There is a new meaning to the term “Turf Battle,” especially in suburban neighborhoods. It seems everyone wants to have the prettiest lawn and be the envy of their neighborhood. Well, follow these simple rules, and you’ll be on your way to a lush, green paradise.

Of the turf grasses commonly used in Arkansas, most are not native and require continuous maintenance to look good and stay healthy. The different types of turf grasses include Bermuda, Zoysia, Centipede, St. Augustine, and tall fescue. These all do well in Arkansas’ climate, but note St. Augustine does better in the southern counties of the state while tall fescue does better in the northern regions of Arkansas.

The required factors for a healthy, green, and growing lawn include: sunshine, regular watering, fertilizer, pest control, and regular mowing.



Not all grasses are treated equally. For most of us with existing lawns, it is best to find out what type

of grass you currently have growing to determine its proper care. Turf grasses have different requirements from each another; some grasses are shade tolerant, some need more water, and the time at which fertilizer is applied varies between grass types. Contact your local county extension agent or visit the University of Arkansas Cooperative Extension Service website at www.uaex.edu/HG.htm for detailed information about the various turf types and the requirements of each.

Regular watering of your lawn during the spring helps the turf establish its root system and grow healthy. Saturating the first 4-6 inches of soil is the best practice for keeping your lawn watered. This allows the roots to penetrate deeper into the soil to help protect them during the hotter, drier

summer months. Also water during the mid-morning hours; this helps to avoid peak water usage times and reduces the amount of water lost to evaporation. Be sure to position sprinklers and hoses so that they do not waste water on sidewalks, driveways, and streets.

Regular mowing – at least weekly – is best for the lawn. This removes dead or damaged grass and allows for new growth. Don’t bag up those lawn clippings; they are full of nutrients essential to the soil and healthy lawns. An occasional bagging is acceptable if the clippings become too dense and block sunlight from penetrating the soil.



Remember to compost those lawn clippings and reuse them later in your flower beds or garden.

When using fertilizers, herbicides, and pesticides, be sure to follow the directions printed on the labels. Most homeowners overuse these products hoping for better results, but actually it’s a waste and can have negative impacts on the environment.

For more information on lawn care, contact your county extension agent, or visit the University of Arkansas Cooperative Extension Service webpage at www.uaex.edu/HG.htm.



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Watershed Watch
electronically?**

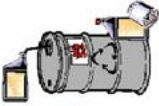









**Email Rob Beadel at
beadel@adeq.state.ar.us**

or call

(501) 682-0012

10 EASY THINGS YOU CAN DO TO STOP POLLUTION IN THE



- 1.**  Recycle your used motor oil. Wal-Mart Tire & Lube Express, AutoZone, and most other service stations in your community accept used oil. **Never pour oil or automotive fluids on the ground or in creeks, ditches, or rivers.**
- 2.**  Reduce auto emissions through regular auto maintenance, car pooling, and use of public transportation. Fix oil, transmission, and radiator leaks in your car. **Leaking automotive fluids can wash off roads, driveways, and parking lots into creeks, ditches, and rivers during rain showers.**
- 3.**  Use garbage cans for your trash. Recycle reusable materials like cardboard, paper, plastic, and aluminum. **Don't throw trash and litter in the streets and ditches: it will wash into the creeks and rivers.**
- 4.**  Sweep the dirt from your sidewalk and driveway back into your yard with a broom. Pick up pet wastes and dispose of it in the toilet or trash. **Hosing dirt and pet wastes away flushes it directly into the roadways and eventually into the creeks, ditches, and rivers.**
- 5.**  Dispose of any hazardous household chemicals at approved household hazardous waste collection sites. **Purchase "natural" products available for your home and garden.**
- 6.**  Select water-based paints such as latex. Wash brushes in your sink with water. If using paint thinner, reuse and recycle it. **Don't pour any paint or toxic material on the ground or in ditches.**
- 7.**  Use pesticides, herbicides, fertilizers, and other lawn chemicals sparingly. Never double the dose. **Follow the directions and do not apply if rain is forecasted.**
- 8.**  Go to a car wash or wash your car in the grass. **Don't wash grimy road dirt and soap down the driveway: it will end up in the creeks, ditches, and rivers.**
- 9.**  Collect grass clippings and leaves and start a compost pile. Compost makes excellent soil conditioner for flower beds and gardens and is a beneficial way to dispose of yard waste. **Never use creeks, ditches, or streams to dispose of yard wastes.**
- 10.**  Maintain your septic system. Have it pumped out every 3 years to remove sludge and scum. Practice water conservation to prevent overworking your system. **Repair or replace malfunctioning or outdated septic systems.**

TAKE PRIDE IN THE WATER RESOURCES OF ARKANSAS: IT IS YOUR WATER. WATER POLLUTION IS EVERYONE'S PROBLEM: WATER QUALITY IS EVERYONE'S RESPONSIBILITY.



Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality
 Environmental Preservation Division
 8001 National Drive, PO Box 8913
 Little Rock AR 72219-8913
 Ellen McNulty
 ADEQ Watershed Coordinator
 (501) 682-0022
 mcnulty@adeq.state.ar.us