



POST-EVENT PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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4.7 Net Tons of Trash Removed by Volunteers

AUG 17, 2010 – The Lower Wapsipinicon River Cleanup Project, a canoeing- and camping-based river cleanup event, took place for its fifth year August 13-15, 2010. Fifty volunteers worked together to remove an amazing 4.7 tons of trash from 23 miles of the Wapsipinicon River from Anamosa Access to Jungletown Access near Hale. The section of river covered weaves through Jones County. Of the trash collected, 58% was recycled. This brings the grand total removed from the Lower Wapsi over the last five years to a whopping 28.3 tons.

“Jones County has been such an amazing host! It was great to bring the cleanup to the beginning sections of the Lower Wapsi. Jones County Conservation Board and Cindy Borst (Lou-Lou’s Landing) were such a big part of the event success. Each year I am amazed and touched to see people – many returning year after year – work so tirelessly to improve the health, safety, and beauty of our Wapsipinicon River,” stated coordinator Melisa Jacobsen “It’s in these small steps that we hope to increase awareness and ownership of local rivers. I’m always humbled when these folks thank me for putting the cleanup together – it is a small thing compared to their commitment - none of this would happen if they didn’t have it in them to come wear themselves out for a weekend.!” Heavy rains just prior to the cleanup made it a waiting game to see if the river would stay in its banks. Thankfully, paddlers were able to get on the river Saturday at 9.5 feet and dropping, again on Sunday, and still bring in quite a haul from what was visible at those levels. Olin Fire Department provided both on land and on water support for the event.

The Event provided free canoes, free camping, and low-cost meals, as well as an evening program on the history and people of Jones County presented by Joy Adams through partnership with Jones County Conservation Board.

Sponsors for this event included: Jones County Conservation Board; Clinton County Conservation Board; Lou-Lou’s Landing; Friends of the Wapsi Center, Inc.; KA Screen Printing; Stone City Iron and Metal; Wapsi Bottoms Whitetails Unlimited; Olin Fire Department; Citizens Bank; Wapsi Waste; Petrzelka and Breitback PLC; Holiday Shores Motel (McGregor); Select Service Sanitation; RJ General Store; Kum N Go; Atlas Family Chiropractic; J&P Cycles; F&M Bank; Security State Bank; Jones County Transfer Station; and Stone City General Store Pub

The Lower Wapsipinicon River Cleanup Project is a grassroots organization with a twofold purpose: To remove trash from the river and dispose of it in an environmentally responsible manner; and to educate the public about the environment and the importance of caring for natural resources.

They will be cleaning up on a different section of the Lower Wapsipinicon each year. In 2011 they will cover Jungletown Access near Hale to Walnut Grove near Toronto. For further information, or to get on a mailing list for next year, please write to LWRCP, 2740 - 160th Avenue, Calamus, IA 52729, email coordinator@lowerwapsicleanup.org or visit the website at <http://www.lowerwapsicleanup.org>

2010 LWRCP Fact Sheets

Trash by the Numbers:

Recyclables – 2,720 lbs. (2.72 tons) total

120 lbs. glass and plastic

40 lbs. Aluminum cans

800 lbs. Tires

1,760 lbs. (1.76 tons) mixed scrap metal

Hazardous waste - 60 lbs.

Dump material- 1,920 lbs. (1.92 tons)

GRAND TOTAL: 4,700 lbs., or 4.7 tons of which 58 % was recycled

A total of 50 people were involved on land & water for this cleanup

Folks participating came from all over Iowa including Anamosa, Calamus, Cedar Rapids, Clinton, Coralville, Davenport, Decorah, Des Moines, DeWitt, Dysart, Hopkinton, Iowa City, Olin, Sabula, Vinton and Walcott.

Additionally, we had folks join us from Rock Island, Illinois; Omaha, Nebraska; and Eau Claire, Wisconsin.

Listing of identifiable items removed from river

Household

Kitchen sink
40 gal trash can
Wooden whiskey barrel
13 gallon trash can
Vinyl siding
Metal siding
Pink styrofoam insulation
Garden hose
Picture frame
Weed eater parts
Toy horse
Fire extinguisher
Plastic flower pot
Brassiere
Gas grills – 3
Tennis shoe
Light bulbs – 3
Hair gel
Bug spray - 4
Coffee mug
Full garbage bag
Ice cream bucket
Metal clothes line pole
EZ cheese can
Vacuum crevice tool
Dixie cups – 36 in package
Down spout
Purse
LP tank – 5 gallon
Croc shoes - 3
Helium tank – 5 gallon
Foam cushion
Pet water dish
Half of a gazebo
Tupperware – 3
Shingles
Particleboard
Plastic doll
Thermos
Metal coffee filter
Wheelbarrow tire w/rim

Farm and Utility

Tractor tires 3
Orange snow fence -40 ft
Cattle water bucket

Wooden lath fencing-130ft total
Plastic coated fence
Tractor rim
250 gallon fuel barrel
Handheld hoe
Pig vaccine bottle
Barrel
No trespassing sign
Hot wire post
Tractor tire tube
100 gallon LP tank
Rerod - 6
Fence posts - 12
Rubber hose
Metal brace
Pully
Tin roofing
Wire gate end
Conduit pipe – 10 ft
Barbed wire
Tank for Kerosene heater
PVC pipe
Aluminum pole
Wire – 50 ft
Plastic poles – 200 ft
Wire roll
Conduit
Oil drum
Chicken coop remains

Outdoor Fun

Lawn chair – woven
Plastic lawn chair- 3
Outdoor carpet
Flashlight
Duck house - wooden
Fish net
Tarps - 5
Styrofoam worm box - 4
Baseball hat
Tent rain fly
Chicken liver containers - 2
Fishing lures - 3
Baseball bat – wooden
Bank line - broken
Childs ball
Baseball

Plastic snow sled
Tennis balls - 2
ATV Shock & spring
Snowboard
Baseball bat - plastic
Fishing reel
Large pool floatie
Inflatable water toy
Basketball
Water shoes - 3
Golf balls – 5
Bike tire tube
Flip-flops - 9
Fishing pole with reel
Bobbers – 9
Soccer ball
Foam worm cup
Life jacket

Vehicles and Road

Car tires - 9
Oil catch pan
Car tire w/custom rim
Truck tire rim
Oil gallon jug
Motorcycle radiator
Car spring
Spark plug
Misc. gears
Truck tire w/rim - 3
Mud flap
Shredded tire
Car floor mat
Caution tape
“Road closed” sign
Road reflectors – 2
Plastic fuel can
Bus seat

Odd Miscellaneous

3 meth making bottles
Board with electrical outlet
Skoal cans – 5
2 pull-tab Schlitz cans still in 6-pack holder