Our Missouri Waters – Lower Meramec River

- Agenda
  1. Welcome and Introductions (2:30-2:35 pm)
  2. Our Missouri Waters Overview (2:35-2:45 pm)
  3. Summary of Meramec River Interviews (2:45-2:50 pm)
  4. Federal Initiatives (2:50-3:00 pm)
  5. Meramec River Conservation Action Plan (3:00-3:10 pm)
  6. Stormwater Management (3:10-3:20 pm)
  7. Recreation Panel and Discussion (3:20-4:30 pm)

Meramec River Watershed:
Community Partnership Project

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Our Missouri Waters

A watershed based approach to…

- *Better integrate and target our resources and programs*
- *Seek help from local citizens*
- *Maximize overall environmental benefit for water resources*

The mission of the Missouri Department of Natural Resources

to protect our air, land and water; preserve our unique natural and historic places; and provide recreational and learning opportunities for everyone.

What is a Watershed?

- An area of land where the runoff from rain and snow drain to a particular stream
- Healthy watersheds provide:
  - Plentiful drinking water
  - Fish and wildlife habitat
  - water for
    - Irrigation,
    - industry or
    - recreation

Healthy Watershed

What is Watershed Management?

- Romans practiced watershed management
- Early basin management in the United States included
  - Diversion
  - Irrigation and
  - Flood control

Threats and Challenges

- Land use activities affect the quality of water
  - Increased impervious surfaces increase runoff volume and velocity
  - Impervious surfaces prevent water from replenishing groundwater
  - Pollutants can be transported by stormwater

Our Missouri Waters
Priority Watersheds
2014
Keg-Weeping Water
Nishnabotna
Nodaway
One Hundred and Two
Tarkio-Wolf
Upper Grand
Platte
Independence-Sugar
Lower Kansas, Kansas
Lower Marais Des Cygnes
Little Osage
Marmaton
Spring
Lake O' The Cherokees
Elk
Lower Des Moines
Upper Chariton
Thompson
North Fabius
North Fabius
Bear-Wyaconda
South Fabius
Lower Grand
Lower Chariton
North Fork Salt
The Sny
Little Chariton
Salt
South Fork Salt
Lower Missouri-Crooked
Blackwater
Lower Missouri-Moreau
Lamine
South Grand
Lake of the Ozarks
Lower Osage
Lower Gasconade
Bourbeuse
Harry S. Truman Reservoir
Niangua
Pomme De Terre
Sac
Upper Gasconade
Big Piney
James
Bull Shoals Lake
Beaver Reservoir
North Fork White
Eleven Point
Spring
Lower Black
Current
Upper Black
Cuivre
Lower Missouri
Meramec
Big
Upper St. Francis
Whitewater
Upper Mississippi-Cape Girardeau
New Madrid-St. Johns
Little River Ditches
Lower St. Francis
Lower Mississippi-Memphis
Cache
Legend
Rivers and Lakes
County
Pilot Watersheds
2014 Priority Watershed
2015 Priority Watershed
2016 Priority Watershed
2017 Priority Watershed
2018 Priority Watershed
MDNR Regions
0 12.5 25 50 75 100
Miles
MISSOURI
DEPARTMENT OF
NATURAL RESOURCES

Why focus at the watershed level?

- Provides the basis for coordinating water resource activities over a five year time-frame

- Allows local watershed residents to know in advance when certain coordination activities occur

- Provides an opportunity to utilize and leverage various resources more effectively and efficiently

We are all downstream

Meramec River Watershed

Project Goals:

- Local understanding of water resources
- Build on local leadership for watershed priorities
- Build on local partnerships to find solutions

How do we get there?

- Meramec River meetings
  - Information sharing
  - Learn about natural resources priorities
  - Identify concerns you want to address
- Input from local communities about interests and priorities for the Meramec River and its watershed
  - Move goals forward & work toward solutions
- *Healthy Watershed Plan*

How do we get there?

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  - Learn about natural resources priorities
  - What are some projects you want to tackle?
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- *Healthy Watershed Plan*

How do we get there?

- Open House meetings
  - Information sharing
  - Learn about natural resources priorities
  - What are some projects you want to tackle?
- Input from local communities about interests and priorities for the Meramec River and its watershed
  - Move goals forward & work toward solutions
- *Healthy Watershed Plan*

Healthy Watershed Plan: Framework

- Background information on the watershed
- Local Comments/Concerns
- Priorities from local watershed meetings
- Next Steps recommended by local stakeholders

What are the benefits?

- Local resident's shared vision for the watershed
- Provides guidance for future financial and technical support and programs
- Discover opportunities for partnerships
- Protect our local waters

Our Missouri Waters

http://dnr.mo.gov/omw/

Missouri has been

traditionally blessed with abundant and diverse water resources like few other states in the nation. The quality of life for each Missourian can be closely tied to the health of our state's natural resources. Ensuring we are able to enjoy our Missouri waters today as well as ensure the same for future generations is the essence of the Missouri Department of Natural Resources' mission.

Creating a rich legacy for our state's waters can be a daunting task, which is why we simply can't complete this alone. Missouri's waters belong to all of us. The department's **Our Missouri Waters** effort bring

Learn about Watersheds
Focus Watersheds
State Water Planning
Water Quality Assessment

Get Updates on this Issue

Got questions? Call or email!

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Our Missouri WATERS

Lower Meramec River Characteristics

Credit: GRG and Google Earth

- Working river and a recreational river – priceless amenity
- Large trail network, vision of connecting all parts
- Maintaining bridges for recreation
- No coordinated riparian management strategies
- MRRA and MRTA and Meramec Greenway
- Stream Team

Lower Meramec River Characteristics

Photo Credit: phillypaddler.com

- Compared to upper Meramec, large water and sewer utilities
- Concerns over costs of clean water regs.
- Malfunctioning individual treatment systems
- Flash flooding and erosion on tributaries
- Mississippi River back-ups on main channel
- Banks are mostly stable, some areas of erosion