

Local Projects & Opportunities:

Environmental Task Force of Jasper
and Newton Counties

Spring River Watershed Partnership

Spring River Watershed Summit, May 30, 2013

Eric Ferrell and Tony Moehr



Presenters

■ Eric Ferrell

- La Russell Stream Team #2945
- Southwest Ozarks Stream Team Association
- Board Member Environmental Task Force
- Board Member Spring River Watershed Partnership

■ Tony Moehr

- Administrator, Jasper County Health Department
- Board Member Environmental Task Force
- Board Member Spring River Watershed Partnership
- Administrator Carthage area Spring River 319 Grant



Presentation Overview

- Environmental Task Force Of Jasper and Newton Counties History
- Spring River Watershed Partnership History
- Carthage Area Spring River Watershed Plan 319 Implementation Grant
- Stream Sampling for E. Coli in Jasper County



Environmental Task Force History

- Started in 1992 by City of Joplin
 - Provide input to the EPA from citizens and city's perspective
 - Disseminate information to the City and to local residents regarding EPA activities
 - As Joplin specific activities were completed the Task Force broaden its focus to Jasper and Newton Counties and changed its name and mission to reflect its scope



Task Force Mission & Membership

- *...to provide leadership for policymakers and citizens on environmental issues through education, research, public policy recommendations and action projects.*
- 14 members all appointed by County Commissioners, including County, Industry & Manufacturing, Health, Municipalities and public.



Task Force Achievements

- Develop Educational materials for lead poisoning prevention
- Review and approve all EPA Records of decision regarding the Superfund Site
- Develop a Redevelopment Plan for the I-249 corridor and impacted the placement of highway
- Develop an Environmental Master Plan for Jasper County



Task Force Achievements, Continued

- Formed a 501(C)3
- Received Missouri Conservation Federation, “Conservation Organization of the Year” award
- Develop Institutional Control Ordinance for Jasper County and it was passed by the commission in 2004
- Assisted MSSU in acquiring funds to digitize mining map collection



Task Force Achievements, Cont.

- Initiated development of the Lower Shoal Creek Watershed Alliance -2008
- Initiated development of Spring River Watershed Partnership -2009
- Initiated development of the Grand Lake O' The Cherokee Watershed Council
- Continues to serve as an umbrella agency for all three groups
- Participate in funding Drug Take-back Drop Boxes



Task Force Achievements, Cont.

- Work with MSSU to develop a video highlighting water quality issues - 2010
- Work with TAMKO Building Products to develop a video highlighting the watershed concept for use in schools - 2013
- Review air quality issues and form subcommittee to develop voluntary ozone reduction guidance in conjunction with Joplin Metropolitan Planning Committee, including 1st Ozone Conference - 2013



Task Force Future

- Currently receives limited funds from Jasper And Newton Counties
- Will seek additional funding to hire an Administrator able to increase their ability to develop environmental programs
- Will continue to review environmental issues affecting the two counties and advocate for solutions
- www.envtaskforce.com

Spring River Watershed Partnership



- Formed as a result of most major stream segments in Jasper County being listed on the 303 D list as impaired
- Majority of streams listed for E. Coli, segments of Turkey and Center Creeks are listed for metals, North Fork is listed for sediment and bacteria
- Initial focus on Carthage portion of Spring River because it was the first area listed as impaired

Spring River Watershed Partnership



- Partnership includes representatives from NRCS, SWCD, MSSU, Jasper County Commission and Health Department, MU Extension, Dept. of Conservation, Stream Teams, and private citizens.
- Developed Watershed Management Plan
- Received and provides oversight for 319 Implementation Grant
- Goal is to develop plans and funding for additional segments to improve the stream



Carthage Area Spring River Watershed Plan Implementation

Grant, AKA Carthage Spring River 319 Grant

- Implementation Grant is administered by Jasper County
- Grant total is approximately \$530,000, of which 40% is required match
- Covers an area from CR 90 to CR 200 along Spring River



Carthage Spring River 319 Grant

- Addresses non-point source contaminants, both rural and urban.
 - Agricultural BMP implementation
 - Septic Pumping and Repair
 - Rain Garden Demonstration Projects
 - Rain Barrel Demonstration Project
 - Storm Drain Stenciling Projects
 - Educational projects, especially in conjunction with kids fishing day at Kellogg Lake
 - Watershed modeling



Water Monitoring

- Stream Team conducted E. Coli monitoring 2001 through 2007 in Carthage area
 - Initiated DNR follow-up to verify results
 - Resulted in 3 mile stretch of Spring River being listed as impaired
 - Stream Team Leader retired shortly thereafter and sampling stopped



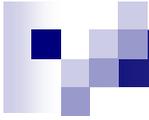
Water Monitoring

- Jasper County Began water sampling in 2007
 - Sample 21 sites
 - Sample Sites scattered throughout county on major streams
 - Sample weekly during recreation season
 - Sampling continues every year
 - Data displayed on Health Department website



Water Monitoring

- Supplemental Sampling funded by Environmental Resource Coalition 2010 through 2012
 - Sampled 25 sites weekly during recreation season
 - Sampled monthly during winter
 - Sampled tributaries to major streams for data useful in developing TMDL's
 - Data available on health department website



Thank You

Eric Ferrell & Tony Moehr