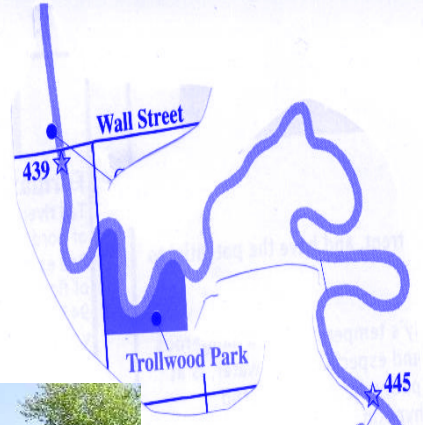


2009 River Keepers Activities



Storm Sewer Education:

Worked with City of Fargo and City of Moorhead to provide the storm drain marking program. About 135 participants contributed 310 volunteer hours. Made presentations and worked on campaign to educate citizens about how garbage in yards and streets end up in ditches, storm drains and eventually the Red River.



Workshops: Taught two *Make Your Own Rain Barrel Workshops* with Cass Soil Conservation District and Moorhead Community Education. Assembled and sold rain barrels. Partnered with Earth Week Committee to coordinate Green Expo and other earth week activities.

Land Trail Development: Continued to encourage retrofitting of pedestrian bridges.

Youth Service Projects: Collaborated with Concordia College, NDSU, Bennett Elementary, Upward Bound, Boy Scouts of America, Ellen Hopkins, Charism, Ben Franklin Middle School, Fargo North and West Fargo High School on projects related to water quality monitoring, the Living Lab, storm drain marking program, and the water festival.



T-shirt Bags: To help reduce the amount of plastic bags cluttering the riverfront we continue to encourage converting used t-shirts into grocery bags.



Red River Water Festival: Presented a youth festival with 1500 students attending. 100 people volunteered 550 hours. Partnered with Jeffers Foundation and the Wahpeton Park District to coordinate a youth water festival in Wahpeton for about 175 students.



Cavity Replacement Program: Wood duck boxes were maintained by NDSU students. 60 volunteer hours.

Board Leadership: River Keepers' Board of Directors were active in raising funds through a membership drive. They also helped 'promote a renewed vision for the Red River' by assisting with various projects.



S.S. Ruby and Canoe & Kayak Rentals: Recruited and trained crew, coordinated marketing, scheduled crew and charters, and maintained ticket booth and watercraft. Assisted Captains in renewing their licenses. Over 1500 passengers heard the narration about the Red

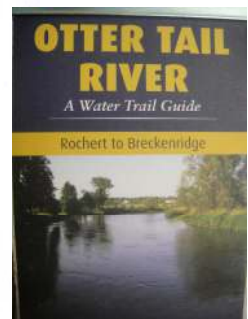
River. There were over 100 canoe and kayak rentals. Season shortened by high water. Passed Coast Guard inspection. Obtained new Captain identification cards from Homeland Security. Participated in Holiday Lights Parade and Holiday Display in Lindenwood. Coordinated fishing outings.

Canoe, Kayak, and Fishing Events: Organized and managed a fun and a competitive race. 22 teams participated. 9 volunteers contributed over 30 volunteer hours. Worked with the Trollwood Performing Arts on a river 'adventure'. Fishing clinics cancelled due to high water.



Red River of the North International Historic Canoe Trail: Working with MN DNR on adding canoe/kayak access sites and portages on the Red River. Exploring methods to construct two projects in Moorhead (new boat ramp and North Dam portage). Staff appointed to the ND Trails Advisory Committee.

Otter Tail River Master Plan: Completed master plan and water trail map for the Otter Tail River, under contract with the MN Department of Natural Resources. Participated in Ribbon Cutting.



Flooding: River Keepers board approved a "Flood Awareness in the Red River Valley: A call to action-again" statement that contained 5 recommendations. The statement has been distributed to community groups, elected leaders and is on the web site. Continue efforts to encourage the development of a setback ordinance for Fargo, Moorhead and Clay County that would model Cass County's ordinance. Participated in several meetings including a US Army Corps of Engineers non-structural response to 2009 flood work group.



Dam Safety: Continue to work with MN Department of Natural Resources and others on Christine and Hickson Dam issues.



Water Quality Monitoring: 12 volunteers assisted in taking semi-monthly samples during ice-free conditions. Received grant from ND Department of Health to analyze River Keepers data. Attended streamside ecology and channel stability workshops. Participated in ND State Water Monitoring Council.



Dniester River: Received grant from Museums & Communities Collaboration Abroad to partner with Rodger Ehnstrom Nature Center, Eco-TIRAS, and Bendry Museum to form a "sister rivers" relationship with the Dniester River in Moldova. Developed blog (www.riverkeepers.ning.com) and Facebook Fanpage. Established Project Advisory Group.

Living Laboratory: Received grant from HECUA to have an intern write elementary curriculum for hands-on stations at the Lab. Wrote, designed and installed more interpretive signs. Held "Learning from the Past, Celebrating the Future" event. Teacher workshop held at the Lab. Received grant from Xcel Energy to fund the elementary backpack program. Evaluated shrubs in experimental plots. Due to damage received in the spring flood the house at the Living Lab was removed. About 50 volunteers contributed over 250 hours.



Canoeing, Cooking and Camping: Coordinated the 4th annual women's weekend on the Red River with 10 participants. Added a graduate credit component for teachers.



Mark your calendars! River Keepers 2010 schedule of events:

River Keepers Annual Meeting: 5:30 - 7:00 p.m. on March 25 at Moorhead School Board Room.

Make Your Own Rain Barrel Workshops: 6-8 p.m. on May 5 & 19 at the Living Lab.

Sister Rivers Ceremony: 1-3 p.m. on May 5 at Riverfront Park.

Build Your Own Compost Tumbler Workshops: 6-7:30 p.m., May 12 & 26 at Living Lab.

On-the-Water River Cleanup: 6-8:30 p.m. on May 20. Begin at S.S. Ruby landing.

Reforest the Red: 10-2 p.m. on May 22 at Trollwood Park.

S.S. Ruby Boat Tours and Canoe/Kayak Rentals: regular operating season runs May 28 - September 5. For more information, call 701-793-RUBY.

Canoeing, Cooking and Camping: A women's weekend on the Red River, June 4-6.

Lil' Fishermen's Derby & Clinic: 5-8 p.m. on June 7 at Dike East.

Race the Red: 6 & 7:30 p.m. on June 14, Lindenwood to Dike East.

RiverArts Fishing Clinic: 5:30 - 8:30 p.m. on August 10 at Memorial Park.

2010 Membership - If you haven't done so already, it's time to renew your support of River Keepers!

2010 BENEFITS:

E-news Subscription, Tax-deductible membership, Voting privileges, Business discounts: Sheyenne Gardens Nursery, Critters Feed and Seed, The Garden Hut, Olson Awning and Canvas, Maple Leaf Resort. **Canoe Membership Level (\$50):** + 2 Ruby tour tickets.

Skiff Membership Level (\$100): + a 20% discount on Women's Weekend registration, 2 - 1 hour canoe or kayak rentals, invites to special RK events.

Jon Boat Level (\$250): + 20% discount on guided catfishing experience, a RK T-shirt.

York Boat Level (\$500): + a RK cap, 10% discount on S.S. Ruby charters, free guided Catfishing Experience.

Steamboat Membership Level (\$1000): + free S.S. Ruby charter, guided canoe tour of Red River.

SEND FORM BELOW TO:

River Keepers, 325 7th St. S. Ste 201, Fargo, ND 58103-1846

Name _____ Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

E-mail: _____

Membership Level: _____ Steamboat \$1000+ _____ York Boat \$500 _____ Jon Boat \$250

_____ Skiff \$100 _____ Canoe \$50 _____ Kayak \$30 _____ Student/Senior \$20

"Promoting a renewed vision for the Red River of the North."

Numbers

Members: 254

Volunteer Hours: Over 400 people contributed almost 1900 hours to River Keepers' projects and committees.

Presentations: Presentations were made to 25 groups, reaching over 1000 people.

Displays & Parades: We were at 9 community special events, reaching over 41,000 people.

Jan - Dec 09

Income	Jan - Dec 09
S.S. Ruby/Canoe & Kayak Rentals	\$12,558.35
Memberships	\$8,158.57
Appropriations	\$93,313.34
Grants	\$23,259.22
Sponsorships/Donations	\$32,951.51
Sublease	\$8,273.01
Misc. Project Income	\$35,790.89
Total Income	\$214,304.89

Expense

Office Expense	\$33,043.67
Project Expenses	\$58,497.22
Payroll Expenses	\$138,417.40
Misc. Expenses	\$314.53
Total Expense	\$230,272.82

Net Income/Loss **-\$15,967.93 ***

* Note: \$18,204 of grant work was completed in 2009 but received in early 2010.

Board of Directors

Tom Moberg, Pres.
Cindy Gray, V.P.
Dan Pullen, V.P.
Mitchell Martel, Sec./Treas.
Jan Uliferts Stewart, Past Pres.

Matt Ahonen
Karl Bakkum
Tom DeSutter
Mike Doyle
Dennis Flom
Charles Fritz
Jodi Heilman
Rick St. Germain
Rocky Swanson
Lauri Winterfeldt

Full Time Staff

Bob Backman,
Executive Director

Christine Laney,
Project Coordinator

Ruby Crew Pursers

Brain Magee
Helena Shanks

Ruby Crew First Mate

Donna Toso

Ruby Crew Captains

Bob Backman
Joseph Calvert
Mike Knorr
Dan Koper
Christine Laney
Jay Leitch
Mark Nerland
Gary Prosser
Chris Winning

Awards Received:

Lifetime Achievement Award in Education - from North Dakota Project WET (Water Education for Teachers)

Ruby Crew Operations Manager

Donna Toso