

## Awards Presented

### Mission Statement

To advocate sustainable use of the Red River.

### Vision Statement

All people value our Red River as a vital part of our community.

### Core Values

We believe **integrity** and **respect** are inherent in all our core values.

**Education:** We are dedicated to educating our community by increasing local watershed knowledge through active engagement.

**Stewardship:** We are dedicated to taking care of our River environment and community relationships.

**Leadership:** We are dedicated to developing and influencing current and future leaders.

### Full Time Staff

Christine Holland  
Executive Director

Kim Morris  
Project Coordinator

### Bookkeeper

Jeannie Baskerville

#### Good Neighbor Award



Greater Grand Forks Greenway



Boathouse on Red



#### Volunteer of the Year Award

Annie Wodarek



#### Distinguished Service Award

Jon Evert



#### Friend of the River Award

Vijay Gaba



## 2017 Profit & Loss

Memberships	\$10,602.81
Appropriations	\$131,000.00
Grants/Contracts	\$22,512.20
Sponsorships/Donations	\$43,734.71
Misc. & Project Income	\$12,462.33
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$220,312.05</b>
Office Expense	\$13,712.51
Project Expenses	\$45,185.55
Payroll Expenses*	\$121,794.66
Misc. Expenses	\$3,374.24
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>\$184,066.96</b>
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>\$36,245.09</b>

\* Full-time, part-time and interns

## Board of Directors

Bryan Leininger, President  
Christina Hargiss, V.P.  
Mat Hermanson, Sec/Treas.  
Barry Nelson, Past Pres.  
John Brummer  
Ginger Deitz  
Ken Demmons  
Jon Evert  
Rennae Gruchalla  
Courtney Laney  
Derek Ludwig  
Michael Maddox  
Bert McDonough  
Jesse Riley  
Jill Wilkey  
Lauri Winterfeldt



# 2017 River Keepers Highlights



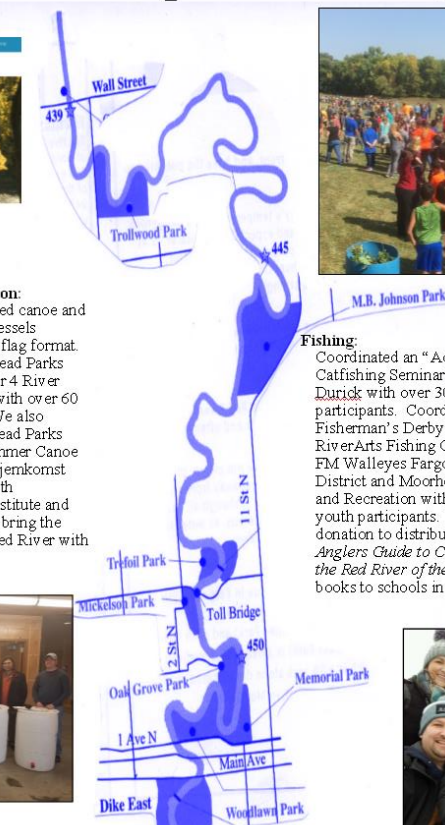
**Website:**  
Worked with an NDSU student to refresh our website utilizing user friendly software.

Annie Wodarek



**On-the-Water Recreation:**  
Organized Race the Red canoe and kayak races with 52 vessels participating in a new flag format. Partnered with Moorhead Parks and Recreation to offer 4 River Paddling Excursions with over 60 vessel participating. We also partnered with Moorhead Parks and Recreation on summer Canoe & Kayak Rentals at Hjemkomst Landing. Partnered with International Water Institute and Wilderness Inquiry to bring the CanoeMobile to the Red River with 60 participants.

**Best Management Practices:**  
Partnered with Cass County Soil Conservation District, Clay County Soil and Water Conservation District and Moorhead Community Education to increase the number of *Make Your Own Rain Barrel Workshops* and *Make Your Own Compost Tumbler Workshops* to 3 each with almost 50 participants.



**Fishing:**  
Coordinated an "Advanced Catfishing Seminar" with Brad Durick with over 30 participants. Coordinated Lil' Fisherman's Derby & Clinic and RiverArts Fishing Clinic with FM Walleyes Fargo Park District and Moorhead Parks and Recreation with over 150 youth participants. Received a donation to distribute *Relaxed Anglers Guide to Catfishing on the Red River of the North* to books to schools in the basin.



**Reforest the Red:**  
Along with the City of Fargo, Fargo Park District, and Cass County Soil Conservation District a 10-year Reforest the Red plan was drafted. Over 10,000 trees and shrubs were planted by almost 1000 volunteers contributing almost 2000 volunteer hours and some machine planting along the Red River in Fargo and Moorhead. Designed riparian interpretive signs to be installed along the Red with funding from the National Fish & Wildlife Foundation.



**Geocache:**  
Partnered with Moorhead Parks and Recreation and a volunteer to develop the RiverEd 4 geocache which debuted during Festival.

**Volunteers:**  
Over 1700 (up 600 over last year) volunteers contributed over 4900 hours to River Keepers' projects, events and committees. Participated in Creating Good to recruit volunteers with professional skills.

**Storm Drain Marking Program:**  
Collaborated with City of Fargo, City of Moorhead, and over 150 volunteers (which included 3 Eagle Scout projects) that contributed 425 volunteer hours to mark storm drains with a "Do Not Dump" message and distribute doorhangers.



**Board Involvement:**  
Board members recruited members, participated in Board and Committee meeting to ensure the organization is run effectively, and raised funds through our Catfish Cup golf scramble and Celebrate Our Red at the HoDo.



**Clean ups:**  
Partnered with the City of Moorhead to pick up 850 pounds of trash in the downtown section of the river weekly. Worked with an Eagle Scout to coordinate an on-the-water clean up plus River Keepers coordinated a fall downtown on-the-water clean up. Worked with City of Moorhead and Fargo Park District to coordinate bank clean ups with volunteers.



**Water Quality:**  
With the support from the North Dakota Department of Health, Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, and the assistance of volunteers, we took semi-monthly water quality samples at 4 locations during ice-free conditions.

**T-shirt to Tote Project:**  
Produced and distributed about 2000 totes made from T-shirts that were donated, cut, and sewn by over 225 volunteers providing over 450 volunteer hours.



**Youth Education:**  
Over 2100 4th grade students (97 classes from 33 schools) attended the Red River Water Festival over five days. Over 100 volunteers provided 600 volunteer hours. Partnered with the Fargo Project on a family Water Festival. Led a River Detective Camp with West Fargo Parks. Led activities at community events such as Midwest Kidfest, Police Community Picnic Party for the Planet. About 200 boy scouts attended a day camp in which River Keepers led a water cycle activity.





# Mark Your Calendars!

**River Keepers Annual Meeting:** 5:30-7:00 p.m. on April 23 in the downtown Fargo Public Library. Awards presented and new board members elected. Hear from the new president of Downtown Moorhead Inc. Free event.

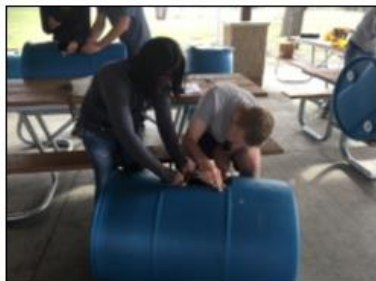


**Make Your Own Rain Barrel Workshops:** 6-8 p.m. on April 24 at a Moorhead Park; May 9 at a Fargo Park, May 21 at a West Fargo Park. Learn how rain barrels reduce water pollution

by reducing storm water runoff, which can contain pollutants such as sediment, oil, grease, bacteria and chemicals. In addition, build and bring home a rain barrel made from a plastic 55-gallon barrel. Taught with Cass County Soil Conservation District and Clay County Soil and Water Conservation District. Register with Moorhead Community Education at <https://bit.ly/2INCzVy> or call 218-284-3400.

## Make Your Own Compost Tumbler Workshops:

6-8 p.m. on May 1 at a Moorhead Park, May 16 at a Fargo Park, May 31 at a West Fargo Park. Learn how compost has the ability to regenerate poor soils, reduce erosion and help prevent pollution in our water ways. We will cover the basics of composting. In addition, build and bring home a compost tumbler made from a plastic 55-gallon barrel. Taught with Cass Soil Conservation District and Clay County Soil and Water Conservation District. Register with Moorhead Community Education at <https://bit.ly/2INCzVy> or call 218-284-3400.



**Arbor Day Celebration:** 9:30 a.m. on May 18 at Orchard Glen. Ceremony and tree planting. Free.



Annie Wodarek

**Canoe and Kayak Rentals:** May 29 -August 28. \$10.00/hour/vessel. Tuesdays 6:00-8:00 p.m., Saturdays 1:00-6:00 p.m., Sundays 1:00-6:00 p.m.. First come, first serve basis. For use at the Hjemkomst Landing only. Partnered with Moorhead Parks and Recreation.



**Lil' Fisherman's Clinic and Derby:** 5:30-8:00 p.m. on June 4 at Dike East in Fargo. Learn the basics of fishing at a clinic from 5-6 p.m., then try land a big one at the derby. Coordinated with FM Walleyes and Fargo Park District. Free event.

**Reforest the Red in Moorhead:** 1-4 p.m. on June 8 at Horn Park. Help Reforest the Red by planting trees and shrubs in the riparian area. Coordinated with City of Moorhead. Free event.

## Race the Red Canoe and Kayak Races:

6:30 p.m. on June 11 at Dike East. All skill levels welcome. Distances are 1.5, 3.5, or 6 miles. Participants will paddle up river to a designated turnaround point, grab a prize, and return down river to the finish. Early Bird fee is \$15/person if pre-registered. Entry fee is \$25 after 5:00 p.m. on June 7th. Canoe/kayak rentals available for \$15. Register online at: <https://bit.ly/2qnNoWG>



Annie Wodarek

Stay connected with River Keepers, learn about volunteer opportunities and community events on our webpage at [www.riverkeepers.org](http://www.riverkeepers.org) or on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/RiverKeepersFM](http://www.facebook.com/RiverKeepersFM) or contact us at [kimbely@riverkeepers.org](mailto:kimbely@riverkeepers.org) or 701.235.2895.



# Mark Your Calendars!



**River Paddling Excursions:** All skill levels welcome. Begin at 6 p.m. \$15/person for canoe/kayak rental; \$10/person, if have own vessel.

Register with Moorhead Parks and Recreation at [www.moorheadparks.com](http://www.moorheadparks.com) or call 218-299-5340.

- \* May 16 - Red River Trivia, hosted by River Keepers
- \* June 20 - Aviary Expedition, hosted by Audubon of Fargo-Moorhead.
- \* July 18 - History of the Red River, hosted by Historical and Cultural Society of Clay County.
- \* August 15 - Animals and Habitats, hosted by Nicole Lee.

## River Keepers' Catfish Cup Golf Scramble:

12:30 p.m. on June 18 at Edgewood.

A fun event for golfers of all skill levels. Pre-

registration required. Register online at:

<https://bit.ly/2HsYJgl>



Annie Wodarek

## RiverArts Fishing Clinic:

5:30-8:00 p.m. on July 24 at Memorial Park in Moorhead. Youth and their families are invited to learn the basics of fishing and try land the big one! Partners include FM Walleyes and Moorhead Parks and Recreation. Free event.



Annie Wodarek

**River Heros Camp:** 1:30 - 3:30 p.m. on August 8 at North Elmwood Park in West Fargo. Learn about local rivers and the trees and animals that call them home. Each participant will earn their own hero cape after completing the various nature activities and a scavenger hunt. Pre-registration required for youth ages 7-12 through West Fargo Park District.

## On-the-Water Cleanup:

5:30 p.m. on September 10. Experienced paddlers only. Must be willing to get wet and dirty. Limited number of vessels so sign up early.



**Reforest the Red in Fargo:** noon - 7:30 p.m. on September 12. Help Reforest the Red by planting 9000 trees and shrubs! Strategically planting native trees and shrubs along the Red River creates a buffer, maintains river bank stability, encourages growth of native plants, improves water quality (Fargo-Moorhead's drinking water source), and provides habitat for wildlife. Educational youth activities. Hot dogs and water provided while supplies last. Partners include City of Fargo, Fargo Park District and Cass County Soil Conservation District. Free event.

## Red River Water Festival:

September 18-21, 24 at the Hjemkomst Center. Pre-registration required for 4th grade classes.



**Celebrate Our Red:** 6-8p.m. on October 14 at the HoDo. Join River Keepers for some fun, gourmet hors d'oeuvres, a silent auction, and door prizes. Tickets must be purchased and can be bought online at: <https://bit.ly/2qrvdQJ>

Stay connected with River Keepers, learn about volunteer opportunities and community events on our webpage at [www.riverkeepers.org](http://www.riverkeepers.org) or on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/RiverKeepersFM](http://www.facebook.com/RiverKeepersFM) or contact us at [kimbely@riverkeepers.org](mailto:kimbely@riverkeepers.org) or 701.235.2895.



# 2017 Members, Partners, Sponsors, Contributors, and Grantors

## Sustaining Sponsors

Buffalo-Red River Watershed  
District  
Southeast Cass Water Resource  
District

## Government Members

Fargo Park District  
City of Moorhead  
City of Fargo  
Clay County  
  
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Anheuser Busch InBev  
Bell Bank  
Beverage Wholesalers, Inc.  
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Cass County Soil Conservation  
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Common Ground North Dakota  
Community Options  
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# Join us! Become a Member!

Online membership donations can be made in our store  
at [www.riverkeepers.org](http://www.riverkeepers.org).

Or mail this form with a check to:  
1120 28th Ave. N., Ste. B, Fargo, ND 58102

## Membership Levels (benefits can be found online):

Junior River Keeper \$5 \_\_\_ Student/Senior \$20 \_\_\_  
Kayak \$30 \_\_\_ Canoe \$50 \_\_\_ Skiff \$100 \_\_\_  
Jon Boat \$250 \_\_\_ York Boat \$500 \_\_\_  
Steamboat \$1000+ \_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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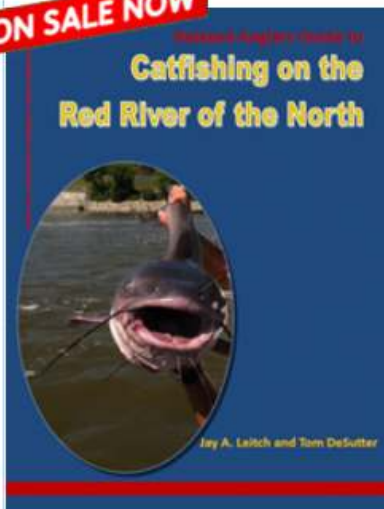
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1120 28th Ave. N., Ste. B  
Fargo, ND 58102

**ON SALE NOW**



Buy your copy for only \$10 (regular price is \$18.95). Written to encourage anglers to take advantage of the somewhat overlooked, but otherwise tremendous catfishing on the Red River of the North; this is a resource for catfish anglers with a non-technical audience in mind. Profits support River Keepers educational programming.

Books can be purchased online at [www.riverkeepers.org](http://www.riverkeepers.org) or call River Keepers office at 701.235.2895.

## Legacy Endowment Fund

Did you know there is a way you can make an even bigger, more lasting difference? With significant tax savings, you can give more and give forever. Through the North Dakota Charitable Income Tax Credit, you can claim a credit of 40% on a minimum donation of \$5,000 to a qualified endowment; River Keepers has such an endowment. If you'd like to learn more about the 40% tax credit and how you can turn this year's giving into a forever gift, please contact Christine Holland at 701.235.2895 or [Christine@riverkeepers.org](mailto:Christine@riverkeepers.org).