

### Mission Statement

To advocate for 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 leader

### Full Time Staff

Christine Holland  
Executive Director

Kim Morris  
Project Coordinator

### Special Projects Staff

Abbie Sherva, PaY Intern

### Volunteers

Over 2150 volunteers contributed over 4800 hours to our projects, events and committees.

### Awards Presented



### Board of Directors

Bryan Leininger, President  
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### 2018 Statement of Activities

Memberships	\$11,236.57
Appropriations	\$131,000.00
Grants/Contracts	\$41,532.61
Sponsorships/Donations	\$56,667.65
Misc. & Project Income	\$9,924.94
Donated goods and professional services	\$18,562.49
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$268,924.26</b>
Office Expense	\$16,185.57
Project Expenses	\$39,228.49
Payroll Expenses *	\$145,395.10
Misc. Expenses	\$333.54
Inkind expense	\$17,756.25
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>\$218,898.95</b>
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>\$50,025.31</b>

\* Full-time and interns

**Goal: Increase public awareness of the Red River, its uses, and water related issues by disseminating accurate information and engaging in educational activities.**

**Increase public awareness:**

- Absolute Marketing Group choose to work with River Keepers to give us a refreshed logo; a new slogan: Learn, Sustain, and Enjoy; a brand etiquette guide; and an Instagram account.
- Projects and events were covered by media outlets over 30 times. Displayed at almost 20 events and presented to over 15 groups.
- A volunteer created a photo booth prop with people enjoying and helping to sustain the Red River to use at events.



**Provide educational opportunities:**

- Over 2100 4th grade students (97 classes from 32 schools) attended the Red River Water Festival over five days.



- Worked with the Historical and Cultural Society of Clay County to add a local interactive component to the We Are Water exhibit.
- Led activities at community events such as Midwest Kidfest, Police Community Picnic, Moorhead Summer Parks Program, Party for the Planet, and River Hero Camp.
- Partnered with the Red River Zoo and Giacaches to create our 4th geocache.

**Offer guided tours:**

- Partnered with Moorhead Parks and Recreation to offer 4 Paddling Excursions with over 100 participants.

**Goal: Maintain and increase appropriate recreational use of the Red River.**

**Serve as a source of information about recreation:**

- Partnered with FM Walleyes Unlimited to provide 2 youth fishing clinics with 120 participants.
- Coordinated Race the Red with 72 vessels registered! Held first Best Decorated Contest during the Race.



- Hosted Efficiency in Catfishing Seminar with Brad Durick with 18 participants.

**Provide canoe and kayak rental:**

- Partnered with Moorhead Parks and Recreation to provide canoe and kayak rentals at Hjemkomst Landing with almost 700 renters.

# Highlights

**Goal: Advocate land use, river use, and environmental practices that contribute to a sustainable, safe, and economically beneficial river ecosystem.**

**Encourage best management practices:**

- Partnered with Cass County Soil Conservation District, Clay County Soil and Water Conservation District and Moorhead Community Education to produce 2 Make Your Own Rain Barrel Workshops and 3 Make Your Own Compost Tumbler Workshops and a new Pollinator Habitat Workshop.
- Along with the City of Fargo, Fargo Park District, Cass County Soil Conservation District, City of Moorhead and Clay County Soil & Water Conservation District, over 1000 volunteers planted trees and shrubs to Reforest the Red during 3 events.



- Received Clay County Soil & Water Conservation District's Outstanding Conservationist Award.



**Reduce threats to Red River's water quality:**

- Produced and distributed hundreds of totes from T-shirts that were donated, cut, and sewn by over 300 volunteers in our T-shirt to Tote project.
- The City of West Fargo joined the City of Fargo and the City of Moorhead as a partner in our Storm Drain

Marking Program. Almost 300 volunteers contributed 570 volunteer hours to mark storm drains with a "Do Not Dump" message and distributed doorhangers.

- Partnered with the Moorhead Parks and Recreation and Fargo Park District to work with almost 300 volunteers to pick up trash along the Red River.



**Conduct water quality monitoring:**

- With the support of the North Dakota Department of Health, Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, and the assistance of volunteers, we took semi-monthly water quality samples during ice-free conditions.



**Goal: Provide financial sustainability of River Keepers by securing adequate funding to maintain goals listed above.**

**Execute fundraising:**

- Celebrate Our Red at the HoDo and the Catfish Cup Golf Scramble were successful fundraisers led by the Board of Directors.

# Mark Your

## River Keepers Annual Meeting:

5:30-7:00 p.m. on April 2 in the downtown Fargo Public Library. Awards presented, new board members elected, bylaw updates. Gerald Van Amburg, retired ecologist, will present "Living in the Anthropocene". Free event.

## Register to Raise One Up:

5-8 p.m. at Fargo Brewing Company Tap Room. Register for one of River Keepers paid events or become a new member to receive one free pint from Fargo Brewing Company and one River Keepers dry bag (while supplies last). In addition, get your name in a drawing for River Keepers swag once for every event registration or new membership.



## Make Your Own Compost Tumbler Workshops:

6-8 p.m. on April 29 at a Moorhead Park, May 14 at a Fargo Park. 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 County Soil Conservation District and Clay County Soil and Water Conservation District. Register with Moorhead Community Education.

## Make Your Own Rain Barrel Workshops:

6-8 p.m. on May 7 at a Moorhead Park; June 13 at a West Fargo Park, July 11 at a Fargo Park. 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.

## Arbor Day Celebration:

9:30 a.m. on May 17 at Eagle Pointe 2 Park. Ceremony and tree planting. Free. Hosted with City of Fargo, Fargo Park District and Cass County Soil Conservation District.

## Canoe and Kayak Rentals:

May 28 -August 27. \$10.00/hour, per vessel. Tuesdays 6:00-8:00 p.m., Saturdays and Sundays 1:00-6:00 p.m. First come, first serve basis. For use at the Hjemkomst Landing only. Partners with Moorhead Parks and Recreation.



## Lil' Fisherman's Clinic and Derby:

5:30-8:00 p.m. on June 3 at Dike East in Fargo. Learn the basics of fishing at a clinic from 5:30-6:30 pm., then try land a big one at the derby. Free event. Coordinated with FM Walleyes Unlimited.

Stay connected with River Keepers, learn about volunteer opportunities or on Facebook at [facebook.com/RiverKeepersFM](https://facebook.com/RiverKeepersFM) or e

# Calendars!

## **Moorhead Reforest the Red:**

1-4:30 p.m. on June 7 at River Oaks Park. Help Reforest the Red by planting trees and shrubs in the riparian area. Free event. Coordinated with City of Moorhead and Clay County Soil & Water Conservation District.

## **Race the Red Canoe and Kayak Races:**

6:30 p.m. on June 10 at Dike East. All skill levels welcome. Distances are 1.5, 3.5, or 6 miles. Registration required.

## **River Paddling Excursions:**

All skill levels welcome. Arrive at 5:30 p.m. Begin at 6 p.m. \$15/person for canoe/kayak rental; \$10/person, if providing own vessel. Registration required with Moorhead Parks and Recreation. Coordinated with Moorhead Parks and Recreation.

\* May 15 - History of the Red, led by Mark Peihl, Historical and Cultural Society of Clay County.

\* June 19 - Animals and Habitats, led by Nicole Lee, Red River Zoo.

\* July 17 - History of the Red River, led by Mark Peihl, Historical and Cultural Society of Clay County.

\* August 21 - Aviary Expedition, led by Matt Mecklenburg, Fargo-Moorhead Audubon.

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## **River Keepers' Catfish Cup Golf Scramble:**

12:30 p.m. on June 17 at Edgewood. A fun event for golfers of all skill levels. Pre-registration required.

## **RiverArts Fishing Clinic:**

5:30-8:00 p.m. on July 23 at Memorial Park in Moorhead. Youth and their families are invited to learn the basics of fishing and try land the big one! Free event. Coordinated with FM Walleyes Unlimited and Moorhead Parks and Recreation.

## **Storm Drain Marking Program:**

6-7:30 p.m. on August 1 at Wild Terra. Volunteer to mark storm drains at this event and get a free pint that night. Hosted with Wild Terra.



## **On-the-Water Cleanup:**

5:30 p.m. on September 9. Experienced paddlers only. Must be willing to get wet and dirty. Free event but must be signed up.

## **Fargo Reforest the Red:**

Noon - 7:00 p.m on September 11 at Trollwood Park. Volunteer to plant trees and shrubs! Educational youth activities. Hot dogs and water while supplies last. Hosting partners include City of Fargo, Fargo Park District and Cass County Soil Conservation District. Free event.

## **Red River Water Festival:**

September 17-20, 23 at Hjemkomst Center. Volunteers needed. Pre-registration required for 4th grade classes.

## **Celebrate Our Red:**

6-8 p.m. on October 13 at the HoDo. Fun, gourmet hors d'oeuvres, a silent auction, and door prizes. Tickets must be purchased.

opportunities, events and projects on our webpage at [riverkeepers.org](http://riverkeepers.org)  
email [kimberly@riverkeepers.org](mailto:kimberly@riverkeepers.org) or call 701.235.2895.

# 2018 Members, Partners, Sponsors

## Sustaining Sponsors

Buffalo-Red River Watershed District  
 Southeast Cass Water Resource District

## Government Members

Fargo Park District  
 City of Moorhead  
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We have a new recurring membership option to make it easier to be a member!

Join online at [riverkeepers.org/membership/](http://riverkeepers.org/membership/)

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 \_\_\_
- Steward \$30 \_\_\_ Advocate \$60 (or \$5/month) \_\_\_
- Builder \$120 (or \$10/month) \_\_\_
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1120 28th Ave. N., Ste. B  
Fargo, ND 58102

**ON SALE NOW**

T-shirts, stickers and mini paddles with River Keepers old logo are on sale now. Shop online at:

[riverkeepers.org/shop/](http://riverkeepers.org/shop/)



## 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).