

THE CREEK DIGEST



CANINES FOR CLEAN WATER



Did you know there are approximately 4028 dog-owning households with about 6848 dogs in Washington County? Dogs are estimated to leave about .33 pounds of waste each day. That number adds to about **485,172 pounds** or 243 tons of dog waste per year!

On September 20th, **Mrs. Jungkurst's 2nd Grade Class** at Eastern Elementary learned about how to keep their pet healthy and how to help their pet keep clean water in their community. With the number of pets continuously rising in the home, it is important to remember some simple tasks that everyone can help out with each day. Some of these tasks include: provide a collar for your pet, keep your pet on a leash (especially in public areas), make sure your pet has fresh food and water every day, bring a biodegradable doggy bag (or reuse a plastic bag) to pick up dog waste and throw it in the trash can, and share these facts with family and friends!

Since pet waste contains many harmful types of bacteria and parasites, it is important that we dispose of this properly so it does not get washed into our ditches, lakes, streams, creeks or ponds. This can be very harmful to people and other animals who use these waters for recreation or living environment.

One small step can make a large impact on our water quality. Let's pledge to keep the water clean in our community! For more information on Canines for Clean Water, or to have a lesson in the elementary classroom, contact Whitney Sauerheber, MCBR Watershed Coordinator, at whitney.sauerheber@in.usda.gov.



Upcoming Events:

Oct. 4 Area Soils FFA Contest in Washington County.

Oct. 10 Columbus Day—Office Closed.

Oct. 12 IN Watershed Leadership Academy Webinar from 12-1PM.

Oct. 18 White River RC&D Education Committee Meeting 10AM at Paoli Service Center.

Oct. 21 Forest Field Day in Martin Co. - 10294 Anderson Rd., Shoals, IN 47432, 2PM.

Nov. 7 SWCD Mtg. at Salem Service Center.

Nov. 11 Veteran's Day

Nov. 15 America Recycles Day!

Nov. 24 Happy Thanksgiving!

Mark Your Calendars!



For More Information
contact Whitney Sauerheber, Mill Creek-Blue River Watershed Coordinator at:
whitney.sauerheber@in.usda.gov or
(812) 883-3006 ext. 125

America Recycles Day!

Does your trash can overflow with bags before trash pick-up each week? Do you have boxes of clothes or other items in the closet that no one has seen in years? Does your family or work sort trash items to be recycled? These are just a couple of questions to jump-start our recycling initiative.

The 4-R's are used to help explore and become an important part of recycling. These include **Reduce, Reuse, Recycle and Rebuy**. It is important to remember that each person, big or small, plays an important role when acting on recycling. No matter what role one takes part in, that one person makes a big difference!

Below are some recycling facts from The Project WET Foundation:

- 🌐 **In the US, enough aluminum is thrown away every month to rebuild the entire fleet of commercial airplanes;**
- 🌐 **In America, the recycling rate is about 33%, even though about 80% of what we throw away is recyclable;**
- 🌐 **In the US, about 286 million people (92%) have access to curbside or drop-off recycling programs;**
- 🌐 **Recycled paper uses 50% less water and creates 74% less air pollution than making paper with new materials;**
- 🌐 **Once an aluminum can is recycled, it is back on the grocery shelf as another can in 60 days; and**
- 🌐 **Glass never wears out – it can be recycled over and over again.**

Are you interested to start recycling at home or work? Contact the Washington County Solid Waste for more information at 883-3039 or visit <http://www.washingtoncounty.in.gov/Resident/recycling.html>.

For more information about MCBR Watershed Project or having a recycling education program for the elementary classroom, contact Whitney Sauerheber at whitney.sauerheber@in.usda.gov.

LET'S LOOK FOR WASYS TO TAKE ACTION!

Look for ways...



to TAKE ACTION!

Mill Creek-Blue River Watershed Project

Water Wise(r)



It is important to conserve water all-year long. The website, 100 Ways to Conserve Water at <http://www.wateruseitwisely.com/100-ways-to- conserve/index.php>, shares 100 ways we can conserve water at home. Using one, a couple or all of these tips can help us and our families understand the importance of conserving water. Below are the top 10 tips:

1. There are number of ways to conserve water, but they all start with YOU!

2. When washing dishes by hand, don't let the water run while rinsing. fill one sink with wash water and the other with rinse water.

3. Some refrigerators, air conditioners and ice-makers are cooled with wasted flows of water. Consider upgrading with air-cooled appliances for significant water savings.

4. ADJUST SPRINKLERS SO ONLY YOUR LAWN IS WATERED AND NOT YOUR HOUSE, SIDEWALK OR STREET.

5. Run your clothes washer and dishwasher only when they are full. You can save up to 1,000 gallons a month.

6. Choose shrubs and groundcovers instead of turf for hard-to-water areas such as steep slopes and isolated strips.

7. Install covers on pools and spas and check for leaks around your pumps.

8. Use the garbage disposal sparingly. Compost vegetable food waste instead and save gallons every time.

9. Plant in the fall when conditions are cooler and rainfall is more plentiful.

10. For cold drinks keep a pitcher of water in the refrigerator instead of running the tap. This way, every drop goes down you and not the drain.



SALEM, IN 47167
 801 ANSON STREET
 MCBR WATERSHED PROJECT



MCBR Watershed Vision Statement:

“A healthy watershed that is sustainable for all Washington County residents.”



MCBR Watershed Mission Statement:

“To protect the Mill Creek-Blue River Watershed through education, research, and identification of best management practices.”

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**Find all these Easy Ways
 to Save Water**

- HOSE NOZZLE
- SHORT SHOWERS
- BROOM
- FIX LEAKS
- NATIVE PLANTS
- COLLECT RAIN
- TIMER
- WATER DEEPLY
- ADJUST SPRINKLERS
- USE MULCH
- XERISCAPE