

Everyone lives in a watershed!



For More Information Contact
Mississippi Wildlife Federation
855 South Pear Orchard Road
Suite 500
Ridgeland, MS 39157
Phone: 601-206-5703
Fax: 601-206-5705
Email: dveeder@mswf.org

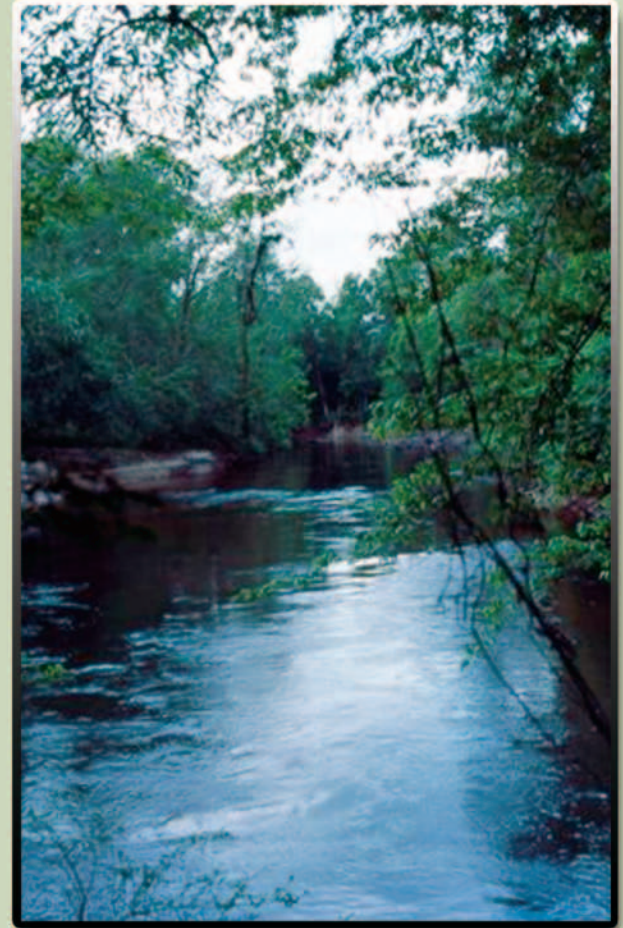
Mississippi's Partnership of Watershed Stewards



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What is Adopt-A-Stream?

Adopt-A-Stream is a program that promotes environmental stewardship through training workshops, outdoor field activities and by introducing participants to watershed action projects.

A watershed is an area of land that drains to a stream, river, ocean or other body of water.

One and two-day Adopt-A-Stream workshops inform participants about watershed topics such as stream health, land-use, stream ecology, aquatic life and water chemistry.

Who Should Participate?

Educators, land managers, advocacy groups, Scout troop leaders, Envirothon Team Advisors, environmental educators, concerned citizens and others.

Where?

Workshops are held statewide.

Why?

Mississippi is fortunate to have abundant water resources. Streams, lakes and marshes provide homes for aquatic life and help maintain the sensitive balance of nature. Mississippi's waters are excellent resources for fishing, swimming, and canoeing. Rivers are a vital source for drinking water, agriculture and industry. The quality of that water affects all of these uses. Everyone needs to play his part in protecting these resources for the future.

Getting Started

You can get involved with Adopt-A-Stream by simply contacting the Mississippi Wildlife Federation and expressing an interest in the program and becoming a **Stream Steward!**



Storm Drain Marking

Programs

The one-day program places emphasis on your particular watershed and its needs. A watershed characterization tool, using the latest in Geographic Information Technology, will examine the conditions of the watershed where you live. In addition, the workshop will:

- Increase awareness of nonpoint source pollution
- Introduce basic water chemistry and macroinvertebrate biology
- Introduce Scenic Streams in Mississippi
- Introduce Possible actions that can be taken to help your watershed, such as:
 - Storm Drain Marking
 - Stream Cleanups
 - Participation in World Water Monitoring Day (WWMD)
 - Advocacy, and More

The two-day program provides an in-depth study of watersheds as well as hands-on training in chemical and biological parameters important to a healthy stream. CEU credits are available for teachers.

The Mississippi Adopt-A-Stream Program originated in 1993. Since that time, hundreds of trained stream stewards are making a difference in their watershed.