

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

For More Information Contact
Mississippi Wildlife Federation
517 Cobblestone Court, Suite 2
Madison, MS 39110
Phone: 601-605-1790
Fax: 601-605-1794
Email: dveeder@mswf.org
www.mswildlife.org/AAS
Facebook: Adopt-A-Stream MS

Mississippi's Partnership of
Watershed Stewards

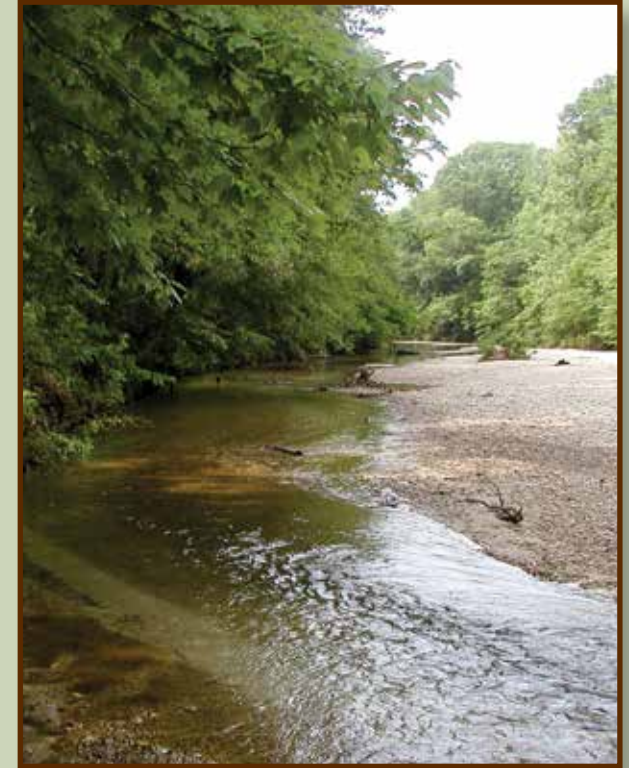


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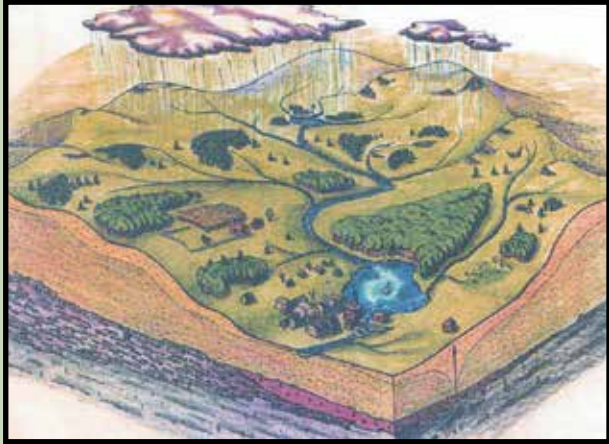


It Begins At Home...

What is Adopt-A-Stream?

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

Everyone lives in a watershed!



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

One day **Adopt-A-Stream** workshops as well as **Youth Educational programs** inform participants about watershed topics such as stream health, land-use, stream ecology, aquatic life and water chemistry. They also introduce you to possible actions that can be taken to help your local watersheds.

Who Should Participate?

Teachers, land managers, advocacy groups, Scout troops and troop leaders, Envirothon teams and advisors, environmental educators, students, 4-H groups and citizens concerned about water quality in their area.

Where?

Workshops and youth educational programs are held statewide. Adopt-A-Stream is also available to participate in **Environmental events/Conservation Field Days**. Contact the Adopt-A-Stream Coordinator to see availability.

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 their 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.

Adopt-A-Stream Programs

One-day workshops place emphasis on your local watershed and its needs. The program provides a **basic study** of your watershed as well as hands-on training in chemical and biological parameters important to a healthy stream.

In addition the workshop will:

- Increase awareness of nonpoint source pollution.
- Introduce surveying and mapping of watersheds.
- Increase watershed protection awareness and possible actions that can be taken to help your watershed.

CEU credits for teachers are available through the workshop.



Aquatic Ecology or Envirothon programs for youth can be tailored to your classroom or group needs. They can contain any of the workshop curriculums including field studies. The **Envirothon** program will also help increase knowledge regarding the Envirothon Aquatic Ecology key points.

Demonstration of the **watershed and/or aquifer models** is a great tool to present nonpoint source pollution.

It Begins at Home is a new program with ideas about projects such as:

- Storm Drain Marking
- Stream Clean-ups
- Recycling
- Clean Water Advocacy and more

Adopt-A-Stream has many opportunities for **Community Service** for adults and youth. Community service can involve monitoring a stream's health, helping with storm drain marking projects to stream clean-ups. Contact the Adopt-A-Stream Coordinator if you are interested.

These programs are provided by AAS at no cost to you.