

The Stream Team

September 2021 Newsletter



Joe Gleason
Volunteer Extraordinaire

See you this
Saturday, September 11
at 9:00 a.m.!

Webster's Dictionary defines riparian as "relating to or living or located on the bank of a natural watercourse."

Riparian bands have evolved around waterways for many reasons:

- as critical habitat for wildlife,
- as a buffers to help filter pollutants such as nutrients and sediment,
- to maintain stable stream channel geomorphology by reducing stream bank erosion, and
- to provid shade that lowers water temperature which supports higher dissolved oxygen levels important to maintain healthy fisheries (see *Question of the Month*).

Sadly, urban development, improper grazing practices and less than ideal timber harvesting practices can all negatively affect the health of the riparian areas and, thus, the waterways themselves.

All waterways... from gulches to gullies, from brooks to billabongs, from creeks to confluents, from rivers to rillets, from aquifers to artesian basins, even the west branch of the north fork of the south arm of whatever stream... are part of the whole system providing life sustaining nourishment to the entire planet.

Think about joining us as we continue to experience, learn and understand the vital connections between our actions and a healthy system. And, if by chance, you run into a billabong...well, so much the better!



Riparian Area – Browns Hole 2021

Question of the Month

What is DO?

DO stands for Dissolved Oxygen. Like terrestrial animals, fish and other aquatic organisms need oxygen to live. As water moves past their gills (or other breathing apparatus), microscopic bubbles of oxygen gas in the water, called dissolved oxygen (DO), are transferred from the water to their blood. Like any other gas diffusion process, the transfer is efficient only above certain concentrations. In other words, oxygen can be present in the water, but at too low a concentration to sustain aquatic life. Oxygen also is needed by virtually all algae and all macrophytes, and for many chemical reactions that are important to creek functioning.

Got a question? E-mail to: timmariehamill@gmail.com



Boomer and Gen Z Stream Monitoring at Bear Hole

Join Us For The Next 2021 Monitoring Event!

Looking forward to seeing you for our next monitoring event

Saturday, September 11

from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon

at the Five Mile Picnic Area Parking Lot (Centennial Way).

If you can come, please RSVP by calling 530-342-6620 or by e-mailing Timmarie at: timmariehamill@gmail.com.

Our monitoring events always meet at 9:00 a.m. at the Five Mile Picnic Area Parking Lot (Centennial Way). From there, we travel to various sites and complete our monitoring at approximately 12:00 noon.

Don't be shy! Rest assured – you'll be teamed up with an experienced Stream Team Leader to show you "the ropes!"

Just bring typical personal items for a 3-hour outing on the creek (water, snack, sunscreen, hat, water shoes, etc...).

The remaining 2021 monitoring event is:

- October 9