



Open Space STL



2023 Annual Report



Confluence Trash Bash is an annual clean-up of the Missouri and Mississippi watersheds, getting its name from the confluence of the Missouri and Mississippi Rivers. Open Space STL is Missouri Stream Team #5, and we see this as an extension of our other annual watershed cleanup, Operation Clean Stream. Open Space STL hosts Confluence Trash Bash alongside our partners, EarthWays Center, Great Rivers Greenway, MSD Project Clear, Missouri Stream Teams, and St. Louis County Parks. We are happy to report another successful clean-up in 2023, thanks to everyone who participated in this year's Confluence Trash Bash!

Founded in 1965, Open Space STL works independently and collaboratively to conserve and sustain land, water, and other natural resources throughout the St. Louis region.

For Questions about sponsoring the Confluence Trash Bash or how to participate Contact Us!



p. 314-835-9225
e. info@openspacestl.org
a. P.O. Box 220011,
St. Louis, MO 63122
www.openspacestl.org



#CONFLUENCETRASHBASH 2023 SNAPSHOTS

Photos submitted by our volunteers at Confluence
Trash Bash

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2023 PROGRAM BREAKDOWN



CONFLUENCE TRASH BASH HIGHLIGHTS



682 Overall
Volunteers



10.4 Tons of
Trash Collected



123 Tires
Collected



20 Cleanup
Sites

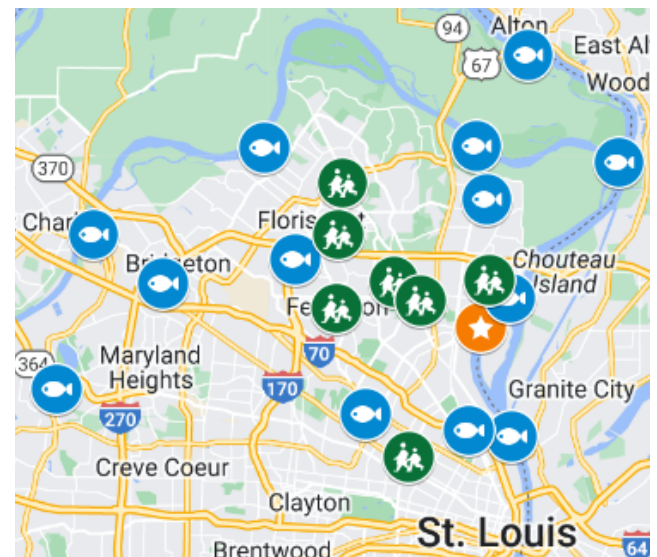


11 Municipal
Partners

CLEANUP LOCATIONS

2023 Cleanup Locations:

- Ellis Island at Riverlands Migratory Bird Sanctuary
- Mallard Lake at Creve Coeur Lake Memorial Park
- Jones Confluence State Park
- Spanish Lake County Park
- Sunset Park
- North Riverfront Park
- Cowmire Creek at Bridgeton Govt Center
- Mary Meechum Freedom Crossing
- O'Fallon Park
- The Mural Mile at LKS Blvd
- Greenwood Cemetery
- Riverwoods Park and Trail
- Musick Park



Map Key

Cleanup Location  School Cleanup  Watershed Festival 

This year's Confluence Trash Bash saw 13 guided cleanup sites and 7 school cleanups. On Saturday, April 8th, 288 volunteers came out to cleanup our watersheds! School cleanups brought the total volunteer number to 682. Open Space STL provided volunteers with gloves, trash & recycling bags, and coordinated other resources for cleanup efforts. The event is always free, and those who signed up early received a free t-shirt. Every site was guided by a Site Leader who directed cleanup efforts. Thank you to our wonderful volunteers and Site Leaders!

2023 SCHOOL CLEANUPS

SCHOOL CLEANUP HIGHLIGHTS



School cleanups made up a huge portion of the volunteer effort this year, with 394 kids and teachers from 7 schools coming out to clean up their schools and help the watershed! Thanks to the outreach initiatives of the EarthWays Center, this portion of the event was a huge success. Open Space STL worked directly with teachers to estimate how many supplies they needed, provide guidance, and deliver the supplies to their doorstep.

SNAPSHOTS



PARTICIPATING SCHOOLS 2023

- Glasgow Elementary
- The College School
- Central Primary School
- Robinwood Elementary
- Cross Keys Middle School
- Meadows Elementary
- Hawthorne Leadership School for Girls

PICNIC AND PASSPORT TO CLEAN WATER

After a successful morning of cleaning our watersheds, volunteers were provided with a picnic and educational event known as Passport to Clean Water. P2CW is a celebration of the watershed and volunteers' commitment to clean water. An estimated 80+ volunteers joined us at North Riverfront Park after the morning's cleanups for the picnic. Festivities included educational activities for kids provided by 8 organizations, trash contests for most unique and valuable trash, and free food!

In participating in Passport to Clean Water, kids learned how to test water quality, the importance of keeping trash out of our waterways, how to tie a fly tie, played games, and more!



THANK YOU PASSPORT TO CLEAN WATER EDUCATORS



MUNICIPAL PARTNERS

Confluence Trash Bash requires a lot of collaboration with municipal partners and, in 2023, a total of 11 municipalities throughout St. Louis County supported volunteer efforts to make the cleanup a success. They participated by providing services like waste hauling, waste management, event promotion, site supervision, and financial support. Thank you to our supporting municipal partners in addition to St. Louis County and the city of St. Louis for your support!



VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

Thank you to the 288 volunteers and 394 school participants who made this event a success. These volunteers came together from public, private, and nonprofit organizations, schools, families, and neighborhood organizations to protect public health and support our mission of clean water.



VOLUNTEER FEEDBACK

In volunteer survey responses, 97.5% of volunteers rated the event "Awesome" or "Good". Read more survey feedback below.



"The opportunity to see a natural area new to me and meet others willing to volunteer a small amount time to improve the habitat made for an amazing experience"

MY FAVORITE THING ABOUT VOLUNTEERING AT CONFLUENCE TRASH BASH WAS...



"The satisfaction of knowing that I was a part of an experience that improved the look of our Riverfront"

"Being able to contribute, seeing so many others doing the right thing and helping out, booths and food afterwards"

"Being able to help take care of precious resources for wildlife and planet. To be in community to do this is extra special"

THANKS TO CONFLUENCE TRASH BASH PARTNERS AND DONORS



THANK YOU 2023 CONFLUENCE TRASH BASH SUSTAINING SPONSORS

