

BRPC Bulletin

Serving Lincoln, Montgomery & Warren Counties in East-Central Missouri

BRPC Bulletin

March/April 2017

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Discussing the Lower Missouri River Watershed



Missouri is fortunate to have an abundance of water resources. *Our Missouri Waters* is an initiative begun by the Missouri Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to develop understanding of watershed-wide concerns and uses, document local issues, and develop a line of communication among all stakeholders. There are 66 watersheds across the state and all will be evaluated.

East-West Gateway Council of Governments has contracted with Boonslick Regional Planning Commission to look at the Lower Missouri River Watershed. On February 6, 2017, local stakeholders met in Starkenburg, Missouri to participate in a discussion. Topics included soil erosion, runoff issues, water quality, wastewater management regulations, fertilizer and food production. Navigation of the river and issues related to levees and flooding were also discussed.



Local citizens and community leaders provide input regarding the Lower Missouri Watershed



The meeting was well represented by local farmers, business owners, state and city staff, University of Missouri Extension and Corps of Engineers.

Local participation is instrumental in determining needs and issues that should be addressed in managing water resources. The people who live and work in the area have the biggest stake in the health of the watershed. The goal of *Our Missouri Waters* is to build partnerships with local stakeholders, develop an awareness of water related issues and work together to benefit the watershed. The next meeting BRPC will be hosting will be on April 10, 2017 in Marthasville.

Director's Update



Grant application season is upon us. BRPC staff have been out in the communities assisting with planning activities, applications for funding, administration, recycling opportunities, and project development.

BRPC staff have been busy with the Missouri Job Center and workforce development projects as well as the regional transportation plan and infrastructure funding initiatives, resiliency planning projects, environmental reviews, on-site septic, traffic counts, watershed planning, entrepreneurship initiatives, business outreach, revolving loan fund, and GIS mapping. Staff continue to coordinate disaster recovery debris removal efforts with Lincoln and Montgomery counties as well as the Northeast Workforce Development Board.

In addition, BRPC staff attended the Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT) Statewide Transportation Planners meeting to review financial forecasts for the upcoming fiscal years and to discuss grant programs. In fall 2017, MoDOT will have funding available for the Traffic Engineering Assistance Program. We will disseminate specific information on these opportunities as soon as it is available.

BRPC is here for you. If you require more information or would like a staff member to attend one of your meetings, then please don't hesitate to contact the office at (636) 456-3473 or email ceggen@boonslick.org

The next BRPC general membership meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 27 and the next Transportation Advisory Committee meeting is Thursday, May 11.

Youth Engage in "Tackling the Tough Skills"



Community Development Specialist Dean Larkin

The ability to hire skilled employees is essential to employers. As Missouri Job Center staff members work to serve businesses in the region, many hiring managers share that the skills they oftentimes find lacking in applicants are those that have been identified as "soft skills". Soft skills are associated to the way employees relate to and interact with other people. Examples are a positive attitude or the ability to work on a team. With this in mind, the Missouri Job Center of Warrenton arranged to host several workshops for Youth program participants aimed at improving these skills.

University of Missouri Extension Community Development Specialist and Program Director Dean Larkin from Montgomery County has been presenting *Tackling the Tough Skills*. Developed by the Extension Service, *Tackling the Tough Skills* is a life skills curriculum that helps hard-to-reach teens and adults prepare for success in the workforce and in life.

Mr. Larkin has presented two sessions and will continue with more. The first topic covered was *Attitude*. Participants offered positive feedback and were able to take away helpful information. The second workshop topic centered on *Responsibility*. Discussion was held on the importance of responsibility to yourself, your family, your home and your community.

The third session of the curriculum will be presented on March 15 and will focus on *Communication*. The fourth session, *Decision Making & Problem Solving*, is scheduled for



April 19. If you have any questions about the Youth program, please contact Youth Workforce Specialist Cindy Schwada at cschwada@boonslick.org or Jayne Corbin at jccrbin@boonslick.org or call (636) 456-9467.

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Recycling Education



BRPC Project Coordinator Chuck Eichmeyer talks to students about recycling.

"Recycling helps the planet stay clean." This was one student's observation heard by BRPC Project Coordinator Chuck Eichmeyer when he visited Hermann Elementary School on March 10, 2017 to give a presentation about recycling. Hermann Elementary is part of the Gasconade County R-I School District which serves students from parts of Franklin, Montgomery and Warren counties. These are three of the four counties served by the East Central Missouri Solid Waste Management District administered by BRPC.

Mr. Eichmeyer discussed the top reasons to recycle. Recycling conserves natural resources, reduces the need for landfills, prevents pollution, saves energy, and creates jobs. He also covered the steps in the

recycling process and was able to share information about the processes used at the East Central Missouri Recycling Center.

"The students were interested and asked a lot of great questions".
-Chuck Eichmeyer

A group of approximately 30 students from different grade levels and several teachers attended the presentation. If you are interested in scheduling a similar presentation, you can contact Chuck Eichmeyer at chucke@boonslick.org



Don't Forget...April 22 is Earth Day!

The movement was started in 1970 as a day of education about environmental issues. The East Central Missouri Recycling Center, operated by BRPC, was established on Earth Day 2010. Since opening, approximately 1600 tons of material has been recovered for reuse. For a list of items accepted, visit boonslick.org/recycling—center/

BRPC Hires New Youth Workforce Specialist—Welcome Jayne Corbin!

Boonslick Regional Planning Commission is pleased to announce that Jayne Corbin has been hired as a youth workforce specialist. Jayne, along with BRPC employee Cindy Schwada, will be working to serve individuals aged 14-24 in Lincoln, Montgomery and Warren counties.

Through the Youth program, eligible participants are provided with guidance in job searching, resume development and interviewing techniques. They are also given information regarding college planning, financial aid and budgeting, and can be placed with employers to learn valuable work skills.

Some of you may have had the pleasure of meeting Jayne when she worked in the Job Center for several months in 2012. She had been hired temporarily to assist customers in the resource room. Jayne has shared that she is thrilled to be back at the Job Center working full time with the Youth program. She can be reached at icorbin@boonslick.org



Youth Workforce Specialist

Jayne Corbin

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Youth Workforce Specialist jcorbin@boonslick.org

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BRPC Presents at Chamber of Commerce Meeting



BRPC Executive Director Chad Eggen (left) presents information to the Warrenton COC membership Each year, the Warrenton Area Chamber of Commerce focuses on economic development during its January meeting. This year, BRPC Executive Director Chad Eggen served as one of the presenters. Also presenting were Steve Etcher, representing the Greater Warren County Economic Development Council and Michelle Schlenther from the City of Warrenton.

Executive Director Eggen discussed the programs and services offered by BRPC, focusing on economic and small business development. He

also discussed regional committees and planning efforts with which the organization is involved. Chad can be reached at ceggen@boonslick.org

City of Bellflower Increases Driver Awareness

Recently, the City of Bellflower made use of BRPC's speed trailer. The city made arrangements to place the trailer on one of its streets in an effort to bring awareness to drivers concerning the speeds at which they were driving. City law enforcement staff shared that they felt the reminder was very helpful. Speed is particularly a concern around schools zones. Please contact BRPC if your community is interested in using the trailer.



Calendar of Events - Contact us for More Information

March

- Community Agencies in Partnership meeting, 9:30 a.m.
- Youth Workshop, Missouri Job Center-Warrenton, 3:30 p.m.
- Aerotek Job Fair, Missouri Job Center-Warrenton, 9:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m.
- 27 BRPC General Membership meeting, Noon

April

- 3 CDBG applications due
- Our Missouri Waters, Marthasville, 1:00 p.m.
- 19 Community Agencies in Partnership meeting, 9:30 a.m.
- Youth Workshop, Missouri Job Center-Warrenton, 3:30 p.m.
- 22 Earth Day

Job Center Workshop Calendar

The Missouri Job Center in Warrenton offers free workshops for job seekers each month. Please contact us at (636) 456-9467 if you are interested in a calendar of events.

