

# River Waves

SPRING 2008

VOLUME 6 ISSUE 1



Tom Busiahn briefs 32 agency and conservation representatives on the national habitat restoration program. (Photo credit: Maureen Gallagher, USFWS.)

## Ohio River Restoration Partnership Formed

Ohio River Foundation, US Fish & Wildlife Service, and other agencies and organizations have formed the Ohio River Basin Habitat Partnership (ORBHP) to create an overarching restoration plan for the Ohio River Basin and promote funding of appropriate projects. This work builds upon prior efforts including ORF's 2002: report A Framework for Restoration of the Ohio River and its Watershed. Commenting on the partnership, Rich Cogen, ORF Executive Director said, "The partnership compliments ORF's mission of restoring the ecology of the Ohio River and the entire watershed." For more information contact Rich at 513-460-3365 or visit [www.ohioriverfdn.org](http://www.ohioriverfdn.org).

## Two Major Events to Raise Funds and Public Awareness

### *Aveda Earth Month*

Aveda Salons again selected Ohio River Foundation as the recipient for its Earth Month Awareness campaign. With a goal to raise \$100,000, this year's campaign reached more than 50,000 people with the message of "How Clean Is Your Water?" Aveda salons and institutes in OH, IN, and KY hosted exciting events throughout April to help raise funds for ORF water protection programs like our Rain Garden Initiative. See page 3 for more information.

### *Great Ohio River Paddle*

It's GORP time again! The event takes on a new face this year with the introduction of 2 significant features: (1) PaddlePods for paddlers who want a more tailored experience and (2) Paddler Sponsorship for paddlers who want to help ORF grow its programming, help the river, and win some insanely fabulous prizes! See page 5 for more information.



GORP 2007 paddlers enter Meldahl Lock.

### In this issue of River Waves

Page 1: Restoration Partnership / Aveda / GORP  
 Page 2: From the Office  
 Page 3: Aveda Campaign

Page 4: River Explorer Program Update  
 Page 5: GORP Poster  
 Page 6 & 7: Thank You to Contributors  
 Page 8: Calendar / Office Space Search

## Search on the web and donate to ORF at the same time!

Do you Google? Of course you do--like most of the rest of the world. Google is a great search engine, but what if Ohio River Foundation could make money every time you conducted an internet search?

Now we can!

Go to [www.goodsearch.com](http://www.goodsearch.com) (Yahoo! search engine), select Ohio River Foundation as your charity of choice, and begin searching! It's as easy as that.

## From the Executive Director



These past few months there has been a firestorm of media coverage about pharmaceuticals in rivers, creeks, and streams and the potential risks to human beings and wildlife. The discussion seems to be following a similar pattern to other environmental risk concerns that receive media coverage a decade or more after first being identified by scientists and environmentalists. Drugs and other man made chemicals have been found in trace amounts in our environment for many years.

However, it is only in recent years that amphibians and other wildlife have begun to show the effects of cumulative exposure to these compounds. Malformed limbs, inability to breed - the problems are disconcerting and troubling for many species. These afflicted animals are the proverbial canaries in the coal mine sending incontrovertible warnings about human health and welfare.

We can all help reduce chemical and drug pollution of the environment. That can be as simple as dropping off unused substances at hazardous waste drop-off sites (contact your local city or county public works department), reducing your use of lawn care products, and not using antibacterial soaps and detergents. It is an unfortunate misconception that bacteria is bad. In fact, millions of bacteria live in the human body and help us digest food and kill germs! So give the environment a break and stop trying to live in an antiseptic world: it can't exist and it's not healthy.



A final step to keep these products out of our sources of drinking water and recreation is to reduce stormwater runoff from your property. Rain gardens, rain barrels, and green roofs are proliferating across the country. They are useful for residential, commercial, and industrial sites. Agricultural property owners can also participate by planting areas of vegetation of sufficient size to reduce off-property flows from fertilizer, pesticide, and/or animal waste laden land. It is this wave of interest, that is now but a mere trickle in the Midwest, that Ohio River Foundation hopes to nurture into a more profound stewardship ethic among 25 million people in the Ohio River watershed.

Rich



*River Waves* is published by Ohio River Foundation. Ohio River Foundation is a citizen led, non-profit, non-governmental organization that works through education and conservation programs to protect and improve the natural condition of the Ohio River and its tributaries for the health and enjoyment of present and future generations.

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**Executive Director:** Rich Cogen  
**River Waves Designers:** Renee Kinkopf & Erin Crowley

# Aveda Partners with ORF



This April, ORF and Aveda, a leader in the area of environmentally responsible manufacturing, partnered to present a major public awareness and fundraising campaign at salons in Ohio, Indiana, and Kentucky. The focus of this year's Earth Month campaign was the importance of clean water. Customers visiting a participating salon or store in the Aveda network made donations directly to ORF and also entered to win fabulous prizes and services, and a Grand Prize raffle trip to the Natura Park EcoResort & Spa in the Dominican Republic (courtesy of Apple Vacations).

Funds raised during Earth Month will support ORF programs, including our plans to install demonstration rain gardens in select Ohio River watershed cities. Current targets for installations are Louisville, Cincinnati, Columbus, Indianapolis, and Dayton. Due to the outpouring of financial support we also receive from the Aveda salons in Cleveland, OH rain garden installations are also being planned for that region.

## OHIO RIVER SUMMIT

**When:** August 1 & 2, 2008

**Where:** Greenbo State Park;  
Greenup, KY

**What:** The event will be a weekend retreat dedicated to discussing the health and future of the Ohio River. A series of watershed training workshops will also be offered to citizens and local watershed groups.

We hope you'll join us!

For more information, visit our website at: [www.ohioriverfdn.org](http://www.ohioriverfdn.org).

## How clean is YOUR water?

**More than 40% of our rivers and lakes remain polluted.** These are sources of drinking water to millions of people in Ohio, Indiana, and Kentucky.

Your donation will help support the Aveda and Ohio River Foundation partnership to improve water quality.

### Grand Prize Raffle

Trip for 2 - Dominican Republic Eco-Resort & Spa 5 days/4 nights  
hotel & air from Columbus, OH  
taxes and gratuities not included

Ohio River Foundation

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# River Explorer Program Update

This spring is a record-setting season for the River Explorer program. We had over 850 students registered to participate, ranging from 4th-graders to AP Biology high school students.

To reach the needs of an expanding program, we have expanded our team of talented field educators to eight active educators. We are also striving to reach a broader geographic range of students by using sites ranging from Miami Whitewater National Forest in Harrison to Sycamore Park in Batavia.

Here are some of our favorite pictures from the spring field trip season. For more information on the program or to schedule a field trip, go to [www.ohioriverfdn.org](http://www.ohioriverfdn.org), or contact Erin Crowley, ORF Education Director, at 513-377-1408. **Now scheduling summer and fall trips.**



Princeton Middle School 7th-graders look at aquatic macroinvertebrates under microscopes. (Angie Matthews)



ORF Educator Bernie Moller investigates the riparian zone with 7th-grade students from Mason Middle School. (Renee McKinney)



Seven Hills Christian Academy students check the nets after working together to seine for fish. (Karen Glum)



Students from St. Gabriel's Consolidated School collect water samples to test the chemistry of the stream. (Kristin Archibald)



A student from Mason Middle School flips rocks to find aquatic macroinvertebrates. (Renee McKinney)

Ohio River Foundation's

# GREAT OHIO

## River Paddle

JULY 19 - 20 2008



### How do you like your GORP?

Travel 2 days with us on one of the great rivers in the United States!

Explore the ecology of tributaries. Visit river communities, like Augusta, KY.  
Experience an Ohio River Lock, Paddle Pods, and much, much more.

### Early Registration Discounts Available!

For more information or to register, visit

[www.ohioriverfdn.org](http://www.ohioriverfdn.org) or call 513.460.3365

Proceeds benefit the conservation and education programs of Ohio River Foundation.

Sponsors: Glaserworks, Town of Ripley, Clermont County Park District, City of Augusta, and the Village of Moscow

Sanctioned By



United States Canoe Association



# Donor Rolls *Donations received since January 1, 2007*

We're thankful for the support given to us by the following foundations, companies, and individuals, without whom our important work would not be possible. Donations reflect both cash and in-kind donations. The Ohio River Foundation depends upon the support and generosity of individuals, foundations, and businesses to achieve our conservation mission. Ohio River Foundation is the only non-profit conservation organization dedicated specifically to protecting and improving the water quality and ecology of the Ohio River and its watershed. Ohio River Foundation is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization. EVERY DONATION COUNTS.



## **\$10,000 and over**

The George Gund Foundation  
The LL Nippert Foundation  
The Toyota Foundation  
The Stillson Foundation, Fifth Third Bank, Trustee  
The Jergens Foundation  
The Charles Dater Foundation

## **\$5,000 to \$9,999**

Aveda, Inc.  
Gannett Foundation  
Carl H. Lindner

## **\$1,000 to \$4,999**

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Aveda HQ Lorraine  
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## **\$500 to \$999**

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## **\$500 to \$999 (cont.)**

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## **\$100 to \$249**

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Gary Gemmer  
Human Nature

## **More ways to give:**

- Create a legacy of protection and education by including Ohio River Foundation in your will or living trust.
- Designate ORF as a beneficiary of your IRA, qualified retirement plan, or a life insurance policy.
- Transfer securities or other appreciated assets through your broker.

## **\$100 to \$249 (cont.)**

Holly Judson  
Kristin Kalnow  
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## Shop for Gifts Online to Help Ohio River Foundation

When you purchase items at these sites, Ohio River Foundation receives a portion of the proceeds.

[www.ShiftYourGift.com](http://www.ShiftYourGift.com)

Sustainable gifts for the conscientious consumer.

[www.ShopForCharityDay.com](http://www.ShopForCharityDay.com)

Start your shopping here instead of going directly to the retailer. Search from over 1000 retailers, go to that retailer's site and a portion of your purchase price will be donated to Ohio River Foundation.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### *National River Cleanup Week*

May 31 - June 8

[www.nationalrivercleanup.org](http://www.nationalrivercleanup.org)

### *Ohio River Way PaddleFest*

June 27-28

[www.ohioriverway.org](http://www.ohioriverway.org)

### ***GREAT OHIO RIVER PADDLE***

July 19 - 20

[www.ohioriverfdn.org](http://www.ohioriverfdn.org)

### *Forecastle Festival*

July 25-27

[www.forecastlefestival.com](http://www.forecastlefestival.com)

### *Ohio River Summit*

August 1-2

[www.ohioriverfdn.org](http://www.ohioriverfdn.org)

## Seeking office space!

We are running out of room to store our materials, supplies, and equipment. Our employees and volunteers have been most generous in keeping ORF materials in their homes, but it's becoming more important that all our stuff be kept in one location to improve our organizational efficiency.



Also, office space for our expanding staff is becoming crucial to our continued success. It's getting to be a challenge as we continue to grow and serve more and more people and communities.

We are seeking space (which needs to include warehouse/shed area) in the Greater Cincinnati area. A common area to meet with volunteers would also be great!

If you know of a location we might use please call Rich at 513-460-3365. Thanks!

