



# ANNUAL REPORT 2024

## River des Peres Watershed Coalition

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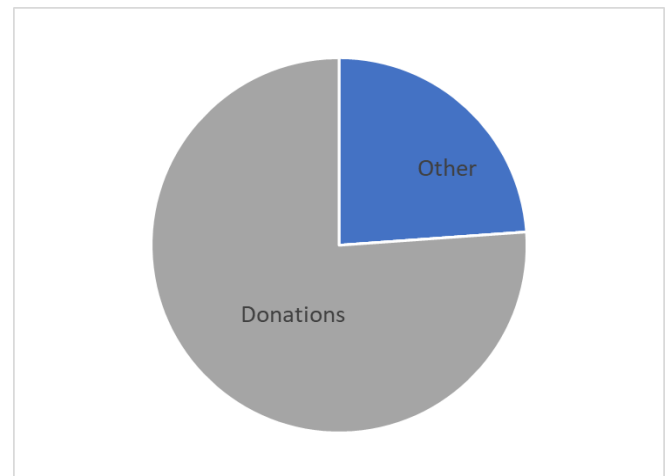
# MISSION

The mission of the River des Peres Watershed Coalition is to improve, protect, and maintain the River des Peres, its tributaries, and its watershed as a vital natural and cultural resource in the St. Louis metropolitan area.

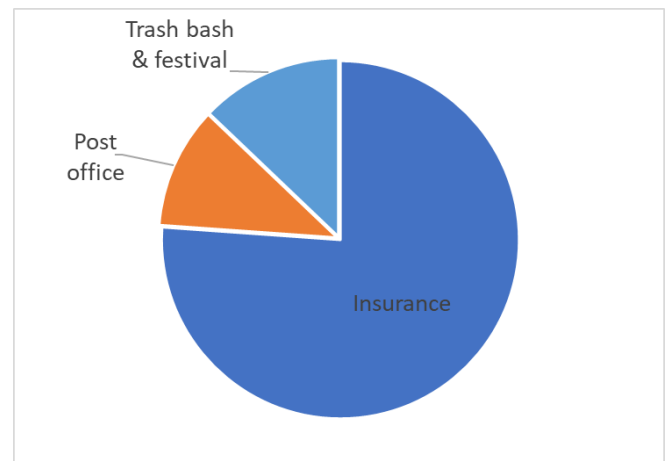
# FINANCIAL STATEMENT

<b>Net Assets</b> <i>(as of 12/31/2024)</i>	<b>\$ 15,176.70</b>
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<b>Income</b>	
Other	\$ 102.85
Sponsorships	\$ -
Donations	\$ 328.10
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$ 430.95</b>



<b>Expenses</b>	
Insurance	\$ 1,773.00
Post office	\$ 256.00
Advertising materials	\$ -
Bike with your boots on	\$ -
Trash bash & festival	\$ 300.00
Domain renewal	\$ -
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 2,329.00</b>



# PROGRAMS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

## Trash Bash and Watershed Festival

The River des Peres Trash Bash is an annual clean-up of the streams, greenways and parks in the River des Peres watershed and riverbank of the Mississippi River. Volunteers choose from multiple clean-up locations or storm drain marking sites each year. Storm drain marking reminds the community to keep trash, chemicals, and other pollution out of our storm drains. In October, 358 volunteers and 91 school groups collected 4.5 tons of trash, 61 tires, and marked 140 storm drain inlets at multiple locations across the watershed.



After a successful morning of litter pickup and storm drain marking, volunteers gathered at Deer Creek Park for a Watershed Festival! Between live music, food, a Unique Trash Contest, and educational opportunities for kids, there was no shortage of fun to be had. Special thanks to our booth hosts Metropolitan St. Louis Sewer District Project Clear, Open Space STL, Second-Hen'd, St. Louis Audubon Bring Conservation Home, Missouri Botanical Garden Earthways Center, Wild Ones St Louis, Waste Connections, and Missouri Stream Team.



## Bike With Your Boots On

The River des Peres Watershed Coalition hosted two Bike With Your Boots On water quality monitoring events. On June 15 and September 21, trained Stream Team water quality monitors collected chemistry data from the streams and other volunteers assisted and learned about the important roles of citizen science in the community. This effort helps to get a snapshot of water quality of the streams and the data is reported to Missouri Stream Team program.

## 2024 Annual Meeting

The River des Peres Watershed Coalition hosted its annual meeting on February 10. Guest speakers presented on River des Peres watershed activities. Attendees learned about the latest projects and activities at Great Rivers Greenway and City of Brentwood, Brentwood Bound. Congratulations to Stacy Fink, the 2024 Watershed Hero award recipient! Special Thanks to Urban Chestnut Grove Brewery & Bier Hall for hosting the event.



## Adopt A Greenway

The River des Peres Watershed Coalition was proud to continue participation in Great River Greenway's Adopt-a-Greenway pilot program. Adopt-A-Greenway is a regionwide stewardship program designed to provide a framework for continued care for the growing network of greenways across the region. The program hopes to supplement the ongoing work of GRG operations and maintenance partners throughout the region and engage community members in the process. In 2024 the River des Peres Watershed Coalition groups picked up 14 stream team trash bags.

# WHEN WE VOLUNTEER AND DONATE

It is difficult to commit. We are busy with work, family and just managing our lives. Time for ourselves barely exists. So what is the reason to volunteer or to donate to a cause we believe in?

When we volunteer to make a difference in the world we also develop and fulfill our own sense of purpose. In doing this we also get the benefits from finding a sense of peace and connecting with other people that share your passion. This can lead to better health, better relationships and a better perspective about our lives and the world in general.

We find great encouragement from working with people willing to set aside their differences and focus on a shared commitment. Finding common ground, realizing that we can get along and working together to achieve great things brings great optimism and hope.

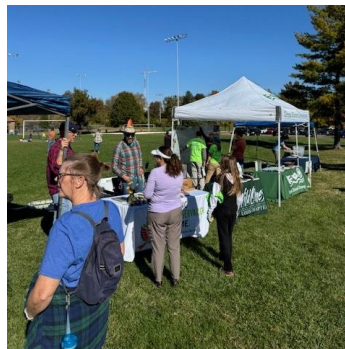
By donating money, we provide financial support to fund programs and services that allow us to connect with the community with projects and activities that educate, inspire and help green our communities.

Another benefit of donating time and money is that it can also be tax deductible. In the United States, charitable contributions are tax-deductible, which means that individuals and organizations can deduct the amount of their donations from their taxable income. This can help to offset the cost of giving and make it more affordable for people to support the causes they care about.

Ultimately, supporting a cause is a rewarding way to make a positive impact in the world. We hope each of you can donate a bit of your time, talents and financial support to help the River des Peres Watershed Coalition so we can continue to improve, protect, and maintain the River des Peres, its tributaries, and its watershed as a vital natural and cultural resource in the St. Louis metropolitan area.

## 2024 Board of Directors

Zoe Geist  
 Joe McMullen  
 Roland Biehl  
 San Mueller  
 Joe McMullen  
 Angie Weber  
 Terry Winkelmann  
 Hannah Gibson  
 Shannon Callahan  
 Cathy Barnett



## 2024 Officers

Chairperson, Zoe Geist  
 Secretary, Roland Biehl  
 Treasurer, Joe McMullen  
 Membership Coordinator, San Mueller

