



RIVANNA RIVER STEWARD REPORT

River Stewards: Dan Triman

Date: 04-18-18

Starting Location and Time: Darden Towe Park (10:00 AM)

Ending Location and Time: Milton (1:00 PM)

Weather: Clear Skies Recent Precipitation: Heavy Rain Recently

USGS Gauges: Earlysville 2.56 ft (215 cfs), Palmyra 4.64 ft (1550 cfs)

Water Color: Orange Brown Water Odor: None Air Temp: 60° F

DO: 6 ppm PH: 7 Turbidity: 60 JTU Water Temp: 14° C

Water Testing Location: Milton Boat Ramp River Left (38°00.3'N 78°23.9'W)

Land Use:

Residential mainly, with some commercial use and park property

Wildlife Sightings and Plant Life:

Turtles, 5 Green Heron, Fish, Snails, Geese, Small Birds, Butterflies, Crow, Hawk, Vultures, River Otter, Bald Eagle. Starting to see some flowers and colors along the banks, and a few large trees down in the River.

People Interactions:

Saw a couple of people at Darden Towe Park and 2 people fishing at Milton, but otherwise, didn't see anyone else out paddling today.

Litter and Pollution:

Collected 1 large bag of trash (mostly bottles, cans, plastic bags, sports balls, fishing bait boxes), and removed 2 larger pieces of Styrofoam.

Overall Summary:

It ended up being a nice day for a paddle once the sun came out, although water levels were pretty high and flow was pretty fast today. Lots of sediment in the River from the recent heavy rain, as well as on the Darden Towe Boat Ramp and Milton Landing steps. Saw a lot of trash in the River, and a good variety of wildlife. The gate at Milton is still locked to keep vehicles off the dirt road which had cause erosion issues in the past.

Actions Needed – level of priority (1 highest/5 lowest):

2 – Clear sediment from Darden Towe boat ramp and Milton steps to avoid people slipping and falling; 3 - Clear vine and downed tree just past Darden Towe; 4 – Collect remainder of small trash in the River



Figure 1: Sediment on Darden Towe Boat Ramp



Figure 2: Vine hanging down just past Darden Towe – River Right



Figure 3: Thick patch of bamboo just past Darden Towe



Figure 4: Green Heron sitting in a tree



Figure 5: Tree down just past Darden Towe – River right



Figure 6: Debris built up below Free Bridge



Figure 7: Showing River level at Free Bridge



Figure 8: Green Heron along the bank



Figure 9: Turtle heading into the water



Figure 10: Redbud providing some bright color along the bank



Figure 11: River Otter just near Riverview Park



Figure 12: Another photo of the River Otter



Figure 13: Riverview Park steps still in good condition



Figure 14: Railroad bridge now clear of downed power lines



Figure 15: Example of trash found in the River



Figure 16: Snail sitting on a log



Figure 17: Bluebells along the bank



Figure 18: Eagle's nest is still on power line tower near Milton



Figure 19: Lots of vultures circling and sitting along the bank



Figure 20: Newly painted water levels on Milton bridge



Figure 21: Milton steps with lots of sediment on them



Figure 22: Gate at Milton was still locked



Figure 23: Trash collected from the paddle



Figure 24: Trash at Milton found at end of the paddle