River Stewards: Dan Triman   Date:  05-12-18
Starting Location and Time:  Rio Mills Rd Below the Dam (9:30 AM)
Ending Location and Time:  Free Bridge (12:00 PM)
Weather:  Clear Skies   Recent Precipitation:  Not much rain recently
USGS Gauges:  Earlysville 1.53 ft (48 cfs), Palmyra 3.00 ft (310 cfs)
Water Color:  Clear   Water Odor:  None   Air Temp:  70° F
DO:  6 ppm   PH:  7   Turbidity:  10 JTU   Water Temp:  22° C
Water Testing Location:  38°02.5’N 78°27.2’W Darden Towe Ramp

Land Use:
Starts at 29 corridor as commercial use, then residential use along Polo Grounds Rd, next is open space, and then Penn Park & Darden Towe Park.

Wildlife Sightings and Plant Life:
Turtles, Crow, Smaller Fish jumping out of the water, and Geese. Some flowering colors along banks, vegetation getting fuller as the weeks pass.

People Interactions:
This paddle was part of the annual Rivanna River Regatta event. There were 34 participants who paddled (in kayaks and canoes) the Rivanna River from Rio Mills Rd below the Dam to Darden Towe Park. Some paddlers were racing and others were just out to enjoy a nice day on the Rivanna River. Rivanna River Company (RRC) provided a shuttle and kayaks for some paddlers today. There were also several other people out paddling, fishing, and on the beaches along the river today.

Litter and Pollution:
Collected a few small pieces of trash today, along with a soccer ball and a canoe paddle. Also saw a couple of tires and larger objects today.

Overall Summary:
Everyone had a good time today, even with the low water levels and flow. Great to see so many people of all ages out enjoying the Rivanna River.

Actions Needed – level of priority (1 highest/5 lowest):
3 – Remove larger items (railroad scrap, car, tires, and sheet metal)
Figure 1: Starting location for the Regatta

Figure 2: Registration and start setup

Figure 3: Put in signage

Figure 4: More put in signage

Figure 5: Safety briefing by Dave Segars

Figure 6: Boats lined up at the starting line
Figure 7: View of the Dam looking upstream

Figure 8: Getting the boats in the water at the start

Figure 9: Paddlers warming up before the race

Figure 10: Waiting for the start of the race

Figure 11: Paddlers on their way

Figure 12: Vegetation in the river
Figure 13: Goose floating in the river

Figure 14: One of the tires spotted today

Figure 15: Turtle on a log sunning itself

Figure 16: Dan Triman from RCA in action
*Photo courtesy of Dave Dolak

Figure 17: Another paddler going through the rapids

Figure 18: Flowering vegetation along the banks
Figure 19: Confluence of North and South Forks

Figure 20: People enjoying the River near Darden Towe

Figure 21: Finish line at Darden Towe boat ramp

Figure 22: Arriving at Darden Towe to finish the paddle

Figure 23: Father and son finishing the race

Figure 24: Board where race winners are displayed