



RIVANNA RIVER STEWARD REPORT

River Stewards: Dan Triman

Date: 07-18-18

Starting Location and Time: Darden Towe Park (2:00 PM)

Ending Location and Time: Milton (5:00 PM)

Weather: Clear Skies Recent Precipitation: Rain Previous Day

USGS Gauges: Earlysville 1.56 ft (55 cfs), Palmyra 3.22 ft (425 cfs)

Water Color: Brownish Water Odor: None Air Temp: 80° F

DO: 6 ppm PH: 7 Turbidity: 30 JTU Water Temp: 30° 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, Geese, Small Birds, Butterflies, Crow, 2 Osprey, Damselflies, Dragonflies, Eagle's Nest. A few large trees down in the River, otherwise green and abundant vegetation along the banks.

People Interactions:

Couple of people at Darden Towe and at Milton today, and a couple of people out tubing, kayaking, swimming, and fishing on the Rivanna. We had a yellow Potomac Pathfinder 100 Kayak stolen from Darden Towe Park around 2 PM today (see below for photo of what the kayak looks like). We had to leave the kayaks at Darden Towe Park at the beginning of the paddle to shuttle our vehicles. We left 3 kayaks there tucked into the tree area above the boat ramp (off the parking lot where the traffic circle is), and when we got back, there were only 2 kayaks still there. We asked around with the people there if anyone had seen anything, and nobody had. We left the kayaks at 2:00 PM and returned at 2:20 PM to Darden.

Litter and Pollution:

Collected about 1 large bag of trash (mostly bottles, cans, plastic bags, fishing bait containers, Styrofoam), and saw a number of tires and other larger objects scattered in and around the River (lawn furniture, metal objects, etc.). Also found one of the RCA Kiosk Historic Panels from Riverview Park that got washed away during the flood (see photos below). It is located just downstream from Riverview Park before you get to the 1st

private wooden dock at River right. It doesn't appear the panel is still in good enough shape to reuse at this point.

Overall Summary:

It was a great day to be out paddling, as the rain from the day before brought the water levels back up, and it wasn't as hot as it has been recently. Lots of good wildlife out today. Sorry to have had the experience of someone stealing our kayak at the beginning of the paddle, hoping we might be able to get it back or replace it somehow.

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

3 – Report stolen kayak in attempt to get it back; 3 – Retrieve the RCA Historic Panel from the River; 3 – Remove larger objects from the River; 3 – Organize tire removal event in the coming months; 3 – Rehang the sign on the orange flotation device at Milton boat ramp so everyone knows where to get off the river, since it is easy to miss.



Figure 1: This is the yellow kayak (right side of photo) that was stolen from Darden Towe Park. Note the photo was taken several years ago, and is just included to give a visual of what the kayak looks like.



Figure 2: View of the Rivanna today looking downstream



Figure 3: Lots of turtles out sunning themselves today

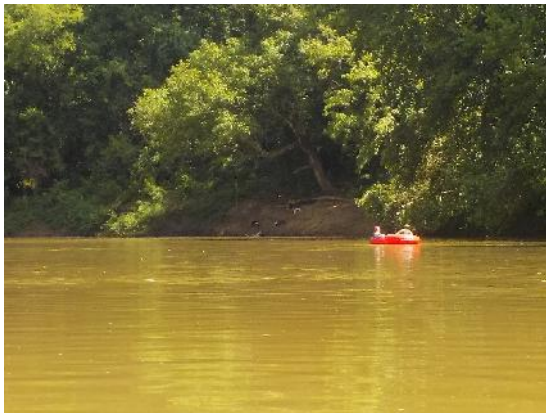


Figure 4: Couple of tubers on the River



Figure 5: 1st Blue Heron sighting of the day



Figure 6: People enjoying the river at Riverview Park



Figure 7: RCA Historic Panel from Kiosk that washed away



Figure 8: Another Blue Heron



Figure 9: One of the tires found today

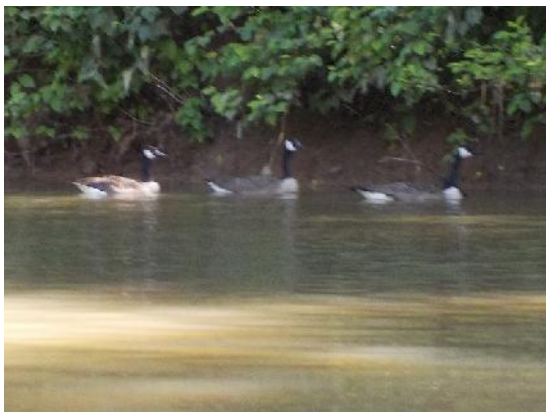


Figure 10: Geese swimming in the water



Figure 11: Large object in the River



Figure 12: People fishing in kayaks



Figure 13: Eagle's nest up on top of power line tower



Figure 14: Dead catfish left on the bank



Figure 15: Milton boat ramp with downed sign



Figure 16: Tires and bicycle others removed from river



Figure 17: Smaller trash found during the paddle