



RIVANNA RIVER STEWARD REPORT

River Stewards: Dan Triman

Date: 09-30-17

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

Ending Location and Time: Riverview Park (12:00 PM)

Weather: Clear Skies Recent Precipitation: Very Dry

USGS Gauges: Earlysville 1.05 ft (8 cfs), Palmyra 2.30 ft (57 cfs)

Water Color: Clear Water Odor: None Air Temp: 70° F

DO: 5 ppm PH: 8 Turbidity: 0 JTU Water Temp: 25° C

Water Testing Location: Riverview Park River Right (38°01.4'N 78°27.2'W)

Land Use:

Residential mainly, with some commercial use and park property

Wildlife Sightings and Plant Life:

Turtles, Geese, Kingfishers, Small Birds, Osprey, Butterflies, Crow, Vultures. Leaves are beginning to fall from some trees, but most vegetation is still pretty green and doing well despite recent dry spell.

People Interactions:

This paddle was part of the Rockin' the Rivanna River Festival. In advance of the paddle the Charlottesville/Albemarle Rescue Squad and the Lake Monticello Water Rescue Team shared their expertise and equipment with the public, giving tips and recommendations on how to be safe on the River.

Our group of about 20 people paddlers joined us today, many with decorated boats as a part of the Parade of Boats. Ann Mallek (Albemarle Board of Supervisors) her husband Leo, her daughter Kate and Kate's 3 children, along Dan Mahon from Albemarle County and Alex Searls from Lewis and Clark Exploratory Center were paddling as a part of the Parade. Dave Dolak and other paddlers joined in their own boats. In addition, Gabe Silver and his team from the Rivanna River Company rented boats (and shuttled) paddlers throughout the day. There were also Exhibits at both Darden Towe and Riverview Park (City of Charlottesville and RCA) also with water quality monitoring demonstrations at Riverview.

As a part of the River Festival there was the FLOW River Arts Festival, organized by Deborah McLeod and Chroma, several hundred folks walked the Rivanna Trail to experience physical, performance and musical art. There was music for the paddlers to hear, as well as sights and sounds not often associated with a festival of this kind, which made for a beautiful event all around.

Litter and Pollution:

Collected a few pieces of smaller trash today. Just up river from Riverview Park, river left, found a Spreader for Landscaping (see photo below).

Overall Summary:

Despite low water levels and low flows, there was enough water in the Rivanna to avoid getting out of the boats much. Everyone had a good time and good to see so many people out enjoying the Rivanna River today.

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

3 – Remove spreader found in the River near Riverview Park



Figure 1: Lake Monticello Rescue Squad equipment



Figure 2: Charlottesville Albemarle Rescue Squad equipment



Figure 3: Getting ready for the paddle at Darden Towe



Figure 4: Dan Mahon's Duck Boat



Figure 5: Rivanna River Company renting out kayaks



Figure 6: Starting the paddle at Darden Towe



Figure 7: Inflatable raft that was part of our paddling group



Figure 8: Art installation just below Darden boat ramp



Figure 9: Another art installation near Darden Towe

Figure 10: Some of the paddlers out today



Figure 11: One of the musicians along the trail



Figure 12: Artists setting up on the beach



Figure 13: Another art installation along the beach



Figure 14: Osprey flying overhead



Figure 15: Spreader found in the River near Riverview



Figure 16: Turtle sunning on a log



Figure 17: Folks enjoying the River at Riverview boat ramp



Figure 18: Trash collected from the paddle



Figure 19: Kayaks being carried back to the trailer



Figure 20: Artist painting the Rivanna at Riverview



Figure 21: RCA water monitoring table at Riverview



Figure 22: Another artist painting at Riverview