



RIVANNA RIVER STEWARD REPORT

River Stewards: Justin Altice

Date: 8/8/18

Starting Location and Time: Riverview Park (4:30 PM)

Ending Location and Time: Milton Landing (6:30 PM)

Weather: Variable Cloudy **Recent Precipitation:** Lots of rainfall during the proceeding days, launched after a small storm and upon return another small storm occurred

USGS Gauges: Earlysville 3.5 ft (300 ft² / sec), Palmyra 4.75 ft (1600 ft² / sec)

Water Color: Murky from recent heavy rains **Water Odor:** Some overall earthy/sediment smells due to murkiness of water

Air Temp: 85° F

DO: 4 ppm

PH: 8

Turbidity: 60 JTU

Water Temp: 68° F

Water Testing Location: Just below I-64 Overpass

Land Use:

A few houses after Riverview Park then the old Woolen Mills site soon to be redeveloped; River runs underneath I-64 overpass and railroad; mostly wooded the rest of the way with a few open fields.

Wildlife Sightings and Plant Life:

Eagles, Osprey, Kingfishers, Frogs, Turtles, Crows, and Hawk.

People Interactions:

Saw a family enjoying the RCA designed boat access point at Riverview Park. Joined on my paddle was the RCA Intern, Hallie, a Thomas Jefferson Foundation Staff Member, and 2 additional members of the community. We also encountered a group of young men enjoying a rope swing near the Milton take out point.

Litter and Pollution:

Removed a few large trash items (bike, sleeping bag, tarp, plastic chair) and large trash bag full of plastics, cans, and debris.



Overall Summary:

Paddle was conducted following a brief storm and concluded with another brief storm but weather while on the water was very pleasant. All the recent rains provided for a swollen River with a steady current. This is the most active stretch of the Rivanna in terms of rapids and these areas offered more excitement than usual with the increased water levels and current.

Some areas of concern were identified about debris and trash on Thomas Jefferson Foundation land near the River banks. This issue will be followed up on by TJF staff. There was a train crossing the River upon our paddle underneath the railroad bridge.

The Milton river access point has been damaged due to recent flooding events. This makes for use of the steps leading down to the River difficult and dangerous. RCA will work with local volunteer groups to mitigate these recent degradations of this important River access point.

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

1 – Work to coordinate volunteer efforts to mitigate recent flood damage at Milton access point, 4- follow up with TJF staff about trash/debris issues on their property



Figure 1: Old Woolen Mills site from River.



Figure 2: Train overpass bridge.



Figure 3: Anchor on rock that once attached to overhead bridge crossing River.



Figure 4: Osprey flying overhead.



Figure 5: Trash/Debris removed from River.

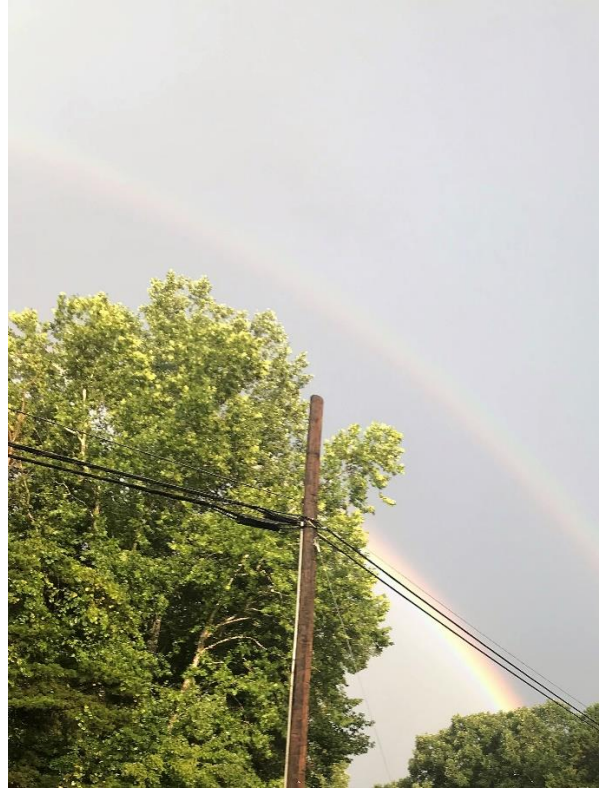


Figure 6: Double rainbow following storm.