



RIVANNA RIVER STEWARD REPORT

River Stewards: Dan Triman **Date:** 05-25-17

Starting Location and Time: Lewis & Clark Exploratory Center (9:00 AM)

Ending Location and Time: Darden Towe Boat Ramp (1:30 PM)

Weather: Cloudy, some sun **Recent Precipitation:** Heavy rain

USGS Gauges: Earlysville 8.0 ft. (2500 cfs), Palmyra 12.0 ft. (8000 cfs)

Water Color: Brown **Water Odor:** Muddy Smell **Air Temp:** 70° F

DO: 5 ppm **PH:** 7 **Turbidity:** 80 JTU **Water Temp:** 25° C

Water Testing Location: Darden Towe Boat Ramp (38°02.5'N 78°27.2'W)

Swiftwater Rescue Class Summary:

This report summarizes the Swiftwater Rescue training class (ACA Level 3 River Safety and Rescue) that was held at Lewis & Clark Exploratory Center in Darden Towe Park. The class was taught by Jamie Beadle from Lake Monticello Water Rescue Team. We had participants from The Rivanna Conservation Alliance, The Rivanna River Company, Lewis & Clark Exploratory Center, Great Outdoor Provisions Co., and The Albemarle County Fire and Rescue Team. Due to the high water levels and fast moving current in the Rivanna River today, we were unable to complete the on the water portion of the training class, but we did cover the following topics: understanding the Swiftwater environment; river trip planning to reduce the risk of injuries and rescues; liability; developing key self-rescue skills; identifying and avoiding river hazards by understanding hydrology, hazards, and river features; throwing rescue ropes; equipment checks and discussion; boat pins and basic mechanical advantage

River Conditions:

The Rivanna River was up extremely high and moving extremely fast today due to the heavy rains we had yesterday. The water was a brownish color from all the sediment. We watched as giant trees and logs were carrying downstream. The water levels were up into the parking lot at Darden Towe and we could see the water coming up further as we stood there, almost as if there was a tide to the River.

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

4: Jamie agreed to teach the on the water portion of the class at a future date when it works for everyone's schedules.



Figure 1: Introductions at Lewis and Clark Center



Figure 2: Jamie explaining the rope throwing exercise



Figure 3: Jamie putting the rope back in the throw bag



Figure 4: Jamie demonstrating how to coil the throw rope



Figure 5: Discussing the proper rescue gear after lunch



Figure 6: Albemarle County Fire and Rescue gear



Figure 7: Dog in the water (off leash – note the sign)



Figure 8: Group photo in the parking lot



Figure 9: Water from the River coming into the parking lot



Figure 10: View of River at Darden Towe Boat Ramp