



# RIVANNA RIVER STEWARD REPORT

River Stewards: Dan Triman

Date: 06-12-19

Starting Location and Time: Rivanna River Company (10:30 AM)

Ending Location and Time: Milton (1:30 PM)

Weather: Cloudy Skies Recent Precipitation: Heavy Rain Recently

USGS Gauges: Earlysville – No Data Reading, Palmyra 3.60 ft (650 cfs)

Water Color: Brownish Water Odor: None Air Temp: 75° F

DO: 6 ppm PH: 7 Turbidity: 40 JTU Water Temp: 26° 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, Green Heron, Fish, Geese, Ducks, Small Birds, Butterflies, Great Blue Heron, 2 Eagles, 3 Hawks, Damselflies, Dragonflies, Cormorant. A few large trees down in the River, otherwise green and abundant vegetation along the banks.

## People Interactions:

Rivanna River Company (RRC) provided my kayak and shuttle today, and for the most part I had the River to myself. I was joined at the end of the paddle with one other person who rented a kayak from RRC, and helped me with trash clean up on the River.

## Litter and Pollution:

Collected 1 large bag of trash (mostly bottles, cans, plastic bags, fishing bait containers, Styrofoam), a laundry basket, a broom handle, and a tire from the River today. The heavy rains we had this week meant a good amount of smaller trash was seen today in the River.

## Overall Summary:

It was a beautiful day on the River, with great weather and river conditions. Because it was so quiet on the River without many people paddling, I had some of the best wildlife viewing I have seen in a while, especially the larger birds. There were also probably 100 turtles out sunning today as well. Some of the highlights of the paddle were seeing a Cormorant, a Hooded Merganser, and a Hawk flying overhead with a frog



in its claws. As mentioned, a good amount of trash was found today, but overall this stretch of the Rivanna River is in pretty good shape. There weren't any significant safety hazards identified at all during the trip, which was nice to see as well.

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

4 – look into details of USGS gage on the North Fork at Earlysville being removed for bridge replaced (per USGS website: [https://waterdata.usgs.gov/nwis/uv?site\\_no=02032640](https://waterdata.usgs.gov/nwis/uv?site_no=02032640)) and no estimated timeline for replacement is provided.



Figure 1: Orange lilies along the bank



Figure 2: Large turtle enjoying the beautiful day



Figure 3: Mimosa blooms along the bank



Figure 4: Hawk sitting in a tree



Figure 5: Hooded Merganser Duck on a rock



Figure 6: Great Blue Heron





Figure 7: View of old building near Woolen Mills



Figure 8: Cormorant in the middle of the River



Figure 9: Eagle flying overhead



Figure 10: Eagle's Nest on Power Tower near Milton



Figure 11: My kayak with trash strapped to it



Figure 12: Trash removed from the River today