

RIVANNA RIVER STEWARD REPORT

River Stewards: Justin AlticeDate: 6/30/19Starting Location and Time: Crofton (12:30 PM)Ending Location and Time: Palmyra (3:30 PM)Weather: Mainly clear with a few cloudsRecent Precipitation: Overall
rainfall is down for the last month but a few recent storms have occurredUSGS Gauges: Palmyra 3.1 ft (340 ft²/ sec)Water Color: Crystal Clear
Air Temp: 92° FDO: 4 ppmPH: 8Turbidity: 0 JTUWater Temp: 80° FWater Testing Location: Just below Pleasant Grove public beach area

Land Use:

The start of the paddle is near the Lake Monticello development although none of those homes are actually on the Rivanna but do reside nearby. There is mostly forested land along the way with a few other developed areas coming close to the Rivanna but not many actually seen from the waterway. Fluvanna County's Pleasant Grove Park is located along the Rivanna River as you near the Palmyra access point.

Wildlife Sightings and Plant Life:

Eagle, Frogs, Turtles, lots of various fish species (longnose gar, bass, etc.)

People Interactions:

Observed a large number of vehicles parked at both access points in Fluvanna County. Encountered a group of 5 kayakers near the Crofton starting point then saw two sets of fishermen along the way. Also saw approximately 25 people enjoying the River at the Pleasant Grove beach access area along with nearly 15 community members just sitting and playing in the River at the Palmyra access point.

Litter and Pollution:

Removed a few trash items (bottles, cans, plant container) but mostly this stretch was clear of debris. A few buried tires were observed.



Overall Summary:

The paddle was completed on an extremely hot day at the end of a hot week. It seemed like this fact was a strong factor in seeing so many community members out enjoying the joy a cool River can bring on such a hot day. This section of the Rivanna does not have the strongest current and is mostly flat water paddling but water levels were still at acceptable floating levels with the recent downpours that had occurred.

The fact that little trash and debris was observed on the paddle can partly be attributed to the rural nature of the surrounding landscape. The Palmyra access point is located in a fairly calm River location that allows for many community members to come and enjoy the calm waters with good flat surrounding lands to traverse.

Overall it was great to see how many community members were out enjoying the beauty the Rivanna River can offer on a hot summer day.

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

5 – Work to remove the couple tires that were observed from the River, 4 – Inquire with Fluvanna county officials why a trash receptacle is located at the Palmyra Access Point but one is not located at the Crofton Access Point (two bags of trash were removed from there)





Figure 1: Vehicles at Palmyra Access Point.



Figure 2: Community members enjoying River at Palmyra



Figure 2: More vehicles at Palmyra Access Point.



Figure 3: More Community members enjoying River.





Figure 5: Active pipe outfall near Crofton Access.



Figure 6: Group of paddlers encountered.



Figure 7: Tree root art along the banks.



Figure 8: Views of skyline along the Rivanna.





Figure 9: Example of clarity of water.

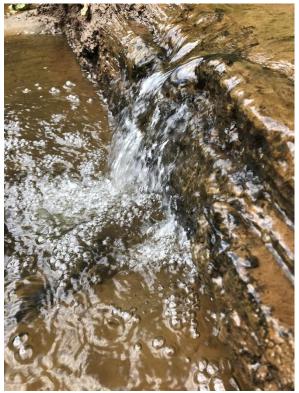


Figure 11: Small waterfall from a feeder stream.



Figure 10: Mangled kayak stuck in bank from storm surge.



Figure 12: Historic Ruins at Palmyra Access Point.