



**POST-EVENT PRESS RELEASE**  
**For Immediate Release**  
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### **3.03 Net Tons of Trash Removed by Volunteers**

**FOLLETTTS, IA AUG 24, 2009 – The Lower Wapsipinicon River Cleanup Project, a canoeing- and camping-based river cleanup event, took place for its fourth year August 23-24, 2009. Twenty-six volunteers removed an amazing 3.03 tons of trash from 12 miles of the Wapsipinicon River, its backwaters, and nearby sloughs on the Mississippi. The section of river covered weaves through Clinton and Scott County, from McCausland Landing to the Mississippi River. Of the trash collected, 52% was recycled. The grand total removed from the river over the last four years is a whopping 23.6 tons.**

**“I am continually amazed and touched to see people from all over Iowa and Illinois – many returning from previous years - to give of themselves in such a way to improve the health and beauty of our local river,” stated coordinator Melisa Jacobsen “It’s in these small steps that we hope to increase awareness and help affect larger changes with respect to our waterways used by so many individuals and families for recreation. ”**

**The program provided free canoes, free camping, and low-cost meals, as well as an evening Mississippi River eco-cruise on the Blue Heron led by a Clinton County Conservation Board Naturalist.**

**Sponsors for this event included: Clinton County Conservation Board; Friends of the Wapsi Center, Inc., Dixon, IA; BEHR Metal Recycling, Clinton, IA; G. Baker Distributing, Clinton, IA; Allied Waste Services, Clinton, IA; Clinton County Area Solid Waste Agency, Jones Optical, Champaign, IL; Active Endeavors, Davenport, IA; Paul’s Discount, Clinton, IA; Mid-American Energy; KA Screen Printing, Davenport, IA and Target, Clinton, IA**

**The Lower Wapsipinicon River Cleanup Project is a grassroots organization with a twofold purpose: To remove trash from the river and dispose of it in an environmentally responsible manner; and to educate the public about the environment and the importance of caring for natural resources.**

**They will be cleaning up on a different section of the Lower Wapsipinicon each year in late August. For further information, or to get on a mailing list for next year, please write to LWRCRP, 2740 - 160<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Calamus, IA 52729, email [coordinator@lowerwapsicleanup.org](mailto:coordinator@lowerwapsicleanup.org) or visit the website at <http://www.lowerwapsicleanup.org>**

# **2009 LWRCP Fact Sheets**

## **Trash by the Numbers:**

### **Recyclables – 3,160 lbs. (1.58 tons) total**

120 lbs. glass and plastic

1,140 lbs. (tons) tires

1,900 lbs. (tons) mixed scrap metal

**Hazardous waste - 51 lbs.**

**Dump material- 2,840 lbs. (1.42 tons)**

**GRAND TOTAL: 6,051 lbs., or 3.03 tons of which 52% was recycled**

**We had a total of 26 people involved for this cleanup – plus the assistance of the great staff at Rock Creek Marina and Campground!**

Folks participating came from all over Iowa including Clinton, Camanche, Calamus, Davenport, Oxford, Iowa City, Coralville, Des Moines, Sabula, Walcott, Dixon, DeWitt, Stanwood, North Liberty, Pleasant Valley, and LeClaire, and in Illinois Albany, Moline and East Moline.

## **Listing of identifiable items removed from river**

### **Household**

Spongebob Squarepants  
pillow  
small toy boat  
light bulb  
spray cans  
lawn mower  
washer agitator drum  
4 plastic patio chairs  
swimming pool float  
metal box spring  
blanket  
small refrigerator  
aluminum chair  
2 freezers  
wooden door  
large brown jug  
Little Tikes gas tank  
dustpan  
tennis shoe  
2 doll eyes  
6 house stilts

### **Farm and Utility**

7 fence posts  
harrow  
large oil barrel  
regulator  
pvc pipes  
4 55-gallon drums  
wiring  
30 ft barbed wire  
metal barrel lid  
3 large metal barrels  
small metal barrel  
metal gate  
chemical barrel  
2 five-gallon buckets  
plastic tub  
10 ft pipe  
chemical spray wand  
metal hoop

fully soaked diaper  
insulated bldg panel  
2 metal bed frames  
blouse  
lampshade  
furnace core  
swimming pool ladder  
metal table top  
large rubber mat  
pvc pipe  
small pipes  
parts washing 2-part bin  
small metal panels

### **Outdoor Fun**

2 duck decoy  
jacket PFD  
2 tarps  
bicycle tire inner tube  
5 flip-flops  
shotgun shells  
fishing pole  
18 bobbers  
3 tents  
coozie  
football  
2 old trout lines  
Frisbee  
portable potty  
dock parts  
picnic table  
portable toilet seat  
wooden restroom sign  
grill  
baseball cap  
2 coolers  
sleeping bag  
duck blind

metal patio couch frame  
metal chaise lounge frame  
folding chair  
burnt chair  
stool  
propane tank  
insulators

### **Vehicles**

6 cylinder short block- engine  
truck topper  
2 semi tires  
8 truck tires  
32 car tires  
8 various tires with rims  
tire retread  
yard tractor tire  
gas tank  
car seat  
tire rim