



Bill Stangler, Riverkeeper

River Watch

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Thanks Stuart

Meet Bill Stangler, Our New Riverkeeper

Congaree Riverkeeper is pleased to announce the full-time Riverkeeper/Executive Director, Bill Stangler. Bill graduated with honors with a bachelors degree from the University of North Carolina in geography. He is currently working towards a masters degree in the same field. His studies have focused on landscape ecology and river science, and he has participated in research concerning monitoring and enhancing Rocky Mountain fish populations in Columbia, sampling fish communities in the Congaree Basin, investigating effects of climate change at Congaree and studying historic river flows across the Southeast. Bill has also worked for the past few years as a local riverkeeper. In his spare time he is an avid paddler, hiker and general outdoorsman. We will be assuming the full-time position of Riverkeeper in January. Welcome Bill! He can be reached at crk@congariverkeeper.org 760-3357.

Stuart Greeter has faithfully served as our Riverkeeper since May 2010. He gave us a steady hand and dedicated advocacy during our time of building the strength of our organization. Thank you, Stuart Greeter, for all your hard work and passion for our Rivers. Stuart will be continuing to help Congaree Riverkeeper as a volunteer.

Merry Christmas

Congaree Riverkeeper wishes you and your family a Christmas full of peace and joy.

Can You Help Us?

We are looking for generous souls who will donate the following items (new or almost new) to Congaree Riverkeeper:

- * 15-30 hp Outboard Motor, preferably a jet drive
- * Video-Capable DSLR Camera
- * Book Shelf
- * GPS Unit
- * Canoe
- * Office Chair

If interested, please call 760-3357. In return, we'll add you as a member, and for businesses, we'll include your logo on our website.

Thanks to Austin & Rogers, PA who donated a desk and a filing cabinet!



Congaree Riverkeeper Working to Pro Access on Lower Saluda

Riverbanks Zoo sits alongside a particularly beautiful stretch of the Lower Saluda, and its parking lot has access point to the River. The popularity of the Zoo has created problems that threaten both the Zoo's destination and public enjoyment of the Lower Saluda over the past four years by a growing population has created an increase in thefts, fights, littering, and property damage in the Zoo's parking lot. We believe, as does Riverbanks, a long-term solution is implementation of the Saluda Three Rivers Greenway, which will bring lighting, and most importantly, greater police presence. We will make this greenway a reality. Until then, Congaree is committed to work with paddlers, outfitters and protect recreational access at the Zoo parking lot with Riverbanks Zoo to discuss potential solutions issued a joint statement with the Zoo intended to and relay our intent to work toward a fair resolution access and public safety. Read our joint statement

Congaree Riverkeeper Wants City Council

An important milestone in the health of our Rivers when DHEC issued what is called a MS4 permit Columbia that requires it to regulate stormwater limits. The City is the last of the three largest local Midlands to obtain this permit. Lexington County have been working to control stormwater pollution more. The City's permit requires it to revise its ordinance to make it consistent with its permit. City revised ordinance final approval on December 20th City's stormwater staff for their professional willingness to engage stakeholders in the revision currently drafted, this ordinance represents a missed opportunity for the City Council to show its commitment to clean water. The ordinance proposes new language that establishes policy for stream buffer regulations of contiguous local other things. We believe our proposal presents a good opportunity for the City Council to make clear policy statements for stream protection and set the tone and direction of the City for our rivers. Take a look at our proposed revision: your City Council Member and ask him/her to make changes.

Please visit our website at <http://www.congareeriverkeeper.org>.
Donate to our cause at <http://congareeriverkeeper.org/become-member-help-clean-our-water>