



# Sleepy Creek Watershed Association

Protecting and Preserving Sleepy Creek in Morgan County, West Virginia

April 2005

## Sleepy Creek Cleanups Planned for April

This year's Sleepy Creek Cleanups will be held on Saturday, April 2, and Saturday, April 9. The cleanups are sponsored by the Sleepy Creek Watershed Association, and everyone is invited to participate.

**April 2:** This cleanup, co-sponsored by the Alice Ferguson Foundation, will begin at 9:30 a.m. at Sleepy Creek Village.

To reach the site, go north on Rt. 522 and turn right on River Road just before the Potomac River bridge. Drive east 5.7 miles and meet the group where Sleepy Creek goes under River Road at Sleepy Creek Village.

**April 9:** This cleanup is part of the West Virginia Make It Shine Campaign. The site will be along Luther Michael Road from Rt. 522 to Creek Road. To reach the site from the Berkeley Springs Sheetz, go south on Rt. 522 about 7 miles and look for Luther Michael Road on the left. Turn left onto Luther Michael Road and park with the group. This site will be wet, so boots should be worn.

Gloves and bags will be furnished. Bring a large plastic bucket to help in picking up trash. The Department of Highways will pick up the trash bags.

For more information, contact Gale Foulds, SCWA president, at 258-6155.

## Streambank Survey Project Begins

SCWA will be using this year's \$5,000 grant from the WV Stream Partners Program to conduct a survey to identify critical areas on the main stem of Sleepy Creek. The survey will again be conducted by an intern from Shepherd University recommended by Ed Snyder, Shepherd University professor of environmental studies.

Last year's study was an assessment of the Sleepy Creek watershed. This year's study will build on that to identify critical areas, defined as:

- Stream bank erosion
- Sedimentation points of entry
- Areas with no buffer zones
- Threats or hazards to the creek, such as pipes dumping into the creek
- Dams fords, launching ramps, trash dumps, man-made obstructions and diversions.

Part of the study will also include pinpointing the exact locations where tributaries enter the main stem of Sleepy Creek.

The intern will travel along Sleepy Creek, identify the critical areas and tributaries, pinpoint exact locations by GPS, and take digital images of the areas. The GPS location will also be noted on a USGS 1:24000 quad sheet and a GIS layer furnished to identify the critical areas.

An article will be placed in the Morgan Messenger announcing the project and alerting the landowners. The actual survey of the creek will be conducted from June through August with the report completed in September.

## Mark Your Calendar

**April 23-24: Redbud Eco-Weekend.** Events planned all over Morgan County. Free redbud seedlings available at Nature Niche in Berkeley Springs.

**May 14-15: Bring Back the Ravishing Raptors and Other Feathered Flyers: Birding Festival.** Workshops on Saturday at the Inn & Spa at Berkeley Springs and other events around Morgan County during the weekend.

### *Sleepy Creek Watershed Association*

#### **Board Members**

President: Gale Foulds  
Vice President: Kris O'Brien  
Treasurer: Bob Velte  
Secretary: Eileen McIntire  
Jim Michael, Charles Biggs

P.O. Box 991  
Berkeley Springs, WV 25411

## Nature Notes

**April 2:** Robins begin nesting.

**April 8:** WV Arbor Day

**April 9:** Ramp digging at peak.

**April 16:** Hang hummingbird feeders.

**April 22:** National Arbor Day

### Found an injured hawk or owl?

Call the WV Raptor Rehabilitation Center, 1-800-540-6390; Ogleby Good Zoo, 304-243-4157; or 3 Rivers Avian Center, 1-800-721-5252.

### Feeding those hummingbirds?

Sugar solutions should be no stronger than 4 cups water to 1 cup sugar. Boil for 4 minutes. Store remainder in refrigerator. Keep feeders clean and the solution fresh.

### Campfire Caution:

Do not use limestone rocks around campfires. Heat may cause them to explode.

Thanks for the above notes go to the WV Div. of Natural Resources, Wildlife Resources Section, which produces the excellent Wildlife Calendar from which these notes are taken.



## Report illegal dumping to

**Ken Winter,  
Conservation Officer  
304-267-0037 (w)  
258-9052 (h)**

## Do You Have E-Mail?

Let us know your e-mail address so we can save trees and postage by e-mailing the newsletter to you. E-mail your address to Eileen McIntire at [sumcross@aol.com](mailto:sumcross@aol.com).

**Check out our website...**

**[www.sleepycreekwatershedassociation.org](http://www.sleepycreekwatershedassociation.org)**

## Membership and Renewal Form

Membership year is from January - December.  
Dues should be paid by the first of the year.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Individual—\$10 \_\_\_\_ Group/Org—\$25 \_\_\_\_

Family—\$15 \_\_\_\_ Sponsor—\$100 \_\_\_\_

**Mail to:** SCWA, Bob Velte, Treasurer,  
P.O. Box 991, Berkeley Springs, WV 25411