



## Annual meeting

**Oct 25, 2023**

# AGENDA

- ❖ Introduction: Ellen Papera
- ❖ Treasurer: Mollie May
- ❖ Water Quality: Bill Waldrop
- ❖ Shoreline Cleanup: Tom Ringenbach
- ❖ Trails: David Barnes
- ❖ President: David Flanagan
- ❖ Break
- ❖ Annual Program: Bryan Hall
- ❖ Close





**Mission :** To protect & improve the environment throughout the watershed of the Tellico Reservoir

- **Established in 2001**
- **Incorporated 501(c)3, non-profit, non-partisan**
- **250+ volunteers**
- **Membership from throughout the Watershed**
- **Liaison with Federal, State, & Local agencies**

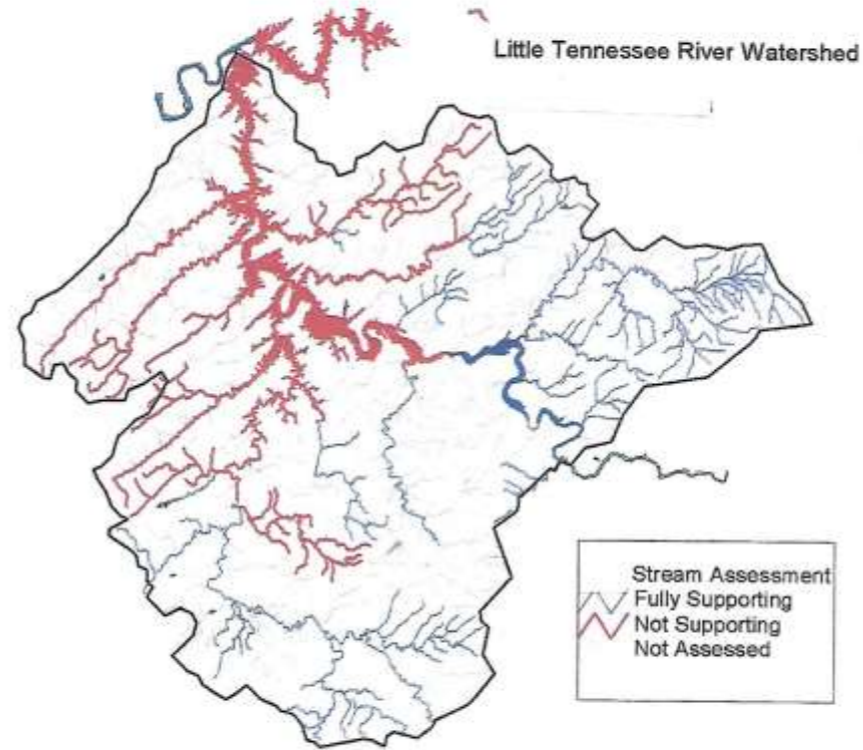
# Volunteer Committees



Lakeshore Cleanup

200+ volunteers

## Water Quality Improvement Committee (WQIC)



15 volunteers



50+ volunteers

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# Oct '22 – Sept '23

(\$000's)

## Income

from Donations:	\$14.6
Other:	2.8
[Members: 244]	

## Expenses:

Trails:	( 2.8)
Water Quality:	( 6.6)
Shoreline Cleanup:	( .6)
Boat:	( 1.0)
Other:	( 5.0)

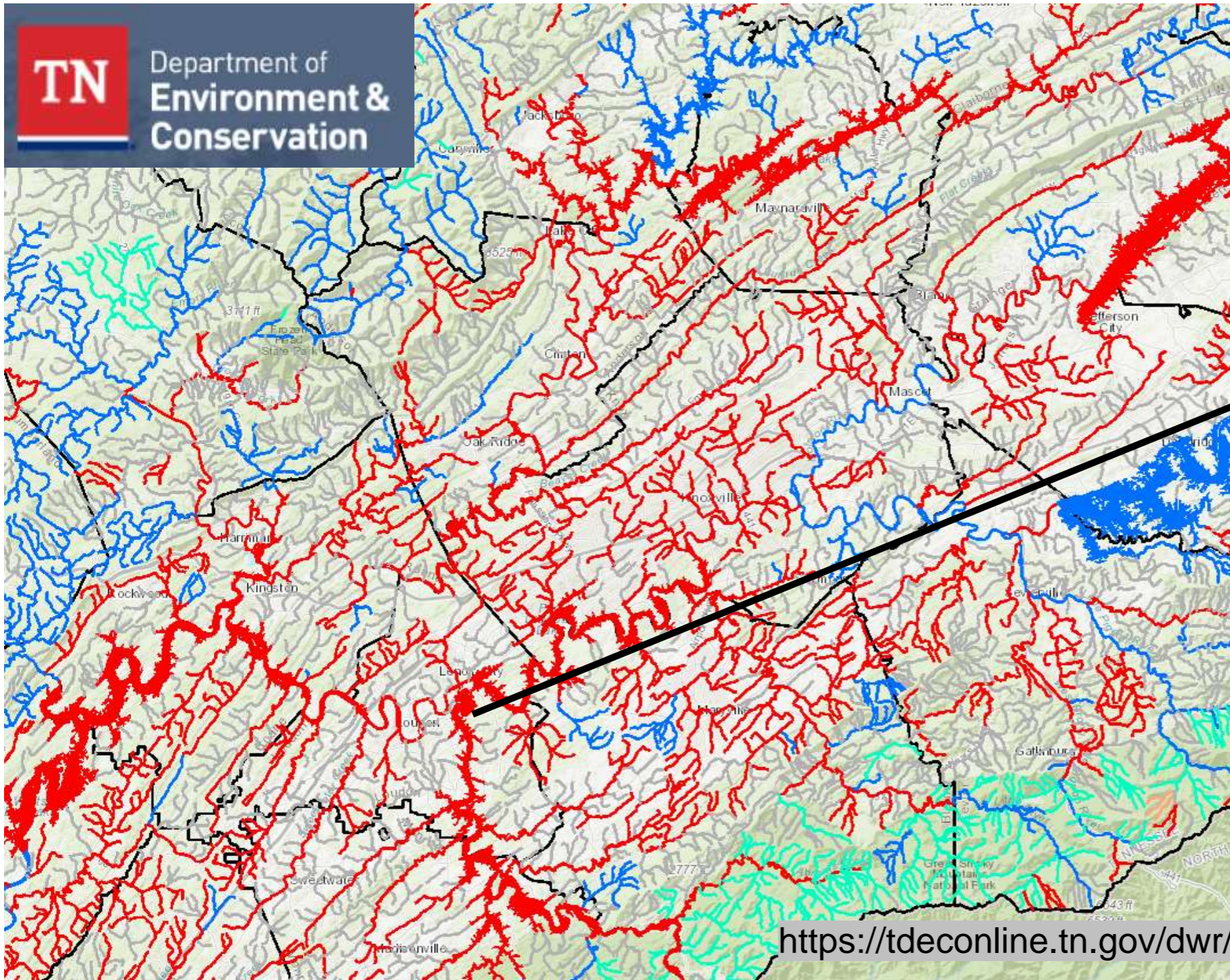
Net \$ 1.4



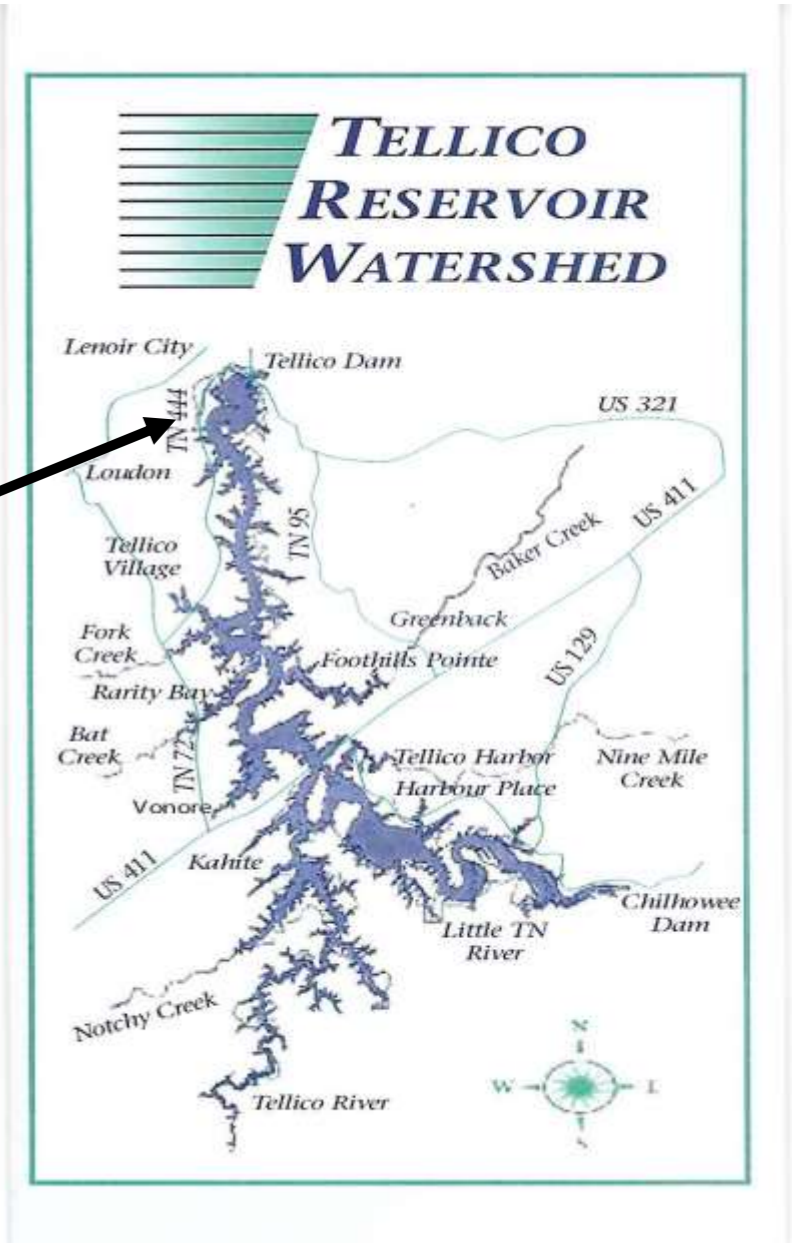
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<https://tdeconline.tn.gov/dwr/>





# Known causes of Impairment

## Reservoir: Illegal dumping in 1970's

- PCBs are undetectable in the water column
- Catfish are sampled/tested regularly in 3 locations
- Substantial improvements observed



## Tributaries: Non-Point-Source contamination

- WATeR is actively engaged with water testing
- Collaborate with county Soil Conservation Districts



# Non-Point Source Pollution

EPA funding available for implementing agricultural best practices:

- Cattle Watering Stations
- Habitat restoration (shade, erosion)
- \$1.3m to date

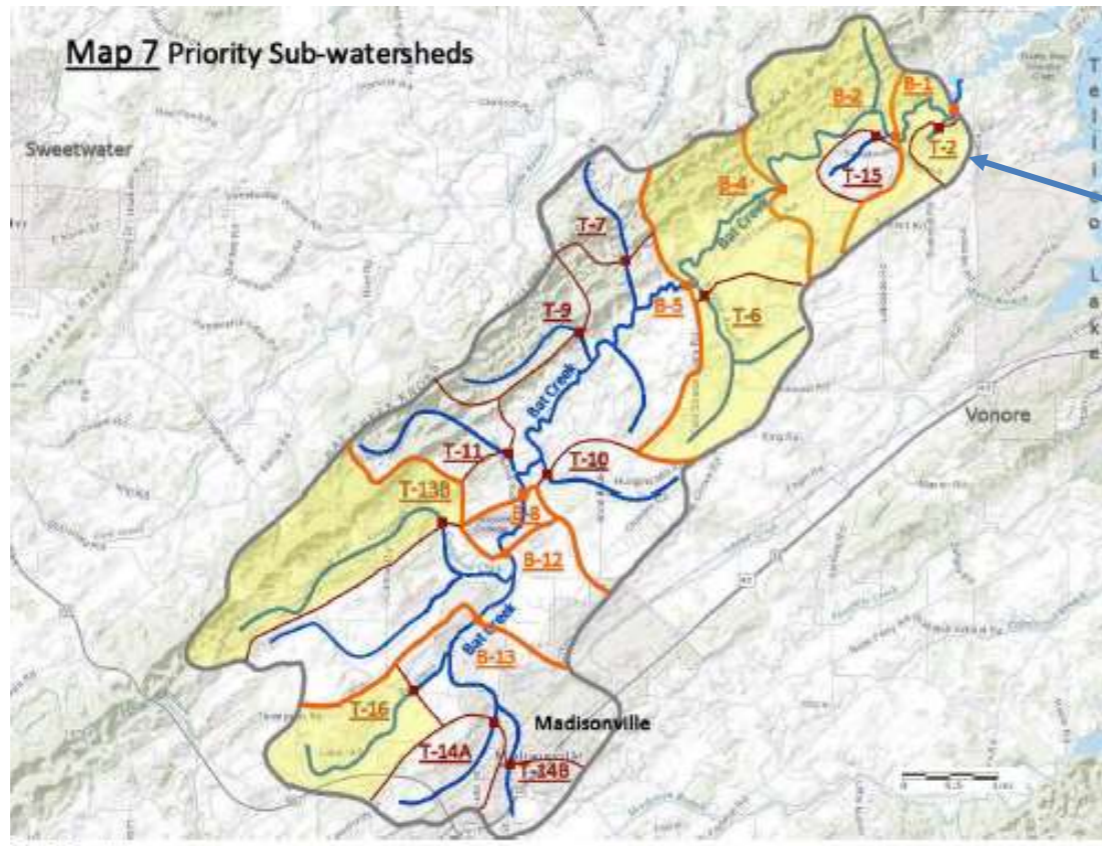
WATeR works with Soil conservation  
Districts

Monroe County

Blount County



# 2016 Bat Creek WATeR sampling



Tributary Concentration Ranking Summary					
Forced Rank	Sample Location	Parameter Ranking Points			Summed Ranking Points
		Nitrate	Phosphorus	E.Coli	
1	T-2	10	8	10	28
2	T-6	7	5	9	21
3	T-16	3	10	8	21
4	T-11	9	5	5	19
5	T-14A	5	8	2	15
6	T-13B	1	5	7	13
7	T-14B	6	2	5	13
8	T-15	8	2	3	13
9	T-9	2	9	2	13
10	T-7	4	8	0	12
11	T-10	0	2	6	8

# T2 – DW farms, Vonore





T2 - After:

Livestock exclusion fencing

2,500' drainage systems

3,500' water lines

Three new water stations



# It can be done!

## Rutherford Creek

### Agricultural Best Practices

### Habitat restoration

### 16 years



## NONPOINT SOURCE SUCCESS STORY

# Tennessee

### Habitat Restoration and Agricultural Best Management Practices Aid in Returning Rutherford Creek to Fully Supporting Status

#### Waterbody Improved

Rutherford Creek was added to Tennessee's 1996 Clean Water Act (CWA) section 303(d) list for impairment from inorganics and siltation due to major industrial point source and surface mining. In 2012, the causes and sources of pollution in Rutherford Creek was amended to loss of biological integrity due to siltation, nitrate+nitrate, and total phosphorus from pasture grazing and discharges from municipal separate storm sewer (MS4) areas. From 2002 to 2018, partners implemented habitat restoration practices and agricultural best management practices (BMPs), which improved water quality. As a result, a 12.5-mile segment of Rutherford Creek was removed from the 2016 impaired waters list for all sources and causes.

#### Problem

Rutherford Creek (TN06040003034 – 3000; formerly listed as TN06040003034 – 2000 and 3000, TN06040003034 – 2000, and TN06040003034) is within the Rutherford Creek Lower watershed (060400030201), in Maury and Williamson counties, Tennessee (Figure 1). Recreational paddlers enjoy Rutherford Creek's Class II and III rapids. The primary land cover in the Rutherford Creek Lower watershed is pasture and hay; however, both Maury and Williamson counties experienced significant population growth between 2010 and 2017 (13.9 percent and 23.5 percent, respectively), resulting in increased pressure from urbanization.

On Tennessee's 1996 CWA section 303(d) list, Rutherford Creek was identified as impacted by inorganics and siltation from major industrial point

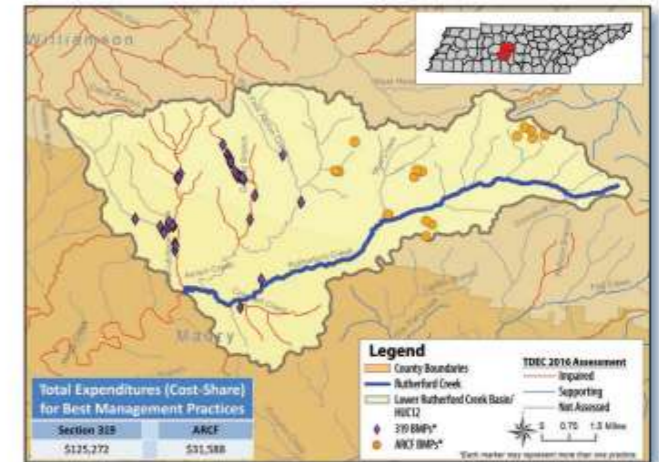


Figure 1. Map of Rutherford Creek (TN06040003034 – 3000) within the Rutherford Creek Lower watershed.

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# Shoreline Cleanup – March 19, 2022

250 plus volunteers

10 tons of trash





# Shoreline Cleanup

“Retiring”

Committee Member	Organization
Tom Ringenbach (Chair)	Oonoga Peninsula
Bob Kutschera	Soggy Bottoms Kayakers Muddy Boots Hikers WATeR Trailbuilders TV Dock Captains Mastercraft (Independent)
Ned Miller	Rarity Bay Community Tellico Harbor Marina Kahite Neighborhood Foothills Pointe Community Harbor Place TV Lions' Club
Jeff Rauch	Tellico Riders Motorcycle Club TV Ford Club TV Fishing Club Fort Loudon Rangers BSA Troop 10 (Madisonville) Sequoyah High School
Dan O'Leary	Marjorie's Group TV Womens' Club Wind River DAR TV Illinois Club Tellico Lake Rotary

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# East Lakeshore Trail



# East Lakeshore Trail: 2023 Highlights





## Adopt-a-Trail Volunteers

Tom Archakis	Joe Kushmaul
David Barnes	Bob Kutschera
Lisa Boatwright	Carlene LaScola
Dave Boatwright	Joe Lewis
Sharyn Cowley	Omea Masters
Aaron Cox	Ginger McDonald
Darrell Cuthbertson	Anne McNeer
Ben D'ooge	Bill Meese
Pat Dent	Kathleen Norris
Larry Elder	Terry Nyenhuis
Fred Evans	Tom Ogle
Kristin Farrington	Gwen Ogle
Jon Foreman	Erin Oswanski
Sue Fuller	Michael Oswanski
Dolly Garnett	Jerry Ploeger
Bob Gatley	Kelly Priestley
Bill Girardi	Rick Reid
Judy Gosch	Dane Relle
Bev Hawkins	Mary Rochford
Karen Hillenbrand	John Shryock
Forrest Hoffman	Steve Shuman
Veronika Johannesen	Tom Siegele
Carol Johnson	Lisa Styles
Elaine Karakis	Aaron Weaver
Bart Koch	George Zola

**FIREWATER ULTRA**  
 203 East Coast Tellico Parkway  
 GREENBACK, TN • 100K, 100K- 2 PER RELAY, 50K - 2 PER RELAY, 50K

Saturday, Oct 28, 2023

[Volunteer](#) [Register](#)

WEBSITE CALENDAR STORE ENTRANTS DIRECTIONS WATCH SOCIAL

# Work Crew Projects



# The Mel Fisher Mile



# Opportunities

Kiosk upgrades

Additional trail spurs

Education and/or Fitness Elements

Community engagement Activities

**Volunteers Appreciated!**





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# Emerging Threats



Algae – greening of the lake

- Rising temperatures
- Residential development
  - Increased runoff
  - Lawn fertilizers and chemicals



# WATeR/UT Algae Study

2<sup>nd</sup> year of Collaboration with Dept of Microbiology

WATeR will benefit from interpretation of results

- Indicate actions/remediations
- Community education



# Tennessee Smart Yards

## Green Infrastructure Principles

Water capture and manage runoff

Soil test & limit lawn chemicals

Plant a tree

Plant a rain garden to capture runoff

Native species – biodiversity



<https://tnyards.utk.edu/>



TENNESSEE ENVIRONMENTAL COUNCIL

Share Menu

# TENNESSEE TREE DAY

MARCH 18, 2023

Pickup in Vonore at Overhill Gardens  
Extreme weather alternate date March 25, 2023

♥ 36 Contributions

Trees reserved through this form will be picked up at:

**Overhill Gardens**  
Hosted by: Watershed Association of Tellico Reservoir  
1230 US-411, Vonore, TN 37885  
SATURDAY, March 18: 10am - 1pm

**TBD**

**March 16, 2024**



- 2023 result: 850 trees distributed
- 2024 goal: 1,500

**Volunteers Needed!**

# New Initiatives

## 2023:

Polar Plunge

TEC Tree Distribution

Lake Temperature Monitoring

Swim Beach Water Quality

Tugaloo project

## 2024

Algae study continuation

Community Research

Tennessee Smart Yards Initiatives



# Volunteer Opportunities

## Projects:

TEC Tree Distribution  
Shoreline Cleanup  
Trails

## Ongoing:

Volunteer Mgt  
Publicity  
Fundraising  
Promotions/Events  
Education/Stewardship



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