

Mission: to unite as citizens and actively engage in the preservation of the Spring Creek Watershed

Please contact SCC to be removed from or added to this mailing list

**Spring Creek Coalition
2434 East 56 Place
Tulsa, Oklahoma 74105**

Spring Creek Watershed Landowners Fall 2011 Newsletter



THE MOST PRISTINE
LARGE OZARK STREAM
IN OKLAHOMA
MANAGED AND
PROTECTED BY
PRIVATE
LANDOWNERS

Phone: (918) 637-1449

Email info@springcreekok.org

GIVE BACK TO YOUR CREEK— FALL CLEAN-UP EVENT!

**Saturday, November 5th
10:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m.
Twin Bridges Area**

- Weiner roast for the kids
- Rain or shine
- Gloves and trash bags provided
- Contact Jennifer Owen at 918-637-1449 for information

Directions:

From Tulsa: Take Highway 412 east. Get on the Cherokee Turnpike. Exit at Locust Grove (toll 25¢). Go South (right) on Hwy. 82, and travel 3.0 miles to Ear Bob Road, the first road on your right after crossing Spring Creek.

From Tahlequah: Take Hwy. 82 North to Ear Bob Road, the last road on your left before crossing Spring Creek.

Both: Turn west on Ear Bob Road (at Rowland Ranch Country Store/Cowboy Steakhouse). Go 1.7 miles to DO61.6 road (at the Ballou Baptist sign). Turn right; stay on the black-top road for 0.5 miles until you reach the bridge (this is Twin Bridges).

The clean-up will be at the bridge area.

Cleaning the Creek is Important

Not only is the litter along the creek unsightly, but it is also dangerous to both animals and people. Discarded metal, cans, and bottles pose a significant threat to those who enjoy swimming in the creek. Chemicals can leach out from the trash, changing the quality and balance of the creek. Food containers can trap and potentially kill hungry scavengers. Not to mention old tires make terrific nurseries for mosquitoes. It's amazing the variety of trash we collect every year.



Having fun at last fall's clean up.

make for light work. If we have enough manpower to finish Twin Bridges, we will move to Cave Springs Bridge afterward.

Gravel Mining Update on Double Spring Creek

Significant events have occurred this summer concerning the M5 Mining operation at Double Spring Creek that we wrote about in our last newsletter.

First, the Department of Mines (DOM) held an "informal conference" on the mining permit in July at the request of an adjoining landowner and resident. The following are her

Please join us on November 5th to make the creek cleaner and safer for everyone. Remember, many hands

Gravel Extraction Update

three key objections to the permit, taken from her formal letter to the DOM:

- 1) The M5 Mining Enterprises filed public notice in the wrong county in early 2010 and were subsequently given a mining permit by the Oklahoma Department of Mines under false pretenses or at best, unsubstantiated claims of public notice.
- 2) The M5 mining practices are not in compliance with the Corps of Engineers mining guidelines for best management practices so as to not cause erosion.

3) These improper mining practices have already led to erosion of her property line.

The M5 permit is currently suspended pending resolution of these complaints.



Gravel extraction this summer.

Finally, and perhaps most significantly, the M5 owner has put the 27+ acres up for sale, for \$172,900. The mining permit does not go with the sale. A new owner would have to go through the permitting process again. You can see this property listing, MLS# 1117212, at:

<http://www.trulia.com/property/3054806149--S-626-Road-Tahlequah-OK-74464>

Meet Your Neighbors

Meet Your Neighbors— Local Man Returns Home

When Jesse Maner calls the Spring Creek area home, he really means it. “My parents moved to Four Corners near Peggs around 1940,” said Maner. “And I was born and went to school in the Iron Post Community east of Highway 82. I was baptized in Spring Creek when I was about 13 years old. It was November, and boy, that water was cold”.

After 15 years, the family moved east of Locust Grove, and Maner later moved on and enlisted in the Navy. After serving his country for four years, he attended college to study Chemistry and worked in a foundry. But his desire to live and work in the country eventually brought him back to Peggs. “I didn’t want to still be working in a foundry when I was 50 years old,” he said.

In 1984 Maner purchased 180 acres near Four Corners, adding more land later. “In 1998 I finally quit the foundry and started a business,” he said. Maner owns and operates **J Bar 2 Sawmill**, offering kiln-dried hardwood lumber. He builds small storage buildings and chicken houses from the lumber he cuts. He can be reached at 918-479-5662 for more information.

“I first heard of SCC in the mid 1990’s,” notes Maner, “when the coalition



Jesse Maner at his sawmill.

SCC Auction a Success

helped prevent a massive landfill from being built east of Highway 82.” The landfill would have resulted in an estimated 40–60 trucks of trash a day. “I consider myself an amateur tree-hugger. SCC is something I can get behind.” Maner has been an involved participant of SCC ever since.

SCC Auction a Huge Success!

SCC introduced a spirited approach to fundraising at our annual Membership Meeting last January by auctioning prizes specific to Spring Creek. A tour of the creek via private plane was captured by top bidders Charles and Donna Drury. “It was fascinating,” notes Donna. “We saw the creek from source to end, and we especially enjoyed getting a close-up aerial view of our property.”



Three Springs Farm at the Cherry Street Farmers’ Market in Tulsa.

Spencer Cabinets of Peggs and sawmill owner Jesse Maner combined their talents to offer a stunning mirror, hand-made from local persimmon. Other items included a scenic water tour, organic produce provided by Three Springs Farm, and the planting of 100 trees for bank stabilization.

The auction generated over \$700. Much thanks to all who participated!

Please Support SCC!

The annual Membership Meeting is an important event. It is required by SCC bylaws, and it is the members’ opportunity to vote on pertinent activities of the Spring Creek Coalition. Please plan to attend in 2012. We’ll have information on the meeting in our next newsletter.

MAIL RECIPIENTS—CHECK YOUR MAILING LABEL!

We are adding an annotation to your name on the mailing label to let you know when you last paid dues and to encourage people to become SCC members. Members get to vote for the Board of Directors and bylaw changes. Most importantly, they get the satisfaction of knowing they support SCC by helping pay for our newsletter, website, and events such as tree plantings, trash cleanup, and operating expenses.

Your label will appear as follows:

- John Doe 2010 = dues last paid in 2010
- John Doe Life = lifetime membership
- John Doe = no record of dues

If you are not current and would like voting rights for this year, please send in your 2011 dues: \$20 single, \$40 family, or \$100 lifetime dues. All contributions are tax-deductible. SCC is a not-for-profit 501(c3) organization.