



The Creekside E-News

January 2011

Protect · Restore · Celebrate

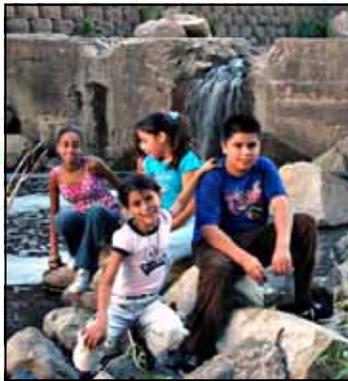
Celebrating 20 Years

Read about Prescott Creeks' first [20 years](#) of work to improve water quality, restore habitat and celebrate the watershed of central Arizona in today's Prescott Daily Courier. We look forward to the next 20 years!



Water Quality

Prescott's 300+ miles of wastewater collection infrastructure relies primarily on gravity to transport solid waste to the primary wastewater treatment plant located above Watson Lake at the base of the watershed. Many of the sewer lines, sewer mains, and utility holes are located in the creek beds or adjacent to the creeks. This becomes an acute water quality problem if a pipe leaks or breaks or if sewage overflows at a manhole. With some of this infrastructure as old as 120 years and even recent infrastructure in need of upgrades, sewer overflows are not entirely uncommon. For more information see Amanda's blog on [Paying the Price for Cleaner Water](#).



Watson Woods—Continuing the Restoration



The planting is done! Since last month, lots of volunteers took lots of cuttings (over 3,000!) and got them into water for soaking. Fann Environmental and Natural Channel Design companies moved massive amounts of dirt and rock to recover from the damage caused by last year's floods and

also to make Granite Creek better able to withstand similar events in the future. Read more about the restoration work in [Dirt From the Field](#)

Your Support Matters

Your donations are a vital part of the work Prescott Creeks does on behalf of cleaner water and improved habitat. Over 90% of your donation goes to support project work in the central Arizona watershed.



[Donate Here to Support the Creeks](#)

Granite Creek Cleanup 2011

The 2011 Granite Creek Cleanup will be held on **Saturday, April 23rd**. This year we are doing something a little different. The idea is to remove from the waste-stream the reusable trash that is collected and repurpose it



Water heater near Granite Creek in Watson Woods

to create art, which will eventually be displayed as part of an exhibit. Our goal is to create recognition and conversation about the amount and type of trash that is ending up in the local system of creeks and lakes. For more information, give us a call or join us for a [planning meeting](#).

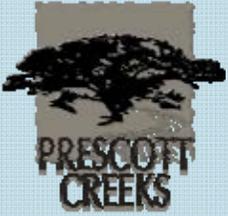
Opportunities



Make It A Day On Not A Day Off
Martin Luther King, Jr. believed 'everybody can be great because anybody can serve.' For this 2011 Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service, find out more about participating this **January 17th** at www.ycvp.org.

Help Plan the 3rd Annual Run for the Creeks
Meet at the Prescott Creeks office (119 Grove #A) on Tuesday, January 11th at 4:30—5:30 pm. For more information call (928)445-5669





The Creekside E-News

February 2011

Protect · Restore · Celebrate

Watson Woods Restoration Update



The rains that came before, during, and after Christmas caused Granite Creek to flow at over 400 cfs. Cfs means cubic feet of water per second. So, we had over 3,000 gallons per second flowing out of the creek. That's not a huge amount of water, but considering we had just finished our construction and vegetation work the previous week, and the 3,000 plantings have no roots yet to hold themselves down and to strengthen the new creek banks, it was a concern. To read more on how Watson Woods' restoration work stood up to the storms read [Jay's blog](#).

Read All About It

2 January—[Celebrating 20 years of Prescott Creeks](#)

13 January—[Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Service project with Prescott Creeks](#)

15 January—[Service opportunity with Prescott Creeks on MLK Day](#)

17 January—[MLK Day a huge success](#)



Show the creeks your love Donate here

We love the creeks and hope that you do, too. Your support is important to the work of restoring the habitat, improving water quality, and providing a more beautiful piece of our community. [Donate here.](#)



Water Quality: Who Pooped in Granite Creek?

They say that in order to solve a problem, you must first admit that the problem exists. So, here it is: in Prescott, our local creeks and lakes have water quality problems. Some deny it, reasoning that talking about it might scare the tourists away. To that, I say poppycock! We all need to be aware of these problems so that we can



do something about them, for the good of the community and the people who reside here. For more information on water quality read [Amanda's blog](#).

Opportunities

Participate in Worthwhile Volunteer Projects and Support the **Verde River Greenway!** Rocking River Ranch State Natural Area in the beautiful Verde Valley, Saturday, February 26, 2011 at 8:30 a.m. Working on several projects: Invasive plant removal, river cleanup (boaters only), fence replacement and repair, with a free lunch to boot! For more information contact: Chip Norton, Friends of VRG, condors@commspeed.net

Join us for the annual **Granite Creek Cleanup** on Saturday, April 23rd at 9 am at Granite Creek Park. Watch our [website](#) for more details and to pre-register.





The Creekside E-News

March 2011

Protect · Restore · Celebrate

Granite Creek Cleanup One Man's Treasure



This year Prescott Creeks will once again host the annual Granite Creek Cleanup. It will take place **Saturday, April 23rd from 9 am at Granite Creek Park.** Every year hundreds

of people gather for this unique community event and in approximately two hours pull anywhere between 3 and 8 tons of trash from our local creeks and lakes. All this is done with the support of the City of Prescott, local businesses, and even more volunteers with the sole intent to make Prescott a healthier, more beautiful place for everyone. For more information on what we're planning for this year's Cleanup see [this blog](#).



Amanda Richardson Prescott Young Professionals Visionary Award Winner



Amanda Richardson, Prescott Creeks' Watershed program Coordinator, was honored as one of ten young men and women awarded the [Prescott Young Professionals'](#) Visionary award. Winners of this award are those professionals from 21-40 years old who are poised to play key, visionary roles in shaping their communities and their businesses in the coming decade.

We're Moving



Prescott Creeks is relocating its office during the middle of March to 822 West Gurley Street. Leaving The Grove is hard, but growth and changing needs make this a positive move. Our contact

information will stay the same. We look forward to showing off our new location in the near future.

Celebrate Spring Donate to Your Creeks

Your support is important to the work of restoring the habitat, improving water quality, and providing a more beautiful piece of our community. To show your support for the creeks, [donate here](#).



Training at National River Rally

June 3 - 6, 2011

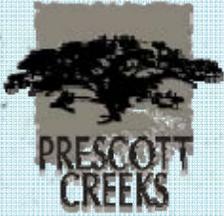
At [River Rally](#), you will:

- learn the best strategies for river restoration;
- test and help improve the newest tools and technologies for watershed protection;
- deliver and discuss critical information from the field and from Washington, DC; and
- connect with the people you need to achieve your goals.



Whether you work for, volunteer with or otherwise support organizations that protect and restore our freshwater lifelines, your efforts—individually and collectively—are amazing.





The Creekside E-News

April 2011

Protect · Restore · Celebrate

Join us on April 23rd to Cleanup our Creeks

Annually the Granite Creeks Cleanup volunteers provide an important service in keeping our waterways clean and attractive by removing multiple tons of trash. In return for spending two hours our on the creeks they receive coffee, snack, a t-shirt and trash bags – and we all receive a more beautiful place to live, work, and play. You can be part of this effort by either pre-registering [here](#) or showing up at [Granite Creek Park](#) on Saturday, **April 23rd at 9am**. We look forward to seeing you all there.



Photo by West Howland

This year is going to be a little different. Prescott Creeks is asking people to separate true trash into black trash bags and anything they think can be reused and made into art into

white trash bags. As the [City](#) picks up the black bags, [Northpoint Expeditionary Learning Academy](#) will be picking up the white bags. Potential art materials will be available to anyone interested at Granite Creek park starting at 11 am that same day.



Visit us at our new location

Prescott Creeks can now be found at 822 W. Gurley St. We are all moved in and nearly functional.



Get Out...Get Into It! Discover Prescott's Natural History

On Sat, **April 16, 2011** Discover Prescott's Natural History is a one-day festival anchored by the dedication of the Watson Willow Lakes Ecosystem Important Bird Area. The event includes a day of free activities <http://www.prescottaudubon.org/events/>



Photo by Rich Gregory

Donate to Your Creeks

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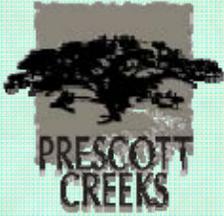
Statewide Prescription Drug Take-Back Day is April 30



Prescott's prescription drug take-back day helps consumers safely dispose of old, unwanted, potentially harmful drugs. The event takes place April 30, 2011, 10 am to 2 pm, at the Arizona Department of Public Safety office, 1111 Commerce Drive. Additional collection sites can be found by visiting www.dea.gov, clicking on the "Got Drugs?" icon, and following the links to a database, where they enter

their zip code. It is also possible to get rid of unwanted prescription drugs at the Prescott Police Department office Monday- Friday between 9 and 3:30 PM. Drugs must be in an unmarked baggie. They accept no bottles.





The Creekside E-News

May 2011

Protect · Restore · Celebrate

Our biggest Granite Creek Cleanup yet!

Thank you to the over **500 people** came out to help clean our area creeks and lakes!

Final number: **10 tons** (yep, that's right) of trash



Of that, approximately

3 tons was upcycled into art. And the [City](#) recycled everything they could.



Making out area a nicer place one piece of trash removed at a time. Thank you to all the participants and sponsors.

Join us next year on Saturday, April 21st for the 2010 Granite Creek Cleanup.

Rick Hartner of [Sitting Duck Studios](#) reviews things pulled out of the creek at [Acker Park](#) by [Unity Church](#) for possible

Trash into Art

For those of you interested in participating in the recycled art show and auction, pieces need to be submitted to the Prescott Creeks office by July 1, 2011. They will then be reviewed by a selection committee.



Photo by [Royce Carlson](#)

After seeing the variety of art created during the Cleanup, we are very excited to see the final pieces.

The show details are still coming together. However, the auction will be held September 18th from 4—7 pm at the Granite Dells Resort.

Donate to Your Local Creeks

Your support is important to the work of restoring the habitat, improving water quality, and providing a more beautiful piece of our community. To support this work, [donate here](#).



The Clean Water Act

Recently the U.S. EPA and the Army Corps of Engineers released the [Draft Guidance on Identifying Waters Protected by the Clean Water Act](#). The draft guidance attempts to answer a very critical question -- which streams, wetlands and other waters are protected under the Clean Water Act? The guidance attempts to clear up confusion and protection problems following two Supreme Court decisions which muddied the waters on the question of "jurisdiction" or which waters receive Clean Water Act protections from pollution, dredge and fill, and other activities.

LEARN MORE

Want to bone up on the issue? River Network's [blog](#) on the release of the draft guidance includes links to a great blog post from NRDC on the draft guidance and to our past blog posts on the topic.

Herpetology for You

Dr. Cecil Schwalbe, a renowned herpetologist, ecologist with US Geological Survey, National Geographic expert, faculty member at U of A, mentor to more than 30 graduate students, co-author of *The*



Venomous Reptiles of Arizona, and much, much more, is returning to the Highlands Center. See our [Calendar Item](#) for more information.

Watson Woods is part way through a herpetological study. To volunteer with our herpetologist fill out our [online application](#).



Call for Artists



Prescott Creeks will be holding a recycled art show and auction titled "One Man's Treasure" on



September 18th at the Granite Dells Resort, a beautiful historic location in the Granite Dells along Granite Creeks.



We are looking for artists, or just downright creative folks, to turn trash into art. This is a chance to challenge yourself in the art of "upcycling", or literally turning our creek trash into creative treasures.

For more information see our [blog](#).

Donate to Your Local Creeks

Please consider making a contribution to Prescott Creeks by setting up a Sustaining Gift. Your automatic monthly donation will help us to continue our important work of preservation of restoration. A Sustaining Gift can be set up [here](#).



First Flush

Oftentimes when it rains, we at Prescott Creeks hear reports that the creeks are black and murky. [Here](#) you can see photos of and learn more about our May 18th First Flush .



Thank You Granite Creek Cleanup Sponsors!

April 23, 2011 • Sponsored by:



Prescott's Voice for Riparian Conservation Since 1990



Granite Creek Cleanup is brought to you by:





The Creekside E-News

July 2011

Protect · Restore ·
Celebrate



Happy Fourth of July

Tickets available to One Man's Treasure

Purchase tickets [here](#).

Join Prescott Creeks for **One Man's Treasure**, an upcycled art show and auction, on September 18th from 4 - 7 pm at the Granite Dells Resort.



Art, wine, food, music, and creeks - what's not to love? Bid on a variety of art, many of which will highlight materials pulled out from our creeks during the Granite Creek Cleanup. Enjoy wine from [Page Springs Vineyard](#) and beer from Granite Mountain Brewing.

Support Your Creeks

Please consider making a contribution to Prescott Creeks by setting up a Sustaining Gift.



Your automatic monthly donation will help us to continue our important work of preservation or restoration. A Sustaining Gift can be set up [here](#).

When Do Bacteria In Our Surface Waters Present a Public Health Risk?



At this year's Granite Creek Cleanup 10 tons of trash were removed from the creeks and lakes in the Prescott area. One Man's Treasure is our attempt to bring attention to the amount of trash in our creeks, suggest alternatives to throwing

the materials away, highlights materials that have been upcycled into art, and raise funds for the continuation and growth of the Granite Creek Cleanup.

The historic Granite Dells Resort



was once the destination for visitors to the Prescott area. Once a choice location for movies, the Resort boasted a large swimming lake/pool, lawn bowling, a roller skating rink, and dancing to big bands. Enjoy the beautiful views of the Dells and Granite Creek in this unique setting. Music, hors d'oeuvres and wine will be served outside near the old swimming area, while the auction will be held in the old dance hall.

Watson Woods Update

Watson Woods has been busy. As we move into summer our work changes along with the weather. Jay Crocker, our Field Project Coordinator, explains what's happening in Watson Woods and what's coming up in his latest [Dirt From the Field](#).



Escherichia coli (*E. coli*) bacteria are members of a group of bacteria known as fecal coliforms.

These bacteria originate in the intestines of warm-blooded animals. The presence of *E. coli* in surface waters means that the water has been contaminated by fecal material. Bacteria is naturally present in surface waters at low concentrations. At high concentrations, it indicates that something in the watershed is contributing excess bacteria: agricultural runoff, domestic sewage contamination, wastewater treatment plants, septic systems, or runoff from areas heavily contaminated with pet waste. For more information, See [Amanda's blog](#) for more information.

Call for Artists

Prescott Creeks will be holding an upcycled art show and auction titled **"One Man's Treasure" on September 18th at the Granite Dells Resort**, a beautiful historic location in the Granite Dells along Granite Creeks.



We are looking for artists to turn trash into art. This is a chance to challenge yourself in the art of "upcycling", or literally turning our creek trash into creative treasures.



More information on our [blog](#).

Prescott Creeks
PO Box 3004
Prescott, AZ 86302

(928)445-5669
www.PrescottCreeks.org

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Prescott Creekside E-News

Protect * Restore * Celebrate

September 2011



One Man's Treasure * Watson Woods * Watershed News

www.PrescottCreeks.org

One Man's Treasure

Coming this Month



Purchase tickets [here](#) or at the Prescott Creeks office to spend an evening enjoying upcycled art, jazz, an open bar, and supporting the creeks in a beautiful, historic and not often visited location at the Granite Dells Resort. Every year volunteers pull multiple tons of trash from the creeks and lakes around Prescott. This art highlights the trash pulled from our creeks and gives

alternatives to placing these materials in the waste stream.

Watson Woods Update

Invasive species in your back yard

This summer, led by Prescott Creek's Jay Crocker, volunteers successfully removed many invasive noxious weeds such as spotted knapweed from Watson Woods. But this is not solving the weed problem because several species are widespread throughout Prescott. More information on our local weeds can be found [here](#).



Run for the Creeks

Saturday, October 29th the 3rd Annual Run for the Creeks along the Peavine and Iron King Trails will include a 5k, a 1.3k, and a 100 yard kid-dash.

[Learn More](#)



Read All About It...

Prescott Creeks' recent articles in the news:

Amanda talks about [goeey green lakes](#) and Eric Moore at [Jay's Bird Barn](#) talks about [One Man's Treasure](#) and the [importance of riparian habitat](#).

Prescott Creeks is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization with the mission to promote, protect and celebrate the ecological integrity of riparian systems and associated wetlands in the central Arizona watersheds through conservation, restoration and education.

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Prescott Creekside E-News

October 2011

www.Prescottcreeks.org



Caring for Your Creeks

On September 29, 2011, Dr. Channah Rock and Kelley Riley of the University of Arizona's Maricopa Agricultural Center came to Prescott to train Prescott Creeks staff and volunteers in using Colilert equipment to test E. coli samples. Click [here](#) to see how a Colilert system works and [here](#) for more details.

READ ALL ABOUT IT:



Register [HERE](#) for the [3rd annual Run for the Creeks](#) will be Saturday, **October 29th**. Details and registration are in progress. Runs planned include a 4 mile, a 13k, and a kids 100-yard dash.

The run is open to all runners and walkers. It will start at the Side Road parking area of the Peavine Trail off of Hwy 89A. Onsite registration will be open from 6:30 - 7:45 am. The 13k will start at 8 am and follow the Peavine Trail to the intersection with the Iron King Trail and the up the Iron King and then reverse. The 4 mile will start at 8:30 am run to the intersection of the trails and back. The kids 100 yard dash is open to those 10 years old and younger and will start at 9:30 am. Kids will be staged so that those with parental support are behind those running free.

Medals will be given to the top three finishers in the 10 year age categories and (being that it's right before halloween) prizes will be awarded for the best costumed runner.

One Man's Treasure on

- [Prescott Arts Beat.](#)
- and [Bill's Roundup](#)

Make a donation



Graphic Design Protects Creeks: In Memory of [Bridget Reynolds](#)

Last week we said a final good-bye to a good friend and steadfast supporter of Prescott Creeks. We will miss her

dearly.

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Prescott Creekside E-News

November 2011



The Gift of Giving



Tina Blake

As the new Office Manager, I feel thrilled to be able to be part of an organization that directly gives back to the community and the environment in which we live. I'm sure all of us have experienced the gift of Prescott and want to share it with



Watershed Improvement Plan

The WIC is now accepting public comment on WIP 1.0. The document is available for download and an online comment system is located on the Prescott Creeks [website](#).

Dirt from the Woods

Gregg Fell



So far so good-I have been working here at Prescott Creeks as the Field Projects Coordinator for almost 2 months, and I am already feeling a strong connection with Prescott. My co-workers are great, I have met lots

want to share it with future generations. One way to ensure Prescott continues to thrive is for us to represent a culture of giving.

[For more on a culture of giving click here.](#)



[DONATE](#)

or become a

[MEMBER](#)

of Prescott Creeks

Join us
**Wednesday,
November 2nd at
6pm** to help
organize the
**Friends of Acker
Park holiday
cards** to go out to
retailers. Meet at
the Prescott
Creeks office: 822
W. Gurley.

of cool people who are passionate about the environment, and I am beginning to understand the challenges we all face in protecting our aquatic resources.

[Click here for more of what's been going on in the Wood.](#)

Creek Crew Volunteers Needed to Help Monitor Local Creeks this Winter!

Prescott Creeks is looking for volunteers to join the Creek Crew and receive training in preparation for water quality monitoring of our local creeks this winter. Water quality is part of the second phase of the Upper Granite Creek Watershed Improvement Planning effort to identify sources of nutrient and bacterial pollution and design solutions to improve water quality.

Prescott Creeks is holding a water quality monitoring refresher course for new and former Creek Crew volunteers. The refresher course will cover basics of water quality monitoring – equipment and procedures – as well as which constituents are being monitored and why. Pizza and refreshments will be provided. Please RSVP to Amanda to let her know you will be attending.

Water Quality Volunteer Refresher Course

Wednesday, November 16th, 5:30 – 7:30 p.m.

Prescott Creeks office (822 W Gurley St, Prescott)

Please RSVP

Tel: (928)445-56697

Email info@PrescottCreeks.org

www.PrescottCreeks.org

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Prescott Creekside E-News

December 2011

We are Grateful for you!

Let us be grateful to people who make us happy; they are the charming gardeners who make our souls blossom.

-- Marcel Proust

We are grateful for all of you; for all that you do with being involved throughout the year. Our work would not be possible without our volunteers, members, and donors. You make our souls and our riparian areas blossom.

As you plan your year-end donations, please think of Prescott Creeks. Donations are an extremely important part of supporting the water quality monitoring, habitat restoring, and education that happens through Prescott Creeks.



The Watershed We Want: Granite Creek to the Verde River

The Watershed We Want: Granite Creek to the Verde River will transform policy development to integrate consideration for the natural environment, education, and sustainable economic development. The project will result in a community connected and enriched by its common water course.



[More Information on The Watershed We Want](#)



We Have a Movie!

View [The Watershed We Want](#) video voiced by Dan Campbell of The Nature Conservancy and featuring photos from Walt Anderson, Gary Beverly, and others.

Dirt from the Field



Fall is a beautiful season out at Watson Woods. Golden leaves, birds, and invasive

Thanks to our
**Run for the
Creeks**
Sponsors,
volunteers, and
runners.



weed removal. Click here for [more](#) on the recent activities at Watson Woods.

Join Us for [Restoration Opportunities for Lower Miller Creek](#)

You're invited to join Prescott Creeks and Ecosa on **Thursday, December 15th from 6 – 8:30 pm**

at the Ecosa studio for a presentation on potential water quality improvements for Lower Miller Creek. Ecosa has been working with the Watershed



Improvement Council this semester to better understand the water quality challenges along Lower Miller Creeks. Please RSVP at 928-541-1002 if you are interested in coming as space is limited. Ecosa's location is 224 ¼ S. Montezuma, off the alley behind Radio Shack. For the past two years, the Granite Creek More information is available at [Prescott Creeks](#) and [Ecosa](#)

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