



OSM/VISTA Saving Appalachian Resources, KY

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The Licking River starts from an underground stream in an isolated area 17 miles from the nearest town. The River has survived catastrophic floods, stream alterations, strip mining, and logging, but continues to face a legacy of apathy and neglect. By replacing a lack of interest from the community with a desire to demand change of themselves and others, Saving Appalachian Resources (SAR) is working to insure a better quality of life for future generations.

To accurately determine the problems posed for this watershed and find the solutions, the group is pursuing more water testing opportunities.

The OSM/ VISTA of SAR and The Licking River Headwaters Group have combined their efforts to provide a Watershed Coordinator to establish monitoring programs to evaluate the stream health and the sources of degradation.

In May 2003, Billy” Jared” Rudd became the OSM/VISTA, Licking

River Headwaters Watershed Coordinator. Jared is a lifelong resident of the region. As a full time coordinator Jared’s goals are to enhance awareness of local water issues and find solutions. The Watershed Group plans to increase community motivation especially among area youth, by making a role model of one of their peers.

In a short amount of time since Jared began working with the group, he has successfully established a monthly monitoring program, recruited volunteers from youth organizations, motivated elected and community leaders to get involved and has prompted the community to educate themselves about water issues. Jared also writes a monthly article for local newspapers about AMD and other water issues.



Contact Information

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