



# 2021 Creek Week Summary Report and Photo Collection



**Alli Schuch**

**Watershed Outreach Coordinator**

**Fountain Creek Flood Control and Greenway District**



# Eighth Annual Creek Week September 25-October 3, 2021

**What:** A 9-day, watershed-wide litter & debris collection event

**Who:** Service groups, neighborhood associations, scouts, schools, churches, and individuals

**Why:** Raise awareness about the Fountain Creek watershed, our water supply, the District, and the littering issue to make our communities cleaner, safer and more beautiful

**Where:** Throughout the Fountain Creek Watershed, and beyond.



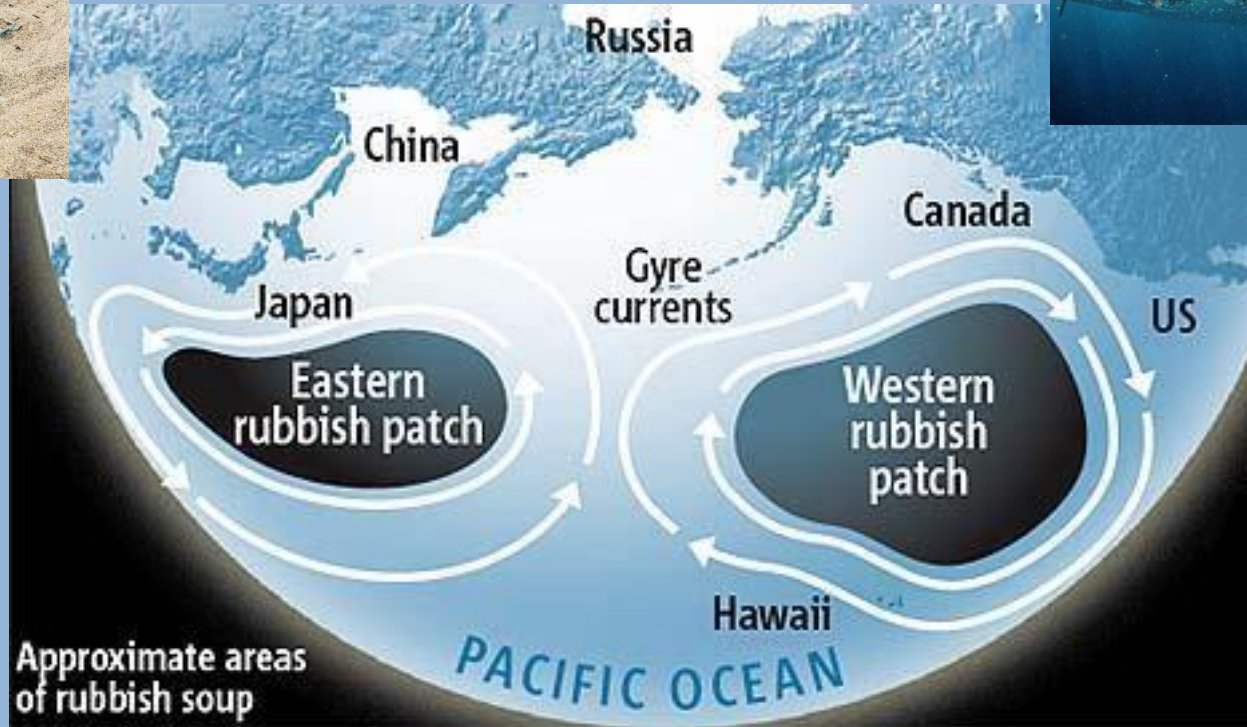
TOSC/Scheels

# We have many downstream neighbors



# Our impact is *global*...

## The Great Pacific Ocean Trash Patches





# CREEK WEEK 2021 SUMMARY

**Steering Committee**

*537 hours,*

*\$15,725.00 value*

**24 Organizations**

**31 members**



- Catamount Institute
- City of Colorado Springs Parks
- City of Colorado Springs Water Resources Engineering
- City of Fountain
- City of Manitou Springs
- City of Pueblo Stormwater
- Colorado Springs Utilities
- Colorado College
- COS I Love You
- El Paso County Parks
- Fountain Creek Water Sentinels
- Fountain Creek Watershed District

- Friends of Ute Valley Park
- LexisNexis
- Pikes Peak Group of the Sierra Club
- Pueblo City-County Health Department
- Pueblo County Extension Office
- Pueblo County Stormwater
- Solid Rock / SouthEast
- Trails and Open Spaces Coalition
- University of Colorado – Colorado Springs
- UpaDowna
- Individual citizens

\* = New committee members



# CREEK WEEK 2021 SUMMARY

## Cash/In-Kind Sponsorships and Contributions



**Creek Sustainers**  
**(\$2,000/year for 3 Years)**

Olive Property Management  
Matrix Design Group



**Premier Sponsor (\$5,000+)**

Infinite Disposal



**Creek Champions (\$2,000+)**

Nestle Blue Tritan

City of Pueblo Stormwater

Colorado Springs Utilities

Tezak Heavy Equipment

El Paso County Parks

Pueblo County Stormwater

Zbird Creative

WalMart

Catamount Institute

Fountain Creek Watershed District

City of Fountain

Friends of Ute Valley Park



# CREEK WEEK 2021 SUMMARY

## Cash/In-Kind Sponsorships and Contributions

### Debris Demolisher (\$1000-\$1999)

Bloom Foundation  
HBA Cares  
Felsburg, Holt & Ullevig  
Ocean Conservancy  
The iWill Projects Team  
University of Colorado - Colorado Springs  
WalMart

### Rubbish Remover (\$500-\$999)

WalMart  
Cheyenne Mountain Chapter of Trout Unlimited, Inc.  
City of Colorado Springs Parks and Recreation  
University of Colorado – Colorado Springs  
LexisNexis  
Trails and Open Space Coalition  
Pub Dog Colorado

LexisNexis



Fountain Crk Water Sentinels  
Bristol Brewing Company  
Ed Duffett  
Amy Brautigan  
BCER  
Banfield Pet Hospital



# CREEK WEEK 2021 SUMMARY

## Sponsorship and Contributions, Continued

### Waste Wrangler (\$100-\$499)

Brian Sale  
Catamount Institute  
City of Manitou Springs  
COS I Love You/CityServe  
Cultural Office of the Pikes Peak Region  
Glynnis Goldstein  
MHI  
Pikes Peak Group, Rocky Mtn Sierra Club  
PPORA  
Pueblo Dept. of Public Health and Environment  
UpaDowna  
Wild Watershed Broads of Southern Colorado

Carter Payne/Local Relic  
City of Colorado Springs WRED  
Colorado College Geology Dept.  
Colorado Parks and Wildlife  
Forsgren Associates  
Home Depot  
Natural Grocers  
PrincetonHydro  
Pueblo County Extension  
Sturgeon Electric





# 2021 CREEK WEEK SPONSORS, THANK YOU!

Premiere Sponsors \$10,000+



Creek Sustainers (3 years at \$2000/year)



**OLIVE**  
REAL ESTATE GROUP, INC.

Creek Champions (\$2000+)



Debris Demolishers (\$1000-\$1999)



Ocean Conservancy



University of Colorado Colorado Springs

Rubbish Removers (\$500-\$999)



LexisNexis BCER



Trails and Open Space Coalition



Banfield PET HOSPITAL | bhere  
Ed Duffett Amy Brautigam

Waste Wranglers (\$100-\$499)



Glynnis Goldstein



Brian Sale

12 Govt. entities, 28 businesses,  
16 nonprofits, 37 repeat, 19 new



# CREEK WEEK 2021 SUMMARY

## More Sponsorship and Contributions

### In Kind Donations

- Advertising
- Bags
- Buckets
- Gloves
- Stickers
- Leashes, bandanas, pet waste clean-up supplies
- Event support, registration, mapping, website
- Food/drink for volunteers
- Dumpsters and hauling



4 Bits 4H



**\$36K cash + \$27K in-kind + \$15,725 Steering Committee  
= \$78,725**



# CREEK WEEK 2021 SUMMARY

## Expenses

CC Fellow	\$4,500
Newspaper Ads	\$2,019
Gloves	\$2,000
Grabbers	\$1,700
Buckets	\$ 1,600
Seed Bombs	\$ 1500
Yard Signs	\$ 1,065
Brewshed Coasters	\$ 705
Printing	\$700
Clean n Crawl Shirts	\$ 650
Commercial	\$520
Website Hosting	\$450
Tablecloths	\$425
Thank you Cards	\$268
Banners	\$101
Buttons	\$396
	<hr/>
	<b>\$18,600</b>



Palmer Lake Parks Commision and Friends



# CREEK WEEK 2021 SUMMARY

## Event Promotion

Proclamations in all 8 communities

Social Media

Banners

Newspaper Ads

Newsletter Articles

Email to past volunteers

Save the Date Cards

Community Calendars

TV News Story

Newspaper Articles

New Commercial

New Yard Signs





# CREEK WEEK 2021 SUMMARY

## Year 8 Results:

### Colorado Springs

1359 people  
2503 bags

### Fountain

37 people  
27 bags

### Green Mtn Falls

55 people  
23 bags

### Manitou Springs

431 people  
269 bags

### Arkansas Basin

64 people  
90 bags

2,200 citizens  
101 groups  
3,100 bags  
31,830 pounds  
2 tons large items  
18+ tons of litter  
and debris  
removed!

### Monument

40 people  
65 bags

### Palmer Lake

65 people  
53 bags

### Pueblo

125 people  
146 bags

### Woodland Park

25 people  
7 bags



# CREEK WEEK 2021 SUMMARY

## 8 YEARS OF CREEK WEEK CLEANUPS

<u>YEAR</u>	<u>PEOPLE</u>	<u>GROUPS</u>	<u>TONS</u>
2014	625	42	6.8
2015	1,549	57	9.4
2016	2,217	70	14
2017	2,592	81	30
2018	2,791	99	24
2019	3,203	106	14
2020	1,422	88	10
2021	2,200	101	18

**16,500+ people**  
**130+ total tons**



# CREEK WEEK 2021 SUMMARY

## Year 8 Results:

Volunteers	2200				
x 2 hours average	4,400	 <p><b>Trash Fairies</b></p>			
x \$28.50 /hour	\$125,400				
Committee service time	\$15,725				
Cash sponsorships	\$36,000				
in-kind sponsor value	\$27,000				
	<b>\$204,125.00</b>				



# CREEK WEEK 2021 SUMMARY

## Crew Member Survey Comments

40% of volunteers had not heard of the Fountain Creek Watershed District prior to Creek Week.

- *It was great to get out in nature and it felt good to clean up our local walkways and water.*
- *A great way to contribute to the community and make it better!*
- *I am now more aware of my impact on the environment.*
- *It made me more aware of how much pollution affects our community.*
- *I am much more aware of garbage and invasive plants.*



**LP Lawrence  
and Friends**



**Team  
Awesome**







# CREEK WEEK 2021 SUMMARY

## Crew Leader Survey Comments

Most common items: Plastic bottles, cigarette butts, fast food wrappers, plastic bags.

- *I am more confident in explaining our watershed and it's value to all my volunteers and community members.*
- *Creek Week reminds me how the watershed contributes to our health, economy, and natural environment.*
- *It gives me a greater understanding of how upstream waste affects everything downstream.*

### ERA Shields





# CREEK WEEK 2021 SUMMARY

## STRANGEST ITEMS FOUND

- Granite countertop pieces
- Unopened box of 24 crayons
- Mardi Gras mask
- Full refrigerator with condiments
- Big Wheel toy
- Infant sized Croc shoe
- Barbie Doll with fake blood on it
- Tea kettle
- 18 shopping carts at a single location



4ID Band





# CREEK WEEK 2021 SUMMARY



## 4th Creek Week Clean n Crawl *An urban cleanup and pub crawl*

Sponsored by Brewshed Alliance partners:  
**Bristol Brewing**

- \$30 to participate, gets you a Tech T and 4 beverages
- 36 people, 7+ bags, 2.5 pounds of cigarette butts
- \$900+ raised
- Tejon Street from Costilla to Boulder
- Prizes for participants





# CREEK WEEK 2021 SUMMARY

## Featured Project:

# Sondermann Park Forest Health Project

- 20 volunteers
- Colorado College Botany and Ecology students
- Removal of two truckloads of invasive Siberian Elm and Honeysuckle trees along Mesa Creek
- Featured in Gazette newspaper
- Project will continue next year





# CREEK WEEK 2021 SUMMARY

## Featured Project: Pikes Peak Litter Letter Project

- 4<sup>TH</sup> Annual
- Kicking off Arts Month in the Pikes Peak Region
- Collaboration between Fountain Creek Watershed District, Creek Week, Pikes Peak Outdoor Recreation Alliance, and the Cultural Office of the Pikes Peak Region.
- Creek Crews volunteer to fill a letter to help spell out a word.
- Letters on display at America the Beautiful Park for the month of October





# CREEK WEEK 2021 SUMMARY

## Featured Partnership: Friends of Bear Creek Dog Park, COS I Love You, El Paso County Parks

- 220 volunteers
- 400+ pounds of poo removed
- Has participated in Creek Week all eight years!





# CREEK WEEK 2021 SUMMARY

## Featured Organization: United States Air Force Academy

- 41 volunteers in 2021, 86 bags of trash
- USAFA has participated in Creek Week 6 years in a row, engaging 350+ volunteers including families, scouts, contractors, civilian employees, housing residents, and military personnel and organizations
- *“USAFA highly values its creeks for their flood control, water quality, wildlife habitat, and aesthetic values.” - USAFA Crew Leader Brian M.*





# CREEK WEEK 2021 SUMMARY

## Pueblo Fishing Derby

- 1 Beautiful fall day
- 70+ Fish caught
- 24 Caring and generous volunteers
- 50 Adventurous youth from Boys and Girls Club of Pueblo County
- \$2,200+ in donated food, drinks, and prizes

A day fishing = priceless!





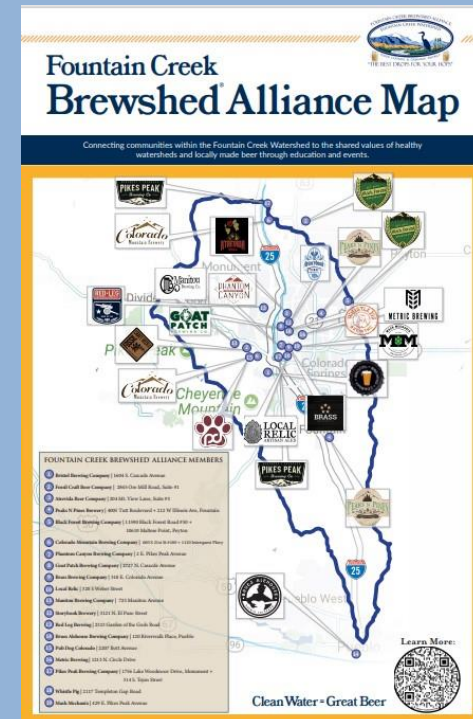


# CREEK WEEK 2021 SUMMARY

## Brewshed Alliance Updates



- Updated map - new members!
- Pub Dog Fundraiser \$536.00
- Manitou Brewing Company Fundraiser \$100.00
- 5K fundraiser at Black Forest Brewing Co.
- New Brewshed Internship with UCCS:  
Sustainability walk-throughs, reporting, and presentations with Phantom Canyon, Fossil, and Storybook
- 2021 Photo Contest winners featured on beer bottles at Local Relic
- Liquid Lectures 3rd Thursdays 6pm -Hybrid format
- Cigarette butt recycling at 6 locations





# CREEK WEEK 2021 SUMMARY

## Creek Crews: Super Schools!



Cheyenne Creek Club



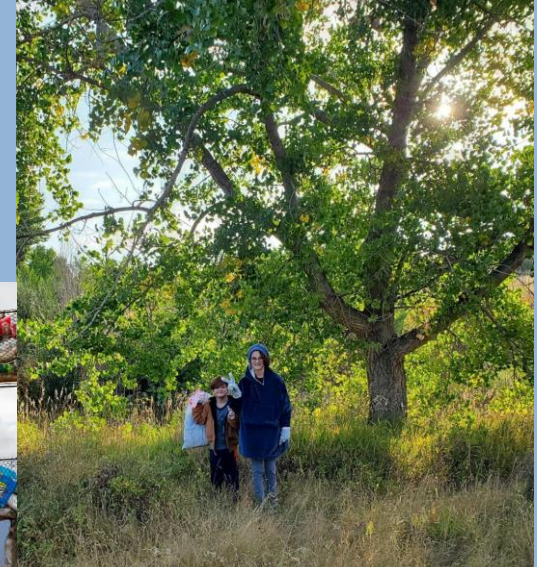
UCCS





# CREEK WEEK 2021 SUMMARY

## Creek Crew Kids!





# CREEK WEEK 2021 SUMMARY

## More Crews!



HBA Cares



RMFI



Green Mountain Falls



PPA





# CREEK WEEK 2021 SUMMARY

## Looking Ahead - What's Next?

- 10/21, 6pm Liquid Lecture on Complete Creeks with Jerry Cordova from City of Colorado Springs at Storybook Brewery (Zoom link available too!)
- Save the Date: Wild and Scenic Film Festival December 3rd, cohosting with TOSC
- Great American Cleanup - a watershed-wide spring cleanup day, details coming soon!
- Creek Week 10 Year Anniversary in 2023
- Get involved! Join the Watershed District's Outreach Subcommittee and support watershed education/outreach throughout the year! **Email [creekweeksoco@gmail.com](mailto:creekweeksoco@gmail.com)**



Sassy Sand Creek Snapping Turtles



***SAVE THE DATE CREEK WEEK '22:***

***SEPTEMBER 24 - OCTOBER 2***



**Bonnyville Neighbors**

***WWW.FOUNTAIN-CRK.ORG***