

TOWN OF SMYRNA  
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS  
STORM WATER MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

FIELD ACTIVITY REPORT

SUBJECT: 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Boat Day – 17<sup>th</sup> Annual WaterFest (2023)  
CONTACT: Greg Upham  
DATE: June 17, 2023  
LOCATION: Jefferson Springs Recreation Area, first lane after entry

The following are comments intended to document what occurred at the 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Boat Day – 17<sup>th</sup> WaterFest.

1. Monday (6/12/23) morning Greg Upham installed some 43 yellow double-sided signs for the upcoming Boat Day.
2. Monday morning Mr. Upham installed two large Boat Day signs opposite directions along Enon Springs Road East, leaned against Utilities' WWTP sign, while Street staff strategically positioned three electric signs, with text specific to the Boat Day event.
3. Friday Mr. Upham loaded the display material into the Jeep.
4. Wednesday Mr. Upham gathered Town Hall tables and canopies into Sally Port and Public Works storage room, lobby.
5. Friday morning Jonathan Hemenway and Mr. Upham picked up the WTP jon boat then set nine red buoys, with half-cinder block and mushroom anchors in the river to mark the event boundaries, to cover a larger area than as last year..
6. Saturday morning Courtney Morgan, Mike Kraft, and staff of SOAC, brought Town boats from Parks Department's shop, while Mr. Upham mounted five directional signs, then the Street Department placed 17 tables and four large canopies, and the Academy two give-away kayaks, plus MTOP (Middle Tennessee Outdoor Pursuits) unloaded many canoes and SOAC ten canoes, plus at least 35 kayaks along the lake shoreline, including boats from Lonnie Williamson, Gore Ervin, plus several other citizen volunteers in the two designated launch areas.
7. Four ladies (Danita Hunt, Cynthia Allen of SRWA, Kay Reynolds, and Sarah Moore, an intern staffed registration.
8. Six persons (Sierra Nolen, Casey Conard, Dennis Jungman, Ginny Williams, and Judi and Allen Beck) staffed the lifejacket table.
9. Several persons staffed the two launch areas, which included Blake Parker, Blake Pope, Danny Hatcher, Danny Vaughn, and Russell Prater of the Street Department, Mike Kraft of SOAC, and Sarah Lowe, Emma Kelley, Brandon Colwell, and Caleb Whitaker of MTSU.
10. Five persons (Gore Ervin, Earl Seyl, Charles King, Jonathan Hemenway, Mitch Wensman, and Josh Upham) staffed the rotating 'spotters' position.
11. The WaterFest consisted of five exhibits; Project WET, staffed by Bonnie Ervin, TWRA live fish tanks, US FWS live fish tank, Children's Activities center, while the Smyrna Stormwater Program display was unstaffed.
12. Four hundred and thirty seven (437, second highest ever) attended this year's boat day under clear skies and slight northeasterly breeze, which did not do anything but cool the event..
13. All totaled some 42 volunteers assisted in the 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Boat Day – 17<sup>th</sup> Annual WaterFest, including 22 Town employees, plus several Stones River Watershed Association board members, and the MTOP staff.
14. Our town manager, Brian Hercules and his wife visited during the latter stages of the event and said they were quite pleased. Mayor Reed and her husband were present as were council members H.G. Cole, Racquel Peebles, Gerry Short, and Tim Morrell.
15. The event began at 9:00 AM and ended at 1:00 PM. Despite the Overflow Parking signage, parking was still an issue due to a local kayak renter setting up business at the ramp and a large gathering in the pavilion.
16. The entire area was vacated by 2:30 PM.
17. Much gratitude is owed to Academy/2 kayaks + 2 paddles, two coolers, and four gift cards; Academy, SFD, and B & G canopies, plus one smaller tent and 35 chairs; Parks/boat storage and portage; Police/protection and electric signs (3); Middle Tennessee Outdoor Pursuits (MTOP) canoes & assistance; SRWA, and Lonnie Williamson/boats.
18. Before the subsequent Town Council meeting, the names of all attendees, excluding Town of Smyrna staff, were entered into a random selection computer program by Bradly Jordan, allowing Mayor Reed to select the eight lucky Academy prize winners.

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