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## **Beaver Water District Receives Stream Team Grant**

(Lowell, AR) -- Beaver Water District has been awarded a Stream Team Grant in the amount of \$5,000. Steve Filipek of the Arkansas Game & Fish Commission (AGFC), who serves as the State Stream Team Coordinator, presented the check to Beaver Water District on March 17.

The Arkansas Stream Team Program, administered by AGFC, is an opportunity for concerned citizens to get involved in river, stream, and watershed conservation efforts. Through education, stewardship, and advocacy, the program encourages safe use of Arkansas' streams, rivers, springs, and bayous. Stream Teams help control litter, work on stream bank stabilization projects, improve fish habitat, and monitor water quality.

Audubon Arkansas is partnering with the District to help manage the program. The mini-grant will be used to develop a network of stream teams within the Beaver Lake watershed. The coalition will be able to share resources such as monitoring supplies, waders, kick nets, etc., and also facilitate meetings of all the active stream teams through the Citizens Studying Streams program, which is in its second year.

"We are excited about the program and grateful for the grant," said Amy Wilson, Director of Public Affairs for the District. "The funding will help us leverage resources through a cooperative information exchange in the form of a fall networking event. We also will create a Facebook page to bring the groups together electronically for more efficient information sharing. In addition, we will encourage stream teams to visit our LEED Gold certified Administration Center in Lowell to broaden their knowledge of water sensitive design and landscaping."

Beaver Water District supplies drinking water to more than 250,000 people and industries in Fayetteville, Springdale, Rogers, Bentonville, and surrounding areas. These cities then resell the water to surrounding towns and communities. The District's mission is to serve our

customers in the Benton and Washington County area by providing high quality drinking water that meets or exceeds all federal and state regulatory requirements in such quantities as meets their demands and is economically priced consistent with our quality standards. For more information, visit [www.bwdh2o.org](http://www.bwdh2o.org). Audubon Arkansas is a state program of the National Audubon Society. A 501(c)3 organization, Audubon Arkansas has a state office located in Little Rock and a Northwest Field Office located in Fayetteville. Audubon Arkansas' mission is to conserve and restore natural ecosystems, focusing on birds, other wildlife and their habitats for the benefit of humanity and the earth's biological diversity. For more information about Stream Teams, visit [www.agfc.com](http://www.agfc.com) or call (501) 223-6369.



On March 17, Steve Filipek (left) of the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission presented Brad Huffhines of Beaver Water District with a check for \$5,000 from the Arkansas Stream Team Program. Joining them was Michelle Viney of Audubon Arkansas, which is partnering with the District to develop a network of stream teams in the Beaver Lake Watershed via the Citizens Studying Streams program. The photograph was taken at the District's new LEED Gold certified Administration Center in Lowell, where process water is reused in the water feature, which resembles a natural creek, seen in the background of this photo. (Photograph courtesy of Beaver Water District.)