

Press Release for immediate release

## SGRWA Open House Attendees Learn How Every Drop Counts

Thursday, March 26 the South Grand River Watershed Alliance hosted the Third Annual Open House in Peculiar. The Peculiar Lions Community Center was transformed into an information center about water with attractive and informative displays and knowledgeable representatives on hand to answer questions and provide information.

Attendees had the opportunity to learn about many facets of caring for our water resource and about the various roles federal, state and local agencies and not-for-profit organizations play in protecting water quality.

Agencies represented such as the Environmental Protection Agency, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the Department of Natural Resources are regulatory agencies as well as information sources about water issues. The Federal Emergency Management Agency is in charge of disaster preparedness—many of these problems involve flooding. At the state level, the Missouri Department of Conservation and the Missouri Stream Teams program serve to protect our water resources through education and community involvement. Mid-America Regional Council promotes regional cooperation and develops innovative solutions for many issues, including water. Locally, the Cass County Soil and Water Conservation District promotes good farming techniques to protect our soils and water. The mission of the Little Blue Valley Sewer District (Middle Big Creek Sewer Subdistrict) is to provide for sewage treatment facilities that will insure better water quality.

Not-for-profit organizations such as the Little Blue River Watershed Coalition, South Grand River Watershed Alliance, Quail Unlimited, Missouri Master Naturalist program, Missouri Prairie Foundation and the Cass County Sustainability Committee are involved in protecting water quality in our waterways and groundwater through actions to protect habitat and educate about the many actions we can each take to do our part in caring for our water resource.

Representatives reported that attendees expressed much interest in learning how to conserve their natural communities and were eager to talk with “conservation experts.” Melanie Haney, Missouri Master Naturalist, stated, “Many expressed an interest in learning about training and volunteer work that is available to them.”

Learn more about our water resource at [www.southgrandwatershed.com](http://www.southgrandwatershed.com)