

East Fork River Initiatives: Beaver Watershed Alliance Announces Major Donation



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The Beaver Watershed Alliance (“BWA”) announced a donation from the Curtis family of Rogers, Arkansas to support the organization’s conservation initiatives.

The donation is stated to be targeted to stream restoration in the East Fork–White River watershed, and other conservation practices that benefit the watershed.

BWA describes the East Fork White River, along with the Middle and West Fork White Rivers, as being among the major tributaries to the upper portion of Beaver Lake.

The organization also states:

... Beaver Lake serves 1 in 5 Arkansans with drinking water. With increased loss of vegetated stream buffers comes an increased streambank instability and erosion. This erosion increases suspended sediment downstream, which poses a significant risk to surface water intakes. Other practices that can reduce erosion and restore natural systems include riparian habitat restoration, ponds and low-tech erosion control structures. Erosion and sediment are the leading source and cause of water quality pollution in Arkansas and across the nation.

Mr. Mark Curtis is quoted as stating:

... My late wife grew up on her family’s farm on the river, upstream from Elkins, and we have owned land in the watershed for more than 40 years. I have watched the river rise and fall, and wash good farmland downstream into Beaver Lake. After seeing the stream conservation efforts by the Alliance on the West Fork and Middle Fork, as well as War Eagle Creek, I felt the East Fork could use some funding.

BWA describes itself as an organization that establishes programming to maintain high quality drinking water in Beaver Lake and improved water quality on the Beaver Lake watershed.

A copy of the press release can be downloaded [here](#).