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1790-2009  
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## News

### Town council, EHS Ecology Club lead way in shoreline cleanup

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Published: Wednesday, April 8, 2009 7:48 AM CDT

**EASTON** A group of volunteers joined the Easton High School Ecology Club on Saturday to help clean up the littered shoreline of the Tred Avon River and creeks feeding into it.

The group picked up 40 bags of trash, seven tires and other materials at the old Easton Public Works site and ditches near Glenwood and the Easton Parkway. The beautiful sunny day made pleasant conditions for the work party, organizers said.

Members in the party included Drew Koslow, the new Choptank River Keeper; Tim Junkin, executive director of the newly formed Choptank River and Eastern Bay Conservancy; Dr. Nicholas Fidis and "Doc" Kuntz of Talbot River Protection Association; and Jim Hutchison, Ken Court, Nancy and Herman Espenhorst, the latter four being concerned citizens. Easton Town Council President John Ford, Councilwomen Moonyene Jackson-Amis and Kelley Malone, and candidate Bobby Tate were also among the volunteers.

There was some amazement and revulsion for what the group first saw when they entered the sites, but after removing approximately 1,000 pounds of litter, including an estimated 1,500 bottles and cans, everyone believed they made progress.

The EHS Ecology Club and their faculty advisors, Lenore Burkhardt and Jane Whitelock, helped with the cleanup at Windmill Branch Stream. Student representatives were Stu Horsey, Madeleine Breza, Katie Blumberh and Katherine Fisher. They were joined by parent Luke Breza, Sophia Burkhardt and LeeAnn Hutchison, an environmental education specialist at the Maryland State Department of Education.

This stream, which runs along campus behind the football field, has a beautiful riparian buffer and is a habitat for birds, macroinvertebrates, minnows, amphibians and reptiles. Students were eager to remove trash from both the buffer area and from within the stream itself. Trash collected included a metal chair, athletic materials, a mattress, plastics, paper and close to 100 bottles and cans. Of the approximately 200 pounds of trash hauled away by Breza, much of it was recyclable and was taken to the proper collection site.

These dedicated groups hope to make Project Clean Stream (PCS), a regular event.

PCS is an annual event of the Alliance for The Chesapeake Bay. Local organization of the event was by the River Appreciation Group who invite everyone to join them to their second annual paddle day on May 16 at the Easton Point Marina.



From left, Nicholas Fidis, Jim Hutchinson, Doc Kuntz, Bobby Tate, Moonyene Jackson-Amis, John Ford, Kelley Malone and Nancy Espenhorst are among the volunteers at the old Easton Public Works site on Glenwood Avenue near the Easton Parkway on Saturday morning, April 4. The group removed about 1,000 pounds of trash. The Easton High School Ecology Club and their faculty advisors also helped with the cleanup at Windmill Branch Stream, taking away about 200 pounds of trash.

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