

JORDAN VALLEY VOICES

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE FRIENDS OF THE JORDAN RIVER WATERSHED • SPRING/SUMMER 2016



David Peterson New President of FOJ

David Peterson was elected President of the Friends of the Jordan River Watershed late last year by the board of directors. A resident of Alden, David also serves as Helena Township Clerk and treasurer of the Torch Conservation Center, a new nonprofit for the protection of the Torch Lake watershed and land conservation.

He spent summers as a boy on Torch Lake, retiring to the area fulltime a number of years ago after working 30 years in research and development as a senior research engineer/project manager in the gypsum industry.

An advocate for wetlands and clean sustainable groundwater, Peterson recognizes the need for a water budget for Michigan. His vision for the Jordan River includes protection of its headwaters, the elimination of threats to the water quality of the Jordan, and protection of its watershed.

FOJ Names Ashley Cousens as New Program Director

The Friends of the Jordan River Watershed recently hired Ashley Cousens as Program Director, the first hired position for the FOJ in many years. Ashley will develop and coordinate programs and events designed to further the FOJ's mission to "conserve the natural resources and protect the environmental quality of the Jordan River and its watershed."



and workforce development. She specializes in working collaboratively with community partners and developing unique programs to enrich the quality of life for community residents.

"I am excited to join the FOJ team," said Cousens, who began her position in April, "and I hope to put my project coordination skills and passion for nature and

the environment to good use here!"

Cousens has worked extensively with nonprofit organizations. She helped to create a 501(c)(3) group in Plattsburgh and conducted a four year long campaign of fundraising and building community support to construct a universally accessible treehouse in the community. The Max Moore Memorial Treehouse was completed in October 2015 and now invites people of all ages and abilities to enjoy the simple joy of being up in a tree.

FOJ members may have already noticed her impact, representing the FOJ at a number of community events, as well as developing programs and events at the Watershed Center.

THE WONDER OF IT ALL

Young Friends of the Jordan Ready for a New Season of Discovery and Serendipity

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15 Years and Counting

The skies cooperated on a chilly, overcast Sunday in late April as FOJ volunteers did their part for Earth Day and the State of Michigan's Adopt-A-Highway program along their two-mile stretch of M-66 in Chestonia Township. The group of eight collected nine bags of trash discarded mostly by thoughtless drivers along the road. Volunteers included above [l to r] Rich Dietrich, Terry Ryan, Tim Goodwin, Lynne Goodwin, Jinny Heick, Mitch Heick, and Anne Zukowski. Not pictured is Linda Knibbs. Thanks to all. Now in its 26th year statewide, the Michigan Department of Transportation's Adopt-A-Highway program recently recognized the Friends of the Jordan for 15 straight years of participation. Pick-ups are also scheduled for Sunday, July 17, 10:00 a.m. and Sunday, September 25, 11:00 a.m. Volunteers will meet at Pinney Bridge Rd. and M-66. Dress for the weather and bring work gloves.



UP AND COMING

July 11-22 – Young Friends Nature Experience, MWF – Session 1. See story page 3.

July 17, Sunday, 10 a.m. Adopt-A-Highway pickup. Meet at M-66 and Pinney Bridge Rd.

July 25-August 5 – Young Friends Nature Experience, MWF – Session 2. See story page 3.

August 1, Monday. Photography Contest deadline. See details last page.

August 14, Sunday, 1-4 p.m., First Annual Members' Picnic at the Watershed Center

September 24, Saturday, 1-4 p.m., Photography Contest Celebration, Exhibit and release of the 2017 "Visions of the Valley" calendar. At the Watershed Center.

September 25, Sunday, 11 a.m. Adopt-A-Highway pickup. Meet at M-66 and Pinney Bridge Rd.

2016 Board Meetings – **3rd Thursday every month** [except December]. 6:30–8 pm, Jordan River Watershed Center. Members and public welcome.

Check the FOJ website for additions, details and/or changes to events at www.friendsofthejordan.org

Looking to get involved? The FOJ could use your help on efforts such as From Adopt-A-Highway to Macroinvertebrate Collection on the Jordan and a myriad of events in between. Check it out on the website and Facebook, or contact the FOJ at foj@friendsofthejordan.org



PO Box 412 • East Jordan MI 49727

www.friendsofthejordan.org

Email: foj@friendsofthejordan.org

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The Friends of the Jordan River Watershed, Inc. is a grassroots, nonprofit 501 (C) (3) non-governmental organization with the mission to "conserve the natural resources and protect the environmental quality of the Jordan River and its watershed."

Caterpillar Time

Thoughts on Young Friends of the Jordan, Summer 2016

BY JENNIFER LEWIS

If you are familiar with US painter Georgia O’Keeffe (1887-1986), you very well may know her as a painter of immensely scaled flowers and sun-bleached animal skulls in desert landscapes. However, it was the thoughtful words of O’Keeffe that touched me and drew me to her art, and not the other way around.

“Nobody sees a flower really; it is so small. We haven’t time, and to see takes time—like to have a friend takes time.”

The above is one of my favorite quotes of hers. It bespeaks the benefit of time dedicated to relationship, whether with another person, species or object. Relationship. Connection. Observation. These don’t necessarily require special tools or skills, but they do take time.

Kids already know all about this kind of time. All it takes is a hike down a trail with a child to realize that they come by it naturally. Inching along, they pause more often than not to check out the world at

their feet. Unfortunately, they are less and less frequently offered or encouraged to take such time. At best, parents (like me) find the phrase “Hurry up” to be frequently used. At worst, it is discouraged, often in the name of learning.

I have come to think of this time as *Caterpillar Time*.

As directors of the FOJ’s Young Friends Summer Program, Maria Wesslerle and I spend a lot of time planning our full days of activities for the Young Friends. Yet when we ask kids about their favorite thing of the day, week or session, we usually hear about the happy accidents, the things we didn’t (or couldn’t) have had a plan for. Seeing so many fish. Standing under a waterfall. Catching frogs. Touching a snake. Finding that bird’s nest. Collecting fossils. Letting the caterpillar crawl on my arm.

Connections! They “get it” without even trying. Their hands-down favorite

Continues on page 6



PHOTOS: MARIA WESSERLE



New Effort Underway to Tackle Area Invasives

Several area conservation groups have joined together to “protect the natural resources, economy, and human health in Northern Lower Michigan through collaborative outreach and management of invasive species” by forming CAKE-CISMA (Charlevoix, Antrim, Kalkaska, and Emmet-Cooperative Invasive Species Management Area). Since it began last fall, it has surveyed over 2400 acres and treated over 400 acres for invasive species.

Each county in Michigan is tied to a CISMA. Most, like CAKE, are funded partly by the Michigan Invasive Species Grant Program through the Departments of Natural Resources, Environmental Quality, and Agriculture and Rural Development. All work to conserve Michigan’s diverse natural habitats through invasive species management.

CAKE manages vectors that spread invasive species within the management area. A vector is a place of high human or animal activity that may enhance the spread of an invasive species by boot, vehicle or animal. Roadsides, hiking trails, boat launches and waterways are all examples. Prioritizing treatment areas ensures that the location is monitored and retreated to successfully eradicate the invasive species.

CAKE also educates communities on species identification, eradication techniques, recording and inventorying strategies, which give management groups an upper hand.

CAKE-CISMA COORDINATOR

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CHARLEVOIX AND EMMET COUNTIES

Jackie Pilette at jackie.pilette@macd.org, phone 231.439.8977

ANTRIM AND KALKASKA COUNTIES

Mark Randolph at kswcd@torchlake.com, phone 231.258.3307

MISIN (Midwest Invasive Species Information Network) has created an app for smartphones to identify where invasive species are located, how dense the patch is and how far it has spread. A great tool in eradication efforts, it also supports the concept of Early Detection, Rapid Response (EDRR), a cost effective strategy designed to stop the spread of invasive plants before they do irreversible damage to an area.

Each county has an area leader to answer questions about invasive species. Property owners are encouraged to contact their area leader with requests to inventory private lands or for help identifying and eradicating invasive species on their land.

CAKE recently held an “Invasive Species, A Threat to the Northern Michigan Way of Life” workshop in partnership with the Friends of the Jordan River at the FOJ Watershed Center.

A workshop at the Grass River Natural Area will be held Wednesday, June 15, snacks and beverages provided, free.

Saturday, July 16, CAKE will present “Terrestrial Invasive Species and Natural Shorelines” in partnership with the Six Mile Lake Association. Discussion will be followed by a guided inventory of a section of the St. Clair Lake/Six Mile Lake Natural Area.

For more information on events and partnerships, visit www.michiganinvasives.org/cakecisma/ or contact an area leader listed above.



Never let a little snow, rain, sleet and cold in May keep you from the Jordan River. Collecting macroinvertebrates on a recent Sunday were [l to r] FOJ's John Teesdale, Tip of the Mitt Americorps worker Eli Baker, the FOJ's Anne Zukowski and Lynne Goodwin, and, taking the photograph, Tip of the Mitt's Matt Claucherty.

The Jordan Earns an "A"

The Jordan River earned another "A" for ecosystem health from the Tip of the Mitt Watershed Council in its recently released 2016 report on 15 northern Michigan streams and creeks.

Based on stream monitoring collections of macroinvertebrates done twice a year by Friends of the Jordan River Watershed volunteers, Tip of the Mitt looks at three indicators of the health of a stream: 1) Total Taxa, the number of macroinvertebrate families found at a site; 2) EPT Taxa, the number of families in the three pollution-sensitive insect orders – mayflies, stoneflies, and caddisflies; and 3) Sensitive Taxa, the number of highly sensitive macroinvertebrate families. The Jordan River's numbers were 21.5, 11.9 and 7.0 respectively, among the best of all the streams and creeks in northern Michigan, where averages are 18.5, 8.2 and 4.1.

"Not surprisingly, the Jordan River boasts some of the best diversity numbers in our program," Tip of the Mitt noted. "Pristine conditions throughout most of the Jordan River Watershed and limited development along the river's edge contribute to its exceptional water quality."

Joining the Jordan on the "A" list this year were the Boyne River, Carp River, Maple River, Milligan Creek, Pigeon River and Sturgeon River. A database of the results for all of the streams and creeks studied is available for download from Tip of the Mitt at watershedcouncil.org/stream-monitoring.html.

The Jordan River loses a friend and advocate, Peggy Midener, 1925-2016

To most, Peggy Midener was a visual artist nonpariel, but to all friends of the Jordan River, she was also a forceful advocate for, and defender of, the Jordan River Watershed.

When the world lost Peggy this past April to a stroke at age 90, it lost more than an artist. Detroit born, she was never away too long from her mother's Loveday family home in East Jordan. It was there she learned to love the Jordan River, an affair, like art, that lasted a lifetime.

Peggy and her husband, Walter Midener, were a major part of the Detroit art community as artists and art educators from the late 1940s until 1978, when they settled permanently in

northern Michigan. They became just as beloved in the local arts community up here, active in the Jordan River Arts Council and the Crooked Tree Arts Council.

And in the environmental community as well. Peggy served on the board of directors of the FOJ in the 2000s, during the heady days of challenging CMS Energy, and winning, over the proposed Alba disposal well for Bay Harbor's toxic cement kiln dust. She was editor and contributor to the *Jordan Valley Voices Resource Book*, a definitive look at the Watershed, published by the Friends of the Jordan in 2002. She also served on the Charlevoix County Planning Commission and Tip of the Mitt Watershed Council.

"Painter and sculptor and lover of words. She saw the Earth with a keen eye," remembers FOJ board

member Terry Ryan, who served on the board with her. "A proud and proper Scot, she was always dignified, even with her hands in the soil or her boots in the mud (while her foot was elsewhere - it is known that the Jordan rarely gives up it's Wellies!) laughing! She (and so, we) were blessed with a creative mind that never stopped inquiring."

"In the long life of a river like the Jordan, my relationship with it



is such a short time although it has lasted 83 years and counting," Peggy wrote in a fall 2008 article in this newsletter. "The waters I learned to love and navigate using a pike pole and drag chain in a famous 'Teddy Kotowich built' long boat have moved on and had their own adventures

and courses as have most of my dear companions, fellow artists and fishermen."

And now Peggy has moved on as well. She spent a lifetime leaving this world a more beautiful and better place. We have been nothing but blessed.

Readers are encouraged to read Peggy's lifetime remembrances of the Jordan River at www.friendsofthejordan.org. Under the Newsletters tab, look for the Fall 2008 issue of Jordan Valley Voices, page 4.

For a more complete look at Peggy's life, read her obituary online at www.penziennh.com. Donations in her memory may be made to the Jordan River Arts Council Building Fund, PO Box 1178, East Jordan, MI 49727.

Shut Down Line 5 Oil Pipeline Under the Straits

BY ANNE ZUKOWSKI

It is not hard to imagine how devastating an oil spill in our Great Lakes would be to our environment, fish and wildlife, communities and economies. Line 5, an aging 63-year-old pipeline owned by Enbridge, runs along the north shore of Lake Michigan, under the Straits of Mackinac, and crosses the St. Clair River near Port Huron into Sarnia, Ontario. Enbridge is using Michigan as a shortcut to transport oil from mostly western Canadian oil fields to eastern Canadian refineries. Line 5 is a ticking time bomb which threatens not only Lakes Michigan and Huron, but 45 other waterways and numerous communities as well.

A University of Michigan study found that the Straits are the “worst possible place” for an oil spill — extremely powerful currents in this area shift directions regularly which would spread oil far and wide in a short period of time. The Coast Guard told Congress they would be unable to put people on the water to recover oil in high waves, wind, or at night. No real plan exists to recover oil from a rupture under ice-covered waters. Even a small leak, especially in winter, could be catastrophic — Enbridge’s pressure gauges cannot detect leaks of under 70 gallons/day.

Enbridge’s Jason Manchum claims Line 5 is “in excellent condition, holding up extraordinarily well.” Yet they refuse to release usable inspection data to the State and public for independent verification. Enbridge’s track record includes the one-million gallon oil spill into the Kalamazoo River watershed in 2010, which devastated sensitive ecosystems. Toxic vapors sickened people in nearby communities, and cleanup costs reached over one billion dollars. Enbridge is asking us to “trust” them once again because they are “sorry” about this incident and “promise” it will not happen again.

Line 5 was built with the expectation of a 40-50 year life-span. Enbridge claims pipelines do not have expiration dates and plans to run Line 5 indefinitely. The State is currently



PHOTO: ANNE ZUKOWSKI

Protesters gather last September for a “Pipe Out Paddle Protest.”

How long can we continue to play Russian roulette with our Great Lakes fresh water?

conducting its second Pipeline Safety Taskforce study. Pipelines are always said to be in “excellent condition” until the day they rupture. How long can we continue to play Russian roulette with our Great Lakes fresh water?

Friends of the Jordan is one of 22 partner organizations and tribes with the Oil and Water Don’t Mix coalition, that has signed a letter formally requesting that Governor Snyder to use his authority to protect our water and shut down Line 5. The letter cites multiple easement violations by Enbridge that include concealing information about cracks, dents and corrosion, failing to meet pipeline wall thickness requirements due to corrosion, failing to adhere to federal emergency spill response, and state environmental protection laws.

Liz Kirkwood, environmental attorney and executive director of FLOW (For Love of Water), stated in a news release April 13, “The law and this easement agreement are clear: state leaders cannot wait another year or more while Enbridge continues to violate safety conditions it agreed to and withholds

safety inspection and other data from the public and the state. Governor Snyder and Attorney General Schuette must start the clock to terminate the state’s easement agreement that allows Enbridge to operate the Line 5 pipelines on state-owned bottomlands and waters.”

To date, 42 municipalities and nine tribes have passed resolutions calling for the shutdown of Line 5, including the cities of East Jordan, Charlevoix, Boyne City, Petoskey, Antrim County, Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians, Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians. You can find a complete list at www.oilandwaterdontmix.org/partners.

Aging, deteriorating pipelines and injection wells threaten our water all over the state, including in the Jordan River Valley. It is a problem which must be addressed. We call on our elected officials to prioritize a transition to renewable energy such as wind and solar, conservation and energy efficiency. Friends of the Jordan stands in solidarity with everyone fighting to protect our water because an injury to one is an injury to all, and all our watersheds are in danger. The only way to protect our environment, rivers, drinking water, communities and economy is to stop subsidizing gas and oil industries and start prioritizing and manufacturing solar and wind energy.

CRA Tops \$1.2 Million in Chestonia Bridge Funding

The Michigan Department of Natural Resources recently awarded the Conservation Resource Alliance (CRA) \$200,000 from its Aquatic Habitat Grant Program for their Bridging the Jordan River Restoration project at Old State Rd., also known as Chestonia Bridge. Along with \$202,136 in recent funding from the federal Natural Resources Conservation Service and Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians the grant brings to \$1.2 million the amount raised by the CRA for the bridge.

The bridge will replace two existing culverts with a clear span bridge where the Jordan River intersects Old State Rd.

in Jordan Township, returning the river to as near a natural state as possible and addressing a mix of problems at the site. In addition to bridge construction, funding includes design of a Cokirs Creek crossing and topographical site survey of the proposed access and landing, according to project leader and biologist Kim Balke of CRA.

“Once we have an engineer’s estimate for Cokirs crossing, we will determine if we can bid out both Chestonia Bridge and Cokirs together,” said Balke. “Resulting awarded construction bid amounts, and if they fit into the grants’ budgets, will then determine if we can construct both crossings.”

No decision has been made yet to begin any construction, which is pending on the outcome of the Cokirs Creek engineering study.

The Michigan Department of Natural Resources was working on plans to create the access landing. No word yet on whether anything would be in place before bridge construction.

Additional funders include the Towlesley Foundation, Herbert and Grace A. Dow Foundation, Frey Foundation, Great Lakes Fishery Trust, Sustain Our Great Lakes, Great Lakes Basin Fish Habitat Program, Charlevoix County Community Foundation, and the J.A. Woollam Foundation.

Young Friends of the Jordan

continued from page 3

activities are these connections that are made with parts of the whole that is the Jordan River Watershed. And while we can’t exactly plan for a particular caterpillar, snake or fossil to appear and catch somebody’s eye, we can make sure we’re ready when it does.

So together we learn about our best tools for observation—our senses. We endeavor to collectively explore what makes a watershed a watershed—and what makes ours so special. As a group, we journey to the most amazing locales—and we are blessed with so many great natural areas nearby from which to choose. And then, when that caterpillar comes along, which it inevitably does, a child’s natural inclination takes it from there. As directors full of plans and activities, we simply grant the time.

Time to observe, make the connection, establish the relationship.

And that’s the beauty of it, because this holds the power to build other, often bigger or deeper, connections—with our watershed, with our friends and family, with our passions in life. These meaningful relationships give us perspective and help us define our place in the world. This may sound like big stuff from a little caterpillar but you don’t have to take it from me. For starters, do a google search for “nature deficit disorder.”

Of course, if nothing else, it’s good fun! I feel lucky that, as a child in the 70s and 80s, I remember summer days roaming our neighborhood and exploring small “natural areas” there, i.e. backyards, climbing trees, undeveloped ponds on the edge of town. There were no Wild and Scenic Rivers in the suburbs of Detroit where I grew up and we’d never heard of a watershed. But that did not lessen our enjoyment or sense of adventure. Truly, our reality may be different in 2016. The Young Friends of the Jordan Summer Program is one way we can safely grant a

similar childhood experience to our youth.

The words of Georgia O’Keeffe have found a place on my wall for most of my adult life now, in my many roosts before settling in the Jordan River Valley. They are a reminder to me of the importance of observation, of relationships, of connecting. And, more recently, of Caterpillar Time. I don’t believe O’Keeffe ever painted caterpillars, but I don’t think she would mind.

The Young Friends of the Jordan Summer Program aims to be a caretaker for this kind of time in an era of busyness and screens. Without it, we don’t connect to the natural world around us, we can’t befriend nature, and we won’t love it enough to protect it.

Some other ways that Young Friends of the Jordan connect:

- ▲ to the earth by digging up soil with our hands to use as pigment for paint
- ▲ to the waters by wading in an ice-cold, spring-fed stream
- ▲ to the region by becoming a nature tourist in our own watershed
- ▲ to the critters by following a deer trail and casting one of the tracks
- ▲ to the plants by making and eating fritters from elder flowers we collected
- ▲ to the people by eating lunch and cleaning up together as a way of observing our own impact
- ▲ to the forces of nature by embracing and adapting to the weather
- ▲ to ourselves by experiencing the Wild and Scenic Jordan through physical activity and sometimes...by quiet observation

Caterpillars optional.

The 2016 Young Friends of the Jordan Summer Program hosts two Sessions, July 11-22 and July 25 - August 5. More information and registration materials can be downloaded at www.friendsofthejordan.org. Contact Jennifer Lewis with questions at 231.536.0333 or youngfriends@friendsofthejordan.org.

NOTABLE

Congratulations to the **42 municipalities and nine tribes in the area** who have gone on record opposing the continued operation of the Line 5 oil pipeline under the Straits of Mackinac. For a list of them, visit www.oilandwaterdontmix.org/partners. And see story this issue, page 5.

* * *

Welcome to **Gena King** and **Kevin King**, who joined the FOJ board at the May meeting.

* * *

FOJ President **David Peterson** and Program Director **Ashley Cousens** represented the FOJ this spring at **Leadership Charlevoix County's Environment and Natural Resources Day** at Raven Hill Discovery Center. The group of emerging leaders also visited the FOJ's Jordan River Watershed Center in the afternoon.

* * *

Thanks to board members **Norma Petrie**, **Dave Peterson**, and **Rich Dietrich**, and volunteer **Jen Lewis** who helped Program Director **Ashley Cousens** represent the FOJ at East Jordan's **Energize, Engage, Enhance** forum in April.

* * *

An annual thanks to members **Jack Moran** for maintaining FOJ's website; **Lynne Goodwin** for gardening around the Watershed Center; and board member **Jinny Heick** for organizing the kiosk in front of the Center.

* * *

Change of address, change of circumstances? Let the FOJ know at foj@friendsofthejordan.org and we'll make the changes to our mailing list.



ONCE UPON A TIME. This vintage photo postcard of the Jordan River is unwritten upon and undated, but it was the early 1900s judging by the blank space to left of the photo, which is all the space someone had to write on, since until 1907 rules required the entire other side be devoted to the destination address and postage. Longtime resident Tom "Tinker" Breakey thinks it might be the old Rogers Bridge, which washed out in the early 1900s, after a dam broke on Deer Creek sending enough water into the Jordan to force it upstream, where it took out the bridge. The timing seems about right. You can still see old pilings upstream from the current Rogers Bridge. From the collection of Tim and Lynne Goodwin.

Keeping the Jordan River Clean

Collection totes for trash and returnables are in place at landings along the Jordan River, according to Jordan River Action Group [JRAG] President Tom Breakey, with the East Jordan Lions Club agreeing again this year to maintain the four sites.

"We are happy to report that there was no vandalism of the totes last year, other than some missing returnables," Breakey noted. "No trash was stolen."

JRAG was helped by a grant this year from the Charlevoix County Community Foundation to purchase trash bags and disposable gloves, but is looking down the road to the public to assist in their efforts with a tax deductible donation.

"Since we are a bare bones organization, any donation received will be put towards helping to keep the river as clean as we can."

The group, which received its 501(c)(3) tax deductible designation last year, can be reached at Jordan River Action Group, PO Box 215, East Jordan, MI 49727.

Support the FOJ. Stay in Touch with Your River.

Your membership and tax-deductible financial support helps the FOJ to continue its work of "protecting and conserving" the Jordan River Watershed. Your river is depending on you.

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The Friends of the Jordan River Watershed is a charitable 501 (c)(3) organization. Contributions are tax-deductible under federal law.

- \$15 Individual
- \$25 Family
- \$25 Business/Organization
- \$50 Hawk
- \$100 Owl
- \$250 Osprey
- \$500 Eagle
- Other \$ _____

PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO:
Friends of the Jordan River Watershed,
PO Box 412, East Jordan, MI 49727



PO Box 412
East Jordan, MI 49727



“We think of life as solid and are haunted when time tells us it is a fluid. Old Heraclitus couldn’t have stepped in the same river once, let alone twice.”

— JIM HARRISON, 1937-2016
THE ROAD HOME

Announcing the 12th Annual ‘Visions of the Valley’ Photography Contest

The Lure of the Jordan

What draws you to the Jordan River and Watershed? *What is its lure?* Instead of a thousand words, tell us in a photograph when you enter the Friends of the Jordan River Watershed’s 12th annual photography contest. It’s open to photographers of all ages and skills, the season and subject the photographer’s to decide, as long as it was taken in the Jordan River Watershed.

More than \$1200 and 14 awards will be presented, including Grand Prize, Youth, President’s Choice and Viewers’ Choice.

Photographs chosen will appear as a page in the FOJ’s annual “Visions of the Valley” calendar. Proceeds from calendar sales support the FOJ’s Young Friends program.

Enter an unmatted 10” x 8” print, horizontal only please, accompanied by a \$5 per photo entry fee and entry form, available online at friendsofthejordan.org, along with complete contest details. Photographers may enter as many times as they want. Youth 18 and under may enter two photos for free. Deadline for submission is Monday, August 1.

Awards will be made at the FOJ’s annual Photography Contest Celebration and Exhibit, with the release of the 2017 “Visions of the Valley” calendar, on Saturday, September 24, 1-4 p.m., at the Watershed Center in East Jordan.

