

Friends of the Pecatonica River Foundation

THE CURRENT

May 2023



Let's talk trash! One of the essential issues concerning river usage is trash. Every year there is a Pecatoinea River Cleanup last week in July. If you launch at Brewsters Landing and travel the 31.4 miles to Freeport, you will not see much trash in the river. Launching at Tutty's Crossing and traveling downstream, you will notice bottles, cans and other debris collecting in the fallen tree branches. This material is the reason for the annual cleanup.

Logic tells us that there are two possible sources for the increase in debris. Stormwater that drains into the Pecatonica may be one source. The second source may be deliberate dumping. The second source could be people using the Hancock Ave. Bridge or other sites as access to disposal. Verification of the original would be the first step toward eliminating this problem.

Mother Nature contributes parts of trees, and in some cases, entire trees, blocking passage. Intervention is frequently required to open a channel for boat traffic. A healthy stream needs occasional help to maintain the recreational use of the waterway. The Pecatonica River has an excellent fish population and good variety. We can help keep it that way.

Joe Ginger, president

MEETINGS & EVENTS

Everyone is invited. Bring your ideas!

May 11	RAFTERS 6:30 P.M.
Jun. 8	Next meeting.
Jul. 13 Aug. 9	FPRF meetings are the second Thursday of the month. See "ALL IN. Stephenson County" for area events.
Jul. 7-9	Tutty Baker Fest
June 3rd	Pecatonica River Clean Up 8 AM-11:30 AM
May 29	Memorial Day Parade 10 AM
June 2	Music on Chicago begins.
	https://www.eventbrite.com/d/il-freeport/events/

Other Events & Activities

Freeport/Stephenson County

<https://chamber.greaterfreeport.com/>

Pec-n- Paddle

Kayak Rental Service 6 AM-6 PM
(815) 275-2064 (815) 990-2307

Shane and Sharolyn Page

Freeport Park District

1122 S. Burchard Ave.

Freeport, IL 61032

1-815-235-6114

www.freeportparkdistrict.org

Lena Community Park District

609 N. Schuler St.

Lena, IL 61048

1-815-369-5351

www.lenaparks.org



Watch Tom Lindblade's "Illinois' Friendliest Paddle"
<http://bit.ly/paddlethepec>



Pecatonica River Scenes in Postcard - Book 2

Pecatonica River Scenes in Postcards \$12 +\$3 S&H
www.peccriver.org/projects

"Pecatonica River Scenes in Postcard - Book 2" \$12 + \$3 S&H

Available at: Convention & Visitors Bureau, 9 East and through the mail.

A limited number of "Pecatonica River Scenes in Postcard" are available at \$12 + \$3 S&H.



This is Stephenson Street in 1914. The trolley is crossing in front of the Stephenson County Court House, behind the trees. Van Buren is on the east side of the Court House. The buildings across from the courthouse are gone. A side note: The first street in Freeport to be paved was the street in front of the Mayor's home. <https://hickscarworks.blogspot.com/2022/02/freeport-railway-light.html> All trolley service ended in 1933.

If you are interested in improving river stewardship, promoting paddling, organizing river events, the history of the Pecatonica River and communities along the river, check our website and contact us.

Friends of the Pecatonica River Foundation

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www.pecriver.org

www.illinoispaddling.org

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*We will not share or sell your email address.

Joe Ginger – President

Mickie Dittmar – Vice President

Lee Butler -- Secretary /Treasurer

Roger Schamberger – Governmental Liaison

Mickie Dittmar & John Fritz – Fundraising Chairs

Joe Green – Site Development Manager

Betty Butler -Membership Jim Leamy - Safety Chair

Friends of the Pecatonica River Foundation is a 501(c)(3) organization.
Dues are due in February. If you joined in July or later, you are good for 2023.

All donations are tax deductible and should be made payable to:

Friends of the Pecatonica River Foundation.

