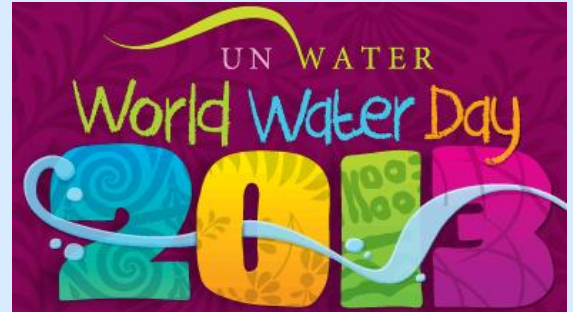


ROW Foundation Announces World Water Day 2013 Program In Collaboration with UNEP

Events take place during March 22 - 25, 2013 as mentioned below.

The Rivers of the World (ROW) Foundation (<http://rowfoundation.org>) is conducting trash cleanup and other awareness activities for –

1. Yangtze Kiang River in Wuhan City, China¹
2. Yamuna River in Agra, India
3. Yamuna River in Gokul, India
4. Potomac River near Washington, DC
5. Ganges River in Rishikesh, India,
6. Hooghly River at Annapurna Ghat, Kolkata, India
7. Daya River near Bhuvaneswar, India (Confirmed)
8. Barak River, Silchar (Assam), India
9. Lake restoration/cleanup awareness Vizianagaram, South India
10. Brahmaputra River, Guwahati, Assam, India
11. Iloilo River, Iloilo City, Philippines,



The UNEP officials in Washington, DC have met with us and have officially communicated a collaborative effort with the Rivers of the World Foundation for the World Water Day campaign. This year we have another first, The Brahmaputra River Trash Cleanup activity will be coordinated by Mr. Gautam Lahkar. Also, this year we expect some school children to participate in Guwahati (Brahmaputra River), Silchar (Barak River) and Kolkata(Hoogly River), India. The trash cleanup activity in the Hooghly River watershed is being pursued by Mr. Sucharit Dutta, Mr. Sudip Homechoudhury, Mr. Phalguni Shankar (Hirak) Bhattacharya, and others. These projects in China, India, Nepal and Philippines are in partnership with and motivated by a similar project in Washington, DC, USA to Clean-up the Potomac River by the Alice Ferguson Foundation (www.fergusonfoundation.org).

Subijoy Dutta, Environmental Engineer from Washington DC area, who began working on the Yamuna River Cleanup effort 19 years ago, said recently in a “Mother of Tears” Dance program in Rockville, Maryland “...**whenever you look at a stream or River, think of it as your own River, treat it like your own glass of water. As you would not throw trash or waste oil in your glass of water, please treat the River or the stream the same way.** It would be of high value if you pass this message to your friends and family.” He added “..Your thoughts, wishes, and acts towards cleaning up the Rivers will go a long way in supporting the goal of the River cleanup effort...I’d like each of you to take one simple step towards preventing pollution from going into the River. We should stop throwing one piece of trash in open area today, two pieces tomorrow, and three pieces the next day.....at the end of the year we will find ourselves throwing trash only in the trash

¹ The Lat-Long coordinates for the site locations for these activities are listed in a Table at the end.

bins. We must start that now, and teach one person at a time. Your determined actions will one day turn your River clean and blue. !”

Our volunteers from Agra, Mr. Shravan Kumar, Brij Khandelwal, Mr. Raman Balla and others will be working with a number of communities to conduct the Yamuna River Cleanup in Agra area on March 24th, 2013. Many local students, volunteers, and communities will be actively participating in this activity.

The Yamuna River Cleanup in Gokul also takes place on March 23rd, 2013. Many local communities and senior citizens have also assured support. Gokul Trust is actively participating in this activity.

Mr. D.K. Mital is arranging the Yamuna trash cleanup effort in Dehradun area, Yamuna upstream with the help of Ramchandra Thapliyal and possibly Mrs. Rajita Majumdar, who is visiting India..

,Mr. Sudhir Nautiyal, Ms. Amrita Rupananda and Jittender Kumar, who have been pursuing local trash removal in Rishikesh under the Clean Himalaya organization will be leading the effort to conduct the trash cleanup for the Ganges River in Rishikesh during March 18 through 25, 2013.

Mr. Prafulla Dhal and others from BISWA, a local non-profit organization trash cleanup activity will also take place in Bhuvaneswar, Odissa between March 18 and 25th on the Daya River watershed.

The Barak River Trash Cleanup effort is coordinated by Mr. Haridas Dutta, Ms. Abanita Sen, Mr. Pijush Das and Dr. Kumar Kanti Das in active partnership with their local organization "Nagarik Swartha Raksha Sangram Parishad". They will be observing the WWD-2013 on March 25th, 2013, with a number of School children as planned by Ms. Abanita Sen, an environmental science teacher . On that day they plan to collect various trash of all kinds thrown on the river bank from a stretch of 100 meters in Silchar area.

Mr. Gautam Lahkar and his wife, Dr. Paramita Chakravarty will be arranging a trash cleanup activity for the Brahmaputra River in the Guwahati area for the first time.. Cheers!!! Gautam and Paramita.

Ms. Hong Zhao, our coordinator for central China plans to have the trash cleanup done on March 24th, 2013. She is planning to have a bigger group and possibly conduct it at a few different locations along the bank of the Yangtze river in Wuhan City, China.

Mr. Noel Hechanova, Director ENRO, City of Philippines will lead the Iloilo River trash cleanup between March 22nd to 24th, 2013. This year's activity will be conducted in a more concerted fashion with participation from various local organizations.. The Henactacan Barrangay will conduct the cleanup activity on the bank of the Jaro river.

Plastic Bags will be used by the Volunteers to collect recyclable items, and trash to be disposed. The recyclables will be transported to the municipal recycling centers when available; arrangements are being made for the trash to be picked up by the city garbage collection system.

After the Trash Cleanups, reports on the amount of trash (or number of trash bags and their sizes), the pictures from the activities, and a short list of volunteers are expected from the coordinators from each of these rivers.

This information will be released publicly about how much volume/weight and types (paper, plastics, soda cans, bulk items, such as tires etc.) of trash collected. The Rivers of the World Foundation will have listing of volunteers and pictures from the Cleanups, as submitted by the coordinators, on the websites, which should be easily accessible to everyone. For exact timing, locations, and other information please contact the cleanup coordinators below.

Wuhan City, China, Yangtze-Kiang River
Ms. Hong Zhao (ruoshuisq@yahoo.com.cn)

Washington, DC, USA, Potomac River
Mr. Subijoy Dutta (Subijoy@verizon.net)

ILOILO City, Philippines, Iloilo River
Mr. Noel Hechanova (noel_hechanova@yahoo.com)

Agra, India, Yamuna River
Shravan Kumar (sinshravan@gmail.com), Brij Khandelwal (agrabrij@gmail.com)

Bhubaneswar, Odissa, India, Daya River
Mr. Prafulla Dhal (Prafulla.dhal@gmail.com), Dr. Monica Das (dasmonica@gmail.com)

Dehradun/Dak Patthar , Yamuna River (upstream)
Ramchander Thapliyal (ramchanderthapliyal@gmail.com)

Gokul, UP, India, Yamuna River
Pawan Sharma, Mr. Ashwin Patel (ashwinjp@hotmail.com)

Guwahati, Assam, India, Brahmaputra River
Mr. Gautam Lahkar (gautamlahkar@gmail.com), and Paramita Chakravarty (paramitachakravarty@gmail.com)

Kolkata, India, Hooghly River
Mr. Sucharit Dutta (sucharit2011@gmail.com), Mr. Hirak Bhattacharya (hirakbirati@gmail.com),
Mr. Sudip Homechoudhury (sudiphom@gmail.com)

Rishikesh, Uttarkhand, India, Ganges River
Mr. Sudhir Nautiyal (sudhir_nautiyal@yahoo.co.uk)

Silchar, Assam, India, Barak River
Haridas Dutta, Abanita sen (abs.sen1986@gmail.com); Pijush Das (savebarak@gmail.com), and Dr. Kumar K. Das (kumarkdas@hotmail.com)

Vizianagaram, Andhra Pradesh, India, Lake restoration/awareness
Dr. Tata Prakasam (prakasamtata@gmail.com)

Primary Contact for All Rivers of the World Events: Subijoy Dutta/Rajita Majumdar
Contact: [Subijoy Dutta](mailto:subijoy@verizon.net) (subijoy at Verizon dot net) / [Rajita Majumdar](mailto:rajita.i@gmail.com) (rajita.i at gmail.com)

LAT-LONG COORDINATES FOR THE SITES

1. **Yangtze Kiang River in Wuhan City, China** - 30 35' 2.64" N, 114 17' 47.88" E
2. **Yamuna River** in Agra, India – 27 12' 19.85"N, 78 02' 5.73" E
3. **Yamuna River** in Gokul, India - 27 26' 27.69"N, 77 43' 05.64"E
4. **Potomac River near Washington, DC** - 38 51' 57.80"N, 77 02' 17.52"E
5. **Ganges River** in Rishikesh, India, - 30 07' 19.63"N, 78 18' 37.20"E
6. **Hooghly River** at Annapurna Ghat, Kolkata, India - 22 44' 56.77"N, 88 21' 53.67"E
7. **Daya River** near Bhuvaneswar, India (Confirmed) - 20 12' 35.61"N, 85 51' 05.35"E
8. **Barak River**, Silchar (Assam), India - 24 49' 56.67"N, 92 47' 35.81"E
9. Lake restoration/cleanup awareness **Vizianagaram**, South India - 18 06' 28.74"N, 83 22' 33.93"E
10. **Iloilo River, Iloilo City, Philippines**, - 10 43' 55.84"N, 122 35' 31.64"E
11. Bagmati River in Kathmandu area, Nepal (postponed) - 27 42' 37.10"N, 85 21' 23.10"E
12. **Brahmaputra River**, Guwahati, Assam, India - 26 11' 31.50"N, 91 44' 51.58"E