

## “Don’t Drop It On Alabama”



The month of April launches Alabama PALS’ state-wide spring cleanup.

FLFR is participating in the 2020 Alabama PALS campaign. (Due to Covid-19 guidelines, this cleanup is extended through May.)

PALS has challenged representatives, like FLFR, to find 50 more groups to join the statewide cleanup. For more information, see:  
>[www.alpals.org](http://www.alpals.org)  
>“Alabama PALS” on Facebook.  
>[sam@flfral.com](mailto:sam@flfral.com).

**PALS, People Against A Littered State**, is a state-wide organization that sponsors citizen engaged programs that clean up litter in Alabama streets, streams, college campuses and coastlines.

## Discovering nature while stuck at home . . .

FLFR has taken on the challenge of providing inspiring outdoor activities for you and your young’uns to do while we’re stuck at home. Wonder and beauty and amazing things can be found everywhere, even in your own yard!

We are providing activities you can use on our Facebook Group page (“**FLFR Friends Group**”, then “join”). Together we’ll keep our spirits up, our families engaged and our creativity flowing!

We invite you to post your responses and they can be anything that strikes you--a photo, a drawing, a poem, a story or something else. The first three activities follow.

### Discovery Activity One: Cool Critters

Show or tell us about a cool critter you find in your yard or on a walk or hike. Maybe it’s a turtle, an ant, a snail, a butterfly or a moth. Get ready, set, GO! Post your best!



### Discovery Activity Two

Be a detective. It won’t be hard, just head out to your own yard. Can you find a carpet of moss so green? Or maybe a tree or rock where it can be seen? Moss comes in over 14,000 species. Lisa Martin suggested mosses for Activity Two. She said, “The mosses this time of year are so beautiful! Get ready, set, GO! Keep posting!”



### Discovery Activity Three

Spring is popping out all over. Flowers, trees and shrubs are budding and the buds are popping open! Can you catch them in a picture or a poem? Share your discoveries and post them. Get ready, set, GO!



## POSTPONED

### **Second Saturday Cleanups**

Due to the state-wide Stay at Home order, you are encouraged to observe physical distancing and the stay at home recommendations.

No FLFR cleanups are currently scheduled for April or May.

Please help us keep Swann Covered Bridge and Mardis Mill clean by not leaving any trash after you have visited them.

**Leave no trace.**

### **Join or Renew**

Your donation constitutes a membership. To become a FLFR member or to renew your membership, go to [FLFR.org](http://FLFR.org).

Or mail a check to:

**FLFR**  
P.O. Box 638  
Cleveland, AL 35049

*FLFR is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.*

*All donations to Friends of the Locust Fork River are tax-deductible and appreciated.*

*Thank you!*

**To leave FLFR a voicemail, call:  
205-274-FLFR**

## *ADEM renewing Permit any day now*

Last June, a wastewater discharge permit was submitted for renewal to ADEM by the Tyson Foods plant in Blount County, including a request for a new discharge point directly into the Locust Fork River.

FLFR representatives arranged a meeting with Tyson Foods to discuss the proposed new discharge point. The Tyson representative assured FLFR that Tyson no longer intended to move its discharge point from Graves Creek to the Locust Fork River. However, the permit request was not modified and the threat to the River remained.

ADEM set a Public Hearing on the permit renewal for November. FLFR, along with others concerned about the River, appealed to the community to attend the hearing at the Blountsville American Legion Post. On the evening of the hearing, about 300 people showed up and FLFR presented ADEM with around 1,600 letters

supporting protection of the River from the proposed new discharge point located about a mile upriver from the new King's Bend Scenic Overlook on U.S. Hwy. 231. *(Photo below.)*

ADEM's committee of four listened to comments by Tyson's representative followed by comments from some 34 others, including biologists, scientists, local land owners, kayakers, teachers, and FLFR representatives.

Many pointed out that ADEM was too lenient in its standards and should write stronger guidelines to improve wastewater quality. FLFR President, Stephen Guesman, noted that Tyson employed more advanced and efficient treatment capabilities in other states where Tyson was held to higher standards.

ADEM has compiled all comments into a response that is under review by ADEM authorities. A more stringent permit for Tyson Foods is in the offing.







## 2020 Art & Photo Contest Opens

“Celebrating Farms and Woodlands of the Locust Fork Watershed,” is this year’s theme to inspire you as you create your best photos and artwork in 2020. The entry period opened April 1 and ends June 30.

To participate, register at: [flfr.org](http://flfr.org). (No entry fee to participate.) You can enter up to 6 photos and 6 artworks. Adult prizes are \$100, \$150 and \$200. Teen (19 years and under) prizes are \$25, \$50 and \$100.

## Zac Napier, FLFR’s Naturalist

You may recognize Zac Napier from outings and his new series of Rambles or from Kids’ Day on the River. Maybe you met him at Turkey Creek Nature Preserve, where he was on staff. Now Zac is a Blount Countian and FLFR’s official Naturalist.

Zac has a knack for introducing the timid to snakes and other wild critters. And he loves to train the unobservant to recognize amazing native plant species. Welcome, Zac!



### FLFR Contacts

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## FLFR on the media

**Website:**  
[www.FLFR.org](http://www.FLFR.org)

**Voicemail:**  
205-274-FLFR

“Friends of the  
Locust Fork River”



QR Cube:



From the pages of the  
*Locust Fork Yacht Club's Creek Bankin' Recipes*

## Las migas en el río

6 eggs, beaten  
1/4 cup onion, diced small  
1/4 cup tomatoes, seeded, diced small  
1 cup cheese, grated, your choice of flavors  
4 - 6 corn tortillas

Tear the tortillas into 1-inch pieces and fry in oil in an iron skillet or dutch oven until not quite crisp. Transfer them to paper to absorb excess oil. Pour all oil except about 2 tablespoons from the skillet or dutch oven. Add chopped onion, tomato and pepper to taste, cooking for about 1 minute. Add beaten eggs. When eggs are soft-scrambled, add the fried tortilla pieces. Continue cooking to desired doneness. Soft is best!

Serve with refried beans, fried plantains, hash brown potatoes, more tortillas and your favorite salsa or hot sauce.

***GREAT for breakfast on the river . . . or anytime! To double recipe, use a dozen eggs and 8 - 10 tortillas, adjusting the veggie portions. ¡Provecho! (This is a reprint from 2014.)***

Due to the health and  
safety mandates  
currently in force and  
effect during a very  
unusual time the  
spring 2020 issue of  
*the river's voice*  
appears only in digital  
format.

P.O. Box 638  
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