

Friends of the Missouri Breaks Monument Winter Newsletter

Protecting and preserving the Upper Missouri River Breaks National Monument through advocacy, education and stewardship.



Happy 20th Anniversary!

2021 is finally here and that means the 20th anniversary celebrations can begin! We have a lot of great projects and events planned for this year, the 20th anniversaries for the Monument and the Friends, and we are just a couple weeks out from the first one. Tune in online Jan 19th to learn about the history of the Monument from BLM Monument Manager, Zane Fulbright and FMBM Executive Director, Joe Offer. Listen as they discuss where the Monument started and where it's headed.

All year long the Friends will be hosting these online events with guest speakers from a variety of fields to dive into the Monument's history, ecology, management, and more. Listed to the right is the first set of scheduled virtual events with more to come later on in the season. See you there!

2021 Virtual Event Schedule

**All virtual events will be held live on Zoom every third Tuesday starting Jan 19th @ 6:00pm*

Jan 19th - Monument History and Future

Feb 9th - National Conservation Lands System

March 2nd - Wildlife on the Monument

March 23rd - Cottonwoods of the Monument

April 13th - History of The Friends

May 4th - Recreation on the Monument

You can find out more about each event on our website at missouribreaks.org or by following us on social media



Friends of the
**MISSOURI BREAKS
MONUMENT**

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2021 FRIENDS STEWARDSHIP EVENTS



8th Annual Cottonwood Planting Event

Saturday, March 27th
Crow Coulee - @ 9:00am - 4:00pm

Interpretive Center Beautification Day

Saturday, May 22nd
Fort Benton - @ 9:00am - 2:30pm

National Trails Day

Saturday, June 5th
Stafford Ferry Trailhead - @ 9:00am - 3:30pm



Wilderness Study Area Survey

Sunday, June 6th
Woodhawk WSA - @ 10:00am - 2:00pm

Confluence Campout

Saturday, June 19th
Wood Bottom Recreation Site - @ 9:00am - 5:00pm



River Clean-up

Sunday, June 20th
Coal Banks Landing to Judith Landing - @ 10am - 4:00pm

Interpretive Center Beautification Day

Saturday, July 17th
Fort Benton - @ 10:00am - 2:30pm



Summer Astronomy Night

Saturday, August 7th
Wood Bottom campground - @ 5:00pm - 12:00am

National Public Lands Day

Saturday, September 25th
James Kipp Recreation Area - @ 9:00am - 3:30pm

To learn more about these and other events check out our website at missouribreaks.org/volunteer, or email us at info@missouribreaks.org

Field Season 2021

The field season is coming up quickly and we are looking forward to the many projects we have scheduled for this year. Mark your calendars and be sure to join us for what you can!

Ranging from our signature cottonwood planting project to interpretive center clean up days, our calendar of events has something for everyone to take part in.

Outside of our volunteer events, the Friends will also be taking on our usual responsibilities as caretakers of the trees in the Monument. This work includes watering all of the previously planted cottonwoods on a biweekly basis during the dry summer months to ensure tree vigor and increased survival. Additionally, a study of past plantings will be done to help us continue to improve our planting method moving forward.

We'll be posting more information about each event on our website and social media, so be sure to connect with us and keep an eye out!

2021 Cottonwood Planting

We are back! After having to cancel last year's event due to COVID-19, we are extremely excited to be planting again!

This year we have to extend a big thank you to the National Parks Service Lewis and Clark Trail Division for the donation of all of the planting materials needed for this year's project (pictured to the right).

We hope you'll be joining us!





Become a member!

The Friends are supported in large part by the financial contributions of our members. We simply couldn't do all of the work that we do for the monument without donations, big and small.

During this special anniversary year, for the Friends and the monument, please consider becoming a member or increasing your support of the Friends at our website (missouribreaks.org/donate) or by mail today.

Get your gear today!

Now that the holidays are over you can start shopping for yourself again! We still have plenty of Friends merchandise available in our online store. Check out our hats, books, t-shirts, and boaters guides and get a head start on your summer adventure.

You can find all our gear at missouribreaks.org/shop

A Word From Our New Program Manager

I was recently asked what one of my favorite moments from 2020 was, and I was lucky enough to have a long list to choose from. A few stuck out from various weekend adventures, but most of them came from my time spent working on the monument paddling on the river and helping trees grow. You have to consider yourself pretty fortunate when most of your favorite memories in a year happen on the job, and I do. I feel even luckier to be able to continue that work in my new role as Program Manager for the Friends.

I am thrilled to have the opportunity to help this organization grow in both recognition and impact, and am humbled by the warm reception I have received from all of you.

Many of the projects and programs that FMB hosts are already near and dear to my heart, but I am most excited for the challenge of all of the new events and work that we will be developing this year and into the future. My love for the outdoors and for developing human connections to it for the betterment of both are the driving force behind each project and every day on the job. I can't wait to see you all out there!

And as for that favorite moment, it had to be watching a morning rainstorm move through the Breaks from under the shelter at Hole in the Wall with a hot cup of coffee and a good book in my hand.

-Mikayla Moss
Program Manager

