



**Watershed
Committee
of the Ozarks, Inc.**

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For Immediate Release

A groundbreaking ceremony for the Watershed Center Education Building at Valley Water Mill Park will be held **Friday, June 4, at 9 a.m.**, at 2450 E. Valley Water Mill Road in northwest Springfield. This event celebrates the beginning of construction for the final piece of the Watershed Center facility.

Directions to site: from Glenstone Avenue & Interstate 44 – travel north to Valley Water Mill Road, turn right. At Barnes Avenue (Farm Road 171), turn left. Travel approximately 1/2 mile to Valley Water Mill Road, turn right and enter the first driveway on the right.

This building features public meeting spaces, offices for education staff and demonstrations of water and energy efficient construction and operation. It is planned to be a LEED-certified building.

Funding for the \$870,000 building is being provided by a combination of public and private donations.

The General Contractor for the project is Carson – Mitchell, Inc., with architectural services provided by Butler, Rosenbury & Partners. Estimated completion date is early summer, 2011.

The Watershed Center Education Building will complete the Watershed Center at Valley Water Mill Park. The entire facility already includes, trails, five outdoor classrooms/learning stations, handicap accessible fishing piers, rain gardens, wetland filter areas, a restored wetland, a new pedestrian bridge over the spillway, and offices for Springfield – Greene County Parks Outdoor Initiatives Program and Maintenance Facility.

The Watershed Center at Valley Water Mill Park is a project of the Watershed Committee of the Ozarks in partnership with City of Springfield, City Utilities of Springfield, Greene County and the Springfield-Greene County Park Board. The Watershed Committee is now in its 26th year of providing clean water services and education. The Center will be the first watershed education center in the Midwest.

“This is the culmination of ten years of planning and fund raising,” said Loring Bullard, Watershed Committee of the Ozarks Executive Director. “Clean water is a big deal to people in this area. We sincerely appreciate the community’s interest and support.”

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*For more information, contact Loring Bullard
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