



The Friends have gotten a facelift!

Hello,

Welcome to Friends of the MNRR's revived newsletter! These monthly updates will share upcoming events, stories from the river, updates on projects, and more!

In this first newsletter, we're excited to share FOMNRR's new look! We have a brand new logo thanks to Micayla Florence, a Graphic Designer at Yankton Thrive.

New Logo!



New Icon!



And, significant updates have been made to fomnrr.org. Now, it's much easier to find ways to support FOMNRR, whether that's through becoming a member, donating, volunteering, or sponsoring a project. Our work is possible because of the contributions of folks like you who love the Missouri River.

[Visit Our Website](#)

Save the Dates for these Upcoming Events!



2026 Great American Cleanup

April 25, 9-11am | Memorial Park South Shelter, Yankton, SD

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY with [Keep Yankton Beautiful!](#) Meet at Fantle Memorial Park South Picnic Shelter for a safety briefing, supplies, and route assignments.

Learn more about KYB's Cleanup

Vermillion Earth Days

April 18-26 | Times & locations in Vermillion, SD vary

Celebrate Earth Days with [Greening Vermillion](#). Events include a Volunteer Day at Spirit Mound, trivia night, book discussions, farmer's market, and more.

There are so many ways to celebrate Earth Day that it takes a whole week! All events are free and open to the public.

Learn more about Earth Days



Missouri River Cleanup

May 2nd, 8am-12pm | Riverside Park Boat Ramp, Yankton, SD

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY!
Join FOMNRR and the National Park Service for a morning of keeping the Missouri River clean. Donuts, free T-shirts, and a free lunch will be available for all volunteers. Volunteers will have the option to take a boat ride to clean up sites or stay on land.

Learn more on fomnrr.org



Meet the Missouri River Speed Record Paddlers

May 7th, 6-7:30pm | Riverside Park Amphitheater, Yankton, SD

Four guys, paddling 2.341 miles, 24/7, in less than 33 days!

Learn about the epic journey these four paddlers are embarking on to break the WORLD RECORD for fastest paddle on the Missouri River!

Learn more on fomnrr.org

What's New On The River?



National Park Passes

The MNRR Headquarters now supplies the FREE America the Beautiful passes, which include the Military Annual, Military Lifetime, Access, and 4th Grade Passes.

If you are active duty military, a veteran, an individual with a permanent disability, or have a 4th grader, check out how you can get your free National Park Pass.

For more information call, 605-665-0209, or visit the MNRR Headquarters at 508 East 2nd St. Yankton, SD.

Research on Least Terns on the MNRR using Motus Receivers

FOMNRR has contributed funds to the University of South Dakota to support a project to deploy Motus receivers at several sites along the MNRR. These Motus stations help track the movement and dispersal of wildlife like Least Terns, a species that heavily relies on MNRR sandbars for nesting habitats.

Check out the latest update from the initial Least Tern research study using the Motus stations.

[Learn more about Entrance Passes](#)

[Check out the Update](#)

Missouri River Events



Planning and preparations are moving forward smoothly for the 2026 Missouri River Events!

435 students from 11 different area schools will be attending the 2026 **Missouri River Watershed School Festival**.



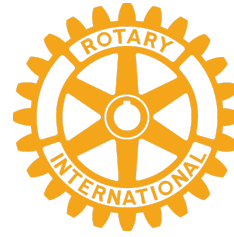
The **Missouri River Cleanup** is set for Saturday, May 2nd! More news and info about the event will be shared in the upcoming weeks.

Fontenelle Forest will be bringing the raptors to **Homestead Day** this year. Save the date! Saturday June 13, from 10am-1pm.



Please join us in thanking the wonderful sponsors who make these events possible!

- Pizza Ranch
- Runza
- Sacred Heart Monastery
- SD American Water Works Association
- Vermillion Rotary Club



Are you a Member of the Friends of the MNRR?

Supporting the Friends of the MNRR on an annual basis as a Member is a key way to expand education, stewardship, outdoor recreation, and advocacy along the MNRR.

Were you a FOMNRR Member in the past?
Not sure if you've renewed your membership for 2026?

Reach out to our Executive Director, Caroline Ver Mulm, at
executivedirector@fomnrr.org

**Become a
Member Today**

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