



# Wish List

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

### Donate by check

Check payable to "Friends of the Kaw."

### Donate online

Visit [kansasriver.org/donation](https://kansasriver.org/donation)

Write "Wish List" in the memo line.

Click General Fund Donation.

Please check the item(s) you want to support:

**Use My Gift Where Needed Most.**

The items listed below have been prioritized by Dawn Buehler, Kansas Riverkeeper® and Executive Director. By checking here, you are providing Dawn the flexibility to use your gift where needed most.

**River Cleanups.**

**Amount needed: \$20,000**

Friends of the Kaw is the only non-profit dedicated to cleaning up the Kansas River. We set a goal that by 2030, all legacy dump sites will be removed from the Kansas River. In 2024, we need to host four major cleanups along the Kansas River in



Kansas City, Lawrence, Topeka and Manhattan. The costs associated with a cleanup includes staff time, trash bags, gloves, equipment, disposal fees, supplies, portable toilet for each cleanup, and refreshments. Over 300 volunteers participate in our cleanups removing hundreds of tires, battery cases, plastic bottles/bags, aluminum cans, trash, refrigerators, metal, and abandoned boats.

**Advocacy and Policy for the River.**

**Amount needed: \$50,000**

FOK is the strongest voice for protecting and restoring the Kansas River and its watershed. Restoring the river to full health is not just an environmental issue, it's a matter of public health. We work at local and state levels to reduce pollution and restore vital natural systems, while identifying best practices for protecting our waterways and being vigilant in opposing projects or proposals that would degrade water quality. We submit comments to governing bodies about pollution, dredging permits, stormwater issues, development projects, etc. We're holding local leaders accountable for keeping clean water a top priority. The Kansas River provides drinking water to over 950,000 Kansans. The same water that flows from our faucets is threatened by pollution. Now more than ever, the Kansas River needs voices to stand up, show up, and speak up for clean water.



**(See back for more opportunities!)**

□ **Public Outreach and Communication.**

**Amount needed: \$20,000**

We work hard to educate people about the Kansas River, but more tools are needed to continue this work. Communication is key in all we do! The devices and software needed to keep everyone informed comes at a price beyond our budget. Between emailing software, social media designs, video creation, event software, website, and even good ol' letterhead/envelopes, it takes a lot to share all the wonderful work done by Friends of the Kaw. In the age of social media, we need to upgrade our technology and training to provide a more robust outreach and communication to bring more awareness to the urgent issues that face the Kansas River.



□ **Kansas River National Water Trail Informational Kiosks.**

**Amount needed: \$5,000**



The National Water Trail system was established February 29, 2012. It is a special nationwide network designed to promote public water trails across the US. The Kansas River was designated as a National Water Trail on July 14, 2012 – only the second river to receive this title at the time. Friends of the Kaw is the only non-profit dedicated to the Kansas River Water Trail. We worked in partnership

with the Kansas Department of Wildlife & Parks to establish access ramps on the Kansas River and we now have 19 ways to enjoy the Kansas River. Our goal for each access ramp is informational kiosks, safety kiosks, lighting, restrooms, picnic areas, and kayak storage lockers. We want to complete additional kiosks at Topeka, Lawrence, DeSoto, and Kansas City. Funds will support design and installation of the kiosks at these locations.



□ **Educational Paddles.**

**Amount needed: \$10,000**

Our educational paddles draw hundreds to the Kansas River every year. This includes events such as Beginner Wednesdays, Beginner Camping Weekends, Women's Paddles, etc. The purpose of our paddle trips is to educate groups on the Kansas River system, including the wildlife, ecology, watersheds, and human impacts on the river. Another goal is to encourage a "get outdoors" mentality, and to view the beautiful Kaw as a place to enjoy the water safely with friends and family. Organizing these paddles requires a lot of coordination, direction, and transportation. Your support will enable us to continue these events.



*Every donation, regardless of its size,  
is crucial to enabling us to continue  
our vital work. Thank you!*

Questions? Dawn Buehler, Kansas Riverkeeper® and Executive Director

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