



Indian Creek Covered Bridge

Detail of painting by Jim Clewell

*“Water, good clean water, is the lifeblood of this community. The risk of losing it is not a chance we are willing to take.”**

“There is an innate value in Monroe County, comprised and defined in part by natural environment, abundant water resources, agricultural influence, locally owned businesses, neighborly small town communities, and a wealth of historic character. ...The goal should be to make the most of ... new opportunities while at the same time neither discarding nor subjugating the very qualities which make Monroe County unique and valuable in its present condition.” (*Monroe County Comprehensive Plan, 2009*).

**Featured quotes are from Monroe County residents.*

2016

January

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February

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March

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Celebrating our 20th anniversary in 2016
Indian Creek Watershed Association

P.O. Box 711, Union, WV 24983 • www.IndianCreekWatershedAssociation.org
 email: info@IndianCreekWatershedAssociation.org



Hans Creek in Spring

Photo by Paula Mann

“We want to be good stewards of this land that has been cared for by generations. If something happens to the water, what can you do? Our families, our livestock and our wonderful wildlife all depend on healthy water.”

The historic and scenic Hans Creek Valley is still home to several working farms, including two National Bicentennial Farms and more than 450 acres being managed as organic dairy pasture. The Hans Creek watershed, a tributary of Indian Creek, also supports a vibrantly healthy apiary. With a growing number of beekeepers in the community, there are an estimated 20 million bees between Greenville and Peters Mountain.

2016

April

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May

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June

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Spring emerging from cave on Peters Mountain

Photo by Dorothy Vesper

“We have a fragile environment here. With so many sinkholes, sinking streams, caves and springs, most of us live on or near karst. Contamination is a real and constant concern.”

People who live, work and farm in Monroe County – from grade-school children to senior citizens – learn about karst. Living on karst means living with an underground flow of water that is hard to predict, but easy to pollute. Surface spills can rapidly work their way into distant wells, springs and water systems. A July 2015 contamination of the Red Sulphur public water system has been linked to a diesel fuel spill near a sinkhole above the Coburn Spring, one of the district’s source water springs on Peters Mountain.

2016

July

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August

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September

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Peters Mountain from an upland farm above Blue Lick

Photo by Paula Mann

“Growing up, my favorite place on the farm was on top of the ridge seeing Peters Mountain, unspoiled, traveling in both directions almost as far as you could see.”

The unbroken presence of Peters Mountain inspires and anchors an enduring sense of place and home. The springs of Peters Mountain are also the primary source waters for Monroe County’s three public water districts (Red Sulphur, Union, Gap Mills), hundreds of private springs and wells, and an award-winning water bottling company. The springs form the headwaters of most of the county’s watersheds. Together, Peters Mountain and its springs are a priceless resource for Monroe County families and farms.

2016

October

November

December

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