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Empowering You: Environment, Water, Rivers and You

League of Women Voters of the Greater Dayton Area

David Bodary

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Video: *Empowering You: Environment, Water, Rivers and You*
(Transcript automatically generated)

0:14

[Music]

0:21

we continue our series entitled league

0:23

of women voters empowering you a program

0:26

designed by the league of women voters

0:27

in partnership with dayton access

0:29

television

0:30

to provide unbiased nonpartisan

0:32

information on issues that are relevant

0:34

to our friends and neighbors throughout

0:36

the greater dayton area my name is david

0:38

botery i am a member of the league of

0:40

women voters and your host for today's

0:42

program as we discuss

0:45

water quality and natural resources

0:48

the league of women voters mission

0:50

focuses as much on education as it does

0:53

on voting and some of the positions

0:55

include government social policy and

0:58

natural resources so we really focus

1:00

today on that natural resources aspect

1:02

specifically on water quality

1:05

our guests today are leslie king
1:07
director of the rivers institute at the
1:10
university of dayton fit center for
1:11
leadership and community
1:13
she serves also on several boards
1:15
including five rivers metro parks
1:17
foundation the miami valley or yes the
1:20
the bike miami valley and partners for
1:23
the environmental as well as the
1:25
environmental justice academy steering
1:26
committee i'm sure i got some of those
1:28
wrong but thank you and welcome thank
1:31
you david thank you for having us yeah
1:33
and
1:34
her guest or our guest together is tessa
1:37
o'halleran a university of dayton now
1:40
junior who has been working with the
1:42
river stewards she is majoring in
1:45
engineering and she has interned with
1:47
the rivers institute last year and this
1:49
year is working with the miami
1:51
conservancy district this summer so
1:53
welcome tessa thank you for having me
1:55

absolutely
1:57
so i want to remind our viewers about
2:00
the rivers and why five rivers is a
2:04
relevant expression not just because of
2:06
the parks but because there are five
2:08
rivers that converge in dayton and those
2:11
rivers i had to remind myself are the
2:13
great miami the mad river the stillwater
2:16
river wolf creek and twin creek and
2:19
these rivers all feed into the great
2:21
miami buried
2:24
the great miami um valley aquifer which
2:27
is essentially
2:29
sailing grand uh
2:32
sand and gravel beneath us right that
2:36
has um taken in all this water and it's
2:38
just resting there or sitting there
2:41
um so an aquifer according to the city
2:44
of dayton holds as many as a trillion
2:46
gallons of
2:47
water beneath us
2:50
with that understanding that rivers are
2:52
converging and that's really why dayton
2:54

is here in many ways because early on
2:57
transportation relied on those rivers
2:59
but now the rivers are important to us
3:01
for other reasons and so leslie tell us
3:03
about the rivers institute and what is
3:05
your connection to the rivers
3:07
yeah so i think um dayton has always
3:10
been a confluence like you said even
3:12
before dayton was dayton it was a
3:14
confluence of rivers where people came
3:16
together and settled and it was around
3:18
the river and so the rivers institute
3:20
was formed i'd say 15 a little over 15
3:23
years ago when
3:25
community partners like miami
3:27
conservancy district
3:29
and other community leaders came to the
3:31
university of dayton and said
3:33
you know the rivers in our aquifer are
3:36
an incredibly strategic and valuable
3:39
resource and asset
3:41
to our region and not just economically
3:43
valuable but valuable in all ways
3:46

ecologically aesthetically socially and
3:48
economically
3:50
and they asked the university of dayton
3:52
to do something like how can we partner
3:54
and collaborate around the rivers
3:57
and what happened was a year-long
3:59
dialogue with many stakeholders
4:01
including students
4:02
to to have that discussion
4:04
and and the rivers institute the river
4:06
stewards program came out of that
4:08
because what was realized was that
4:11
um based on our history
4:14
the great flood which was a very long
4:16
time ago at this point and we have
4:18
incredible flood protection
4:21
that protects us from flooding
4:23
and then later history with industrial
4:26
pollution that most post-industrial
4:28
cities faced right with pollution free
4:31
clean water act
4:32
um we had turned our back on the river
4:35
completely
4:36

we built earth and levy walls to to
4:39
protect us which also separate us
4:42
and so there was a true opportunity to
4:44
say what would our community and region
4:47
look like if we looked back at the river
4:50
as a true source of vitality right
4:54
and i think what we're seeing today in
4:56
the region
4:57
is an outcome of those conversations
4:59
early on um and there's all kinds of
5:01
organizations that have done incredible
5:03
work to get us to where we are today
5:06
um the rivers institute the university
5:08
of dayton just played a supportive and
5:10
anchoring role where we were able to
5:13
be at the table
5:15
provide the resources that we could be
5:17
it students faculty
5:19
research or even just an anchor
5:22
institution like ud saying the river's
5:25
important right
5:26
because it runs through our campus so
5:27
that it's not just the parks district
5:30

that's worried about it but that more
5:32
people begin to be worried about it
5:34
and tessa you've been involved a couple
5:36
summers now on some projects connected
5:38
to the rivers tell me what you've been
5:40
doing um so of course so i started as a
5:43
river steward this sophomore year and
5:45
i'm gonna be a junior um especially i
5:48
think when we've been talking and like
5:49
you were talking about like looking back
5:51
at the river and like the resources that
5:53
the river gives dayton we did a project
5:55
this last spring where we did made a
5:58
video for dayton's uh water festival
6:01
and we asked
6:03
university of dayton students what's the
6:04
number one resource like natural
6:06
resource in dayton and not a single
6:09
person naturally gave us water everyone
6:11
said coal uh gravel sand no one said
6:15
water and so just yeah no one said it
6:18
and then so i don't know that was one of
6:20
the projects we did there's so many we
6:22

have like river cleanups
6:24
um we do we even like do outside of like
6:27
water-based things we'd like last
6:29
semester we went to like a literacy
6:31
event at gem city market there's a whole
6:34
array of things that river stewards do
6:36
that a lot of them do evolve around
6:39
though um like
6:41
environmental justice absolutely
6:43
and so you got involved in that through
6:46
ud but specifically was it through your
6:49
major or were any majors able to join
6:52
the river stewards any majors are
6:54
welcome to join river stewards i did get
6:57
a civil engineering major like email
6:59
blast that i know is like from my
7:01
counselor so that's how i've learned
7:03
about river stewards is that your area
7:04
or civil okay good
7:07
but other majors then could also join
7:10
the other stewards we try to bring in as
7:12
many different majors as possible and so
7:15
we we try to be able to say we have over
7:17

20 majors 25 majors we try to represent
7:20
every academic discipline um the goal is
7:23
to say what what can we
7:25
what can happen if we put a very diverse
7:27
group of people together you know
7:29
academically discipline wise um
7:32
and demographically all kinds of
7:34
diversity and think through some of
7:36
these um challenges we have around water
7:40
you know as far as solutions go and
7:42
these are complex problems so you have
7:45
a variety a diverse group of people who
7:48
can look at it and they can begin to
7:49
kind of then come up with systemic kinds
7:52
of change as opposed to a band-aid that
7:54
fixes it from a civil perspective right
7:56
civil engineering perspective but maybe
7:59
we fail to communicate it effectively
8:00
from a pr perspective or something else
8:02
so you get all those pieces together it
8:04
can work better i love it
8:06
water is essential to life and yet
8:08
students at ud didn't recognize water as
8:10

being a resource so that's
8:13
i think upon reflection then they'll be
8:14
like well obviously right
8:16
but
8:17
it's also central to our enjoyment in
8:19
the community
8:20
from either of your perspectives what
8:22
are some of the risks that we face with
8:25
respect to the rivers or to our
8:27
waterways
8:30
um as far as recreation goes and then
8:32
out and joining them i mean i think as
8:34
we move into summer it's you know first
8:37
and foremost
8:39
important to talk about being safe on
8:40
the water absolutely period um and life
8:44
vests right and so they're already been
8:46
many incidents you know across the
8:48
country and summer's barely started sure
8:51
of of challenges on the rivers people
8:54
not wearing life vests so i'd say first
8:55
and foremost we have amazing rivers to
8:58
get out and enjoy they're family
8:59

friendly but you got to wear a life vest
9:02
you got to be period you have to be safe
9:04
other than that moving into the summer
9:06
months i think most paddlers
9:08
are aware that you know if it's really
9:11
hot and we don't have a lot of rain we
9:13
get some algae blooms
9:15
right in our region and so i think it's
9:18
important to know how to monitor that if
9:20
you go to different websites you can
9:22
find
9:24
information on that as well as
9:26
how the flows of the river and other
9:28
ways to stay safe
9:31
so those are say the basic things
9:34
other than that you know there are
9:36
larger issues people are looking at in
9:39
the area as far as water quality goes
9:42
in regards to to pfas and some other
9:45
contaminants that was the one i was
9:46
thinking of and actually a year ago or
9:49
so on this program we did take a look at
9:51
pfas
9:52

and we since then have been reading
9:54
about some wells that were
9:56
registering with higher levels of pfas
9:59
and so then there's some mitigation
10:00
that's got to be considered and what are
10:02
we going to do about it and and more
10:03
importantly perhaps how do we ensure
10:06
that it doesn't happen again right right
10:08
so in terms of
10:10
the systems or the policies that allow
10:12
those things to happen and then how do
10:14
we change that so it doesn't happen
10:16
again yeah
10:17
yeah and i think um
10:20
we're really lucky to have an incredibly
10:22
proactive municipality with the city of
10:26
dayton's department of water and
10:27
environmental quality they're
10:29
they have a history of being so
10:30
proactive on protecting the aquifer
10:34
and so i think they are taking a lead on
10:37
that and um
10:40
really putting pressure on where those
10:42

contaminants are coming from
10:44
right whether it's from industry or
10:48
you know often sometimes our largest
10:49
employer right so like you said it's
10:51
complex yeah it's very comfortable right
10:54
um
10:54
but i think the goal would be you know
10:57
that everyone understands that the
10:58
shared vision is to have clean
11:02
safe drinking water right
11:04
for a long time
11:05
yeah forever forever
11:10
as you did your internship do you or
11:13
maybe with river stewards do you go out
11:14
on the waterways as a student um yes we
11:18
i've we've been on the water a couple
11:20
times this year like as a group as a
11:22
whole um all the river stewards we went
11:24
a couple times in the fall and weekly
11:27
saturday and sundays the outdoor
11:30
recreational
11:31
um
11:32
uh the like i don't know what you call
11:35

outdoor rack at ud they host free
11:37
kayaking on saturdays and sundays so at
11:40
old river park yeah even riverscape i
11:43
feel like a lot of people students are
11:44
usually there
11:45
and so old river park viewers will
11:48
remember being the ncr facility but now
11:50
that's owned by dayton is that right
11:52
yeah university of dayton
11:54
so i'm sorry i
11:56
in my head but but so then that is
11:59
actually a space that you can access and
12:00
utilize um as students which is really
12:03
cool yeah
12:04
uh what about in terms of environmental
12:07
kind of pollutants and things like that
12:09
when you're out on the rivers do you see
12:11
the trash that people have neglected to
12:14
properly care for and what are the
12:16
things you notice most
12:17
um when we do when we have done river
12:20
cleanups
12:21
we've seen honestly like bottles of
12:23

alcohol that's like a one thing that i
12:25
don't know we definitely would pick up
12:27
just like empty bottles um
12:29
actually like gallons of gasoline or
12:31
some type of oil we've i've picked up
12:33
like at least four of those those are
12:35
like really common
12:37
um
12:38
i'm trying to think what other
12:40
a lot of plastic just like plastic
12:42
bottles
12:43
soda cans water bottles
12:46
most people i feel like don't realize
12:48
especially a lot of the drains that in
12:50
our communities they dump to the river
12:52
and they don't go through
12:54
like some sort of cleaning process and i
12:56
see i always see on campus kids just
12:57
like dump things down there and so
13:01
but those are probably the most like the
13:04
bottles glass bottles and plastic
13:05
bottles right mm-hmm
13:08
um and and it's
13:10

i guess so obvious and yet
13:12
somehow it's not evidently not obvious
13:14
to everyone uh you know
13:16
in terms of the way that i
13:18
approached my own living yeah if i
13:21
brought it into the car i'm not going to
13:23
toss it out of the car i'm going to take
13:25
it with me to then wherever if it's to
13:27
my own trash can or to a recycling bin
13:30
or whatever so those are basic simple
13:32
things that we have to somehow find a
13:34
way to ensure people understand and do
13:36
consistently
13:38
there tends to be a lot of trash along
13:40
the levee walls after a heavy rain so
13:42
after the river goes down all that trash
13:44
is there and it's a great time for
13:46
anyone to go out with a trash bag and
13:49
pick it up before another heavy rain
13:52
comes
13:53
and takes it down again and so you know
13:55
people seem to not want plastic on
13:58
beaches right like there's a bag oh
14:00

there's plastic on the beaches
14:01
microplastics right yeah but it comes
14:04
from
14:05
places like here
14:07
and so i think we should care equally as
14:09
much about the plastic you know along
14:11
our riverbanks
14:12
well and in fact if i listen to my
14:15
favorite singer-songwriter jackson brown
14:17
uh the ocean is downhill from everywhere
14:20
right right uh it's a song he recently
14:22
released and the idea that all the
14:24
things that we just happened to let drop
14:26
right end up going into the rivers
14:28
through the waterways
14:30
maybe it's the storm drain or whatever
14:32
and then that goes downhill right and
14:34
keeps going downhill whether it's to a
14:36
larger tributary whether it's out to the
14:38
lake or wherever so
14:40
yeah challenging
14:41
um
14:43
as you think about our waterways what
14:45

are the things that concern you most
14:51
i would say
14:53
development
14:55
is something that really concerns me
14:57
because any watershed has a tipping
15:00
point
15:01
where if you have you know a certain
15:03
percentage of
15:05
basically pavement you know
15:07
non-permeable services
15:09
um you know you're kind of past this
15:11
ratio of having a healthy watershed and
15:14
so any further development is going to
15:16
further tip that for us in our watershed
15:19
which means
15:20
for the great miami river watershed you
15:22
know a lot of the work has been focusing
15:24
on
15:25
really getting the core towns along the
15:28
river to revitalize themselves so that
15:30
we can kind of reinvent them and you
15:33
know kind of redevelop them they're
15:35
already developed
15:37

versus continuing to develop on our
15:39
farmland and our open space and so we
15:42
need to
15:43
protect and preserve our open space and
15:45
farmland above all
15:47
we need to continue to mitigate getting
15:49
keeping the aquifer safe and clean
15:52
and then i think we need to get people
15:54
out to enjoy the water in the river
15:57
whether that means a sunset oh good or
16:00
um
16:01
kayaking if you're into that but really
16:04
just watching a sunset on the river
16:05
taking a walk on the river
16:08
can be enough to make you realize that
16:10
we are special because of our rivers
16:13
really lucky we're really lucky
16:15
and it's not just because
16:19
well it's for a lot of reasons and one
16:20
of the reasons is because more and more
16:22
with droughts you know people don't have
16:25
water
16:26
right and they're going to be rationing
16:27

and so not only do we have
16:29
an abundant amount of water resources it
16:32
also makes our region you know beautiful
16:35
and ecologically healthy and a great
16:37
place to recreate absolutely we can even
16:39
bike along our rivers over 300 miles of
16:41
connected paved bike trails
16:44
i'm thinking about so many different
16:45
directions we could go i mean one is
16:47
that we have this sort of i don't know
16:49
romance with pavement and i don't
16:52
understand it but you know concrete and
16:54
pavement as if somehow there were no
16:56
other options right
16:58
and yet permeable surfaces would allow
17:01
for more water to be able to
17:03
filter through as opposed to rush to the
17:06
culvert down into the waterway right so
17:10
i
17:10
i don't even know does ud have any
17:12
engagement with these alternative kinds
17:15
of permeable surfaces is there any
17:17
research that you know of that's going
17:19

on or any places that we could turn to
17:21
that are using those kinds of surfaces
17:23
i would say yes i mean we use some
17:25
within our own infrastructure at ud and
17:28
play around with some green roofs i
17:29
think our biggest focus now has been
17:31
solar and energy which has been great um
17:34
at the university but there is research
17:37
being done and there is a faculty
17:38
actually a couple faculty that focus on
17:40
research within our watershed in regards
17:43
to
17:44
climate change and what the greatest
17:46
impacts we might experience right with
17:49
with climate change and i think that
17:51
gets into the question you're asking
17:53
i think too and i'm just remembering
17:55
myself cox arboretum i think has one of
17:58
those permeable surfaces
18:00
i forget where it's at by their
18:02
greenhouses or something yeah
18:04
yeah and if you look around you'll
18:06
notice that most pavers
18:08

have permeability yes right anything
18:11
that's just not solid concrete i know
18:14
miami conservancy district they have
18:15
like a little
18:17
patio area and that's like asphalt that
18:19
like is allowed to like soak in water oh
18:21
really
18:22
so it is possible yes it's just
18:24
expensive
18:25
isn't that and it's a trade-off right
18:27
yeah because the expense of not having
18:30
water to drink right is the alternative
18:32
right i mean we could get ourselves into
18:33
a position where we really cause our own
18:35
problems right so we have to find the
18:37
balance we could pay for it now or pay
18:39
for it later yeah
18:41
i do have a brother-in-law in california
18:43
and the water issues in california are
18:45
really scary
18:47
and not only is it a lack of
18:49
water for drinking water but then all
18:51
the other things that we use water for
18:53

naturally right
18:54
and of course water is also useful in
18:56
terms of growing the produce that
18:58
california is so well known for in terms
19:00
of producing so we we really have to
19:02
think about this and figure it out we do
19:04
i also i think read something about it
19:06
was california or arizona that they're
19:08
pulling lawns out and they're just
19:10
removing lawns
19:12
because they cannot sustain
19:15
that type of landscape out there so
19:19
once again we're lucky to have access to
19:22
all that water so i'm curious if there
19:24
are partners that ud is working with
19:27
that you want to name
19:28
that
19:30
our community would need to or could
19:32
benefit by knowing more about i'm
19:34
guessing five rivers
19:36
five rivers metro parks has been an
19:37
excellent partner um the city of dayton
19:40
water department and sustainability
19:42

office are great partners and we have
19:44
river steward graduates okay that are
19:46
working in those offices actually now
19:48
and so it's nice to see
19:50
our graduates you know go off and do
19:51
great things but a lot a lot do tend to
19:54
stay in the region and want to
19:55
contribute to making our watershed and
19:58
city a better place
20:00
another partner that's been a great
20:02
partner for us is the little miami
20:03
watershed network
20:05
and the work that hope taft and her many
20:07
volunteers
20:08
have out in greene county in clark
20:10
county and
20:12
beyond and they've recently also helped
20:14
forum the ohio scenic rivers association
20:17
since the little miami river is a wild
20:19
and scenic river and so their work is
20:21
very community grassroots driven and
20:24
they're a great partner also
20:26
because the way they approach things
20:29

is a little different than um it's
20:31
probably a little closer to the way we
20:32
approach things um than our public
20:34
sector partners right
20:36
and by that you mean that they would ask
20:39
about what do we need to be doing or
20:41
they would involve their community is
20:43
that what you're saying yeah well we
20:44
don't really have any jurisdiction or
20:46
authority right or grassroots
20:48
organizations so we do things kind of by
20:50
like
20:51
um
20:52
you know
20:54
large amounts of people right like how
20:55
you really create
20:57
change through a movement of people
20:59
right they're a lot like that and so
21:02
you said uh hope taft's organization is
21:05
the little miami watershed network
21:07
watershed network and then of course
21:09
there's five rivers natural park so if
21:10
people are looking to volunteer to do
21:12

some sort of river cleanup or to in
21:15
other ways environmental kind of
21:17
sustainability they could turn to those
21:19
organizations yes and they have a huge
21:21
river cleanup june 11th on the little
21:23
miami river that people could contribute
21:24
to that's excellent and um there's also
21:28
a couple new groups that people should
21:29
be aware of the um
21:31
great dayton cleanup started during
21:34
covet as a way to get people outside
21:36
and this um
21:38
community leader this just initiated an
21:42
amazing amount of trash being taken out
21:44
of the river so you could probably find
21:46
his cleanups on facebook
21:48
the great dayton cleanup
21:50
and then now there's surf dayton
21:52
oh right right that is really actually
21:54
kind of creating a
21:57
ohio river surfing association and and
22:00
they're developing a stewardship
22:01
approach
22:02

to keeping the rivers clean since
22:05
they're in them when they surf they're
22:06
in them way more than a kayaker right
22:09
they're really in the river oh that's
22:11
cool that's very so there are new up and
22:13
coming groups that's so exciting
22:17
what about from a government or a policy
22:20
perspective are there things that
22:23
through your work you've come to
22:25
understand our need our attention
22:28
uh things that
22:29
you know maybe people are not aware of
22:31
other than maybe our city of dayton
22:33
folks are there any
22:35
policies or
22:37
government kinds of levels of activity
22:39
that we should be thinking about i i
22:41
think people should be aware where their
22:42
water comes from
22:44
and then there therefore they should be
22:45
aware of what kind of um
22:48
policies are put in place to protect
22:50
their water right and so we do have good
22:52

policies but that doesn't mean they're
22:54
going to be there forever
22:55
right so you have to think about that
22:57
power you have as a voter and how we
22:59
need informed leaders right um
23:02
and so we have the wellfield preservation
23:04
district yes we have the aquifer sub
23:08
preservation district um
23:10
and so there are a couple different laws
23:13
and policies in place that do control
23:15
what happens over our well fields right
23:18
but those could change um
23:20
innovative strategies
23:22
i think would be interesting for people
23:24
to take a look at would be
23:27
this concept of how
23:30
rivers lakes waters have rights um
23:33
right right and so we've seen that in
23:35
some countries
23:37
happen right we've seen that you know
23:39
almost happened in toledo around the
23:41
lake erie water crisis um we've seen it
23:44
costa rica new zealand bolivia
23:47

so there are examples of that and i
23:50
think it's worth thinking about how our
23:52
aquifer
23:53
could potentially
23:55
look at that because of the fact that it
23:57
has the potential to provide
23:59
safe clean drinking water for so many
24:01
people for so long right it's it's
24:04
almost a social responsibility
24:06
well we have harkens back to a native
24:09
american perspective as well so uh given
24:12
the land that we exist on right which
24:14
really isn't ours to begin with
24:17
but our native american ancestors would
24:19
remind us that right this
24:21
belongs
24:23
and i'm so glad you brought that up
24:24
because that's why i started by saying
24:26
you know long before we called it dayton
24:29
this was always a confluence of five
24:31
rivers
24:32
and um it was supposedly a place of
24:34
peace because of that because um native
24:37

tribes knew there was so much crossing
24:41
here wow that it couldn't necessarily be
24:44
i just got cheated it was it had to be a
24:46
crossing of of paths right a place of
24:48
peace a confluence of peace that's so
24:50
cool
24:52
yeah yeah one of the few places that has
24:55
a peace museum in the nation
24:57
yeah i learned that from guy jones who's
24:59
a lakota elder in town you probably know
25:01
i know
25:02
yeah that's super cool oh that's i'm
25:03
glad you shared that he's a great
25:05
partner as well
25:06
for the results institute from from a
25:08
student's perspective
25:10
um i didn't ask if you were a dayton
25:12
native or if you moved to dayton to come
25:14
to ud
25:15
i'm from homer glen illinois okay so out
25:18
of state you've come to this region
25:21
as as a person who's come to ud and has
25:23
now come to appreciate the rivers
25:26

anything else that you want to share or
25:28
any perspectives that you think that we
25:30
should be aware of um
25:31
[Music]
25:33
yeah i mean i've grown up my dad's
25:35
always like enforced in me that like
25:37
water's one of the most important
25:39
aspects of life he's always said that
25:41
like lake michigan is one of the most
25:42
important
25:44
like resources we have because that's
25:46
where that's where my watershed is
25:48
um
25:49
compared to like when you're talking
25:51
about like laws and policies i know
25:53
there was recently like a bill hb 175
25:56
without streams that like these streams
25:59
that don't
26:00
technically have water in them all year
26:02
round but will in the uh
26:04
in the spring again the spring now it
26:07
hasn't been signed by the governor
26:09
last what i've heard last week but now
26:12

the bill wants to change it they're not
26:13
going to be considered streams anymore
26:15
so people can like lay concrete so like
26:17
leslie said like some we do have laws in
26:20
place but they can always change so just
26:23
being like aware of constant news
26:25
and being um
26:27
just like proactive i know we had the
26:29
river stewards we had a service
26:31
opportunity hope taft helped us with it
26:33
and we got all the
26:34
uh i don't know like the counselors um
26:37
addresses and mailing addresses and we
26:39
all wrote them letters right about
26:41
hb 175 good
26:43
that's so cool that you're involved and
26:45
you're engaged and you know about that i
26:46
wasn't familiar with that but uh i i
26:49
will learn more now and i'll check that
26:51
out so
26:52
and i'm sure a lot of it has to do with
26:54
the development right because people
26:56
somehow want new homes as opposed to
26:59

finding spaces in some of the older
27:01
homes or something else but
27:04
yeah it's a challenge we have to find
27:06
the balance i think
27:08
any last thoughts as we wrap things up
27:11
um
27:12
i i would just you know i would just say
27:14
there's a lot of opportunity for people
27:16
to understand you know the value of our
27:18
water and rivers here
27:20
tess is going to be a little modest but
27:22
i'll go ahead and put it out there that
27:23
she's also an artist and um the river
27:26
stewards you know termed this concept
27:28
river love about 15 years ago and it
27:31
it's really
27:33
this essence it's this feeling
27:35
right and it there's no exact definition
27:38
it's whatever it means to you right and
27:40
so another project tessa worked on this
27:42
year was
27:43
developing a logo for that and stickers
27:46
and so maybe you'll see those on
27:48

t-shirts soon where you can um buy a
27:50
river love t-shirt or sticker and
27:53
another one is be like water
27:55
and what we're trying to do is kind of
27:57
get dayton to understand this is who we
27:59
are right right
28:01
we have water we have rivers and um it's
28:03
something to really promote
28:06
but just like the fish in the water it's
28:08
around us so much i think we forget
28:09
about it yes just like your students at
28:11
ud right they probably have been on the
28:13
river but they forgot about it as a
28:15
resource they certainly are drinking the
28:17
water but they forgot about it as a
28:19
resource so
28:20
i guess we have to be like not like the
28:22
fish but like the water right yeah
28:24
actually
28:26
and maybe appreciate it before it
28:27
doesn't come on
28:29
one morning that's right right
28:31
that's right
28:32

well thank you very much
28:35
i want to thank you leslie director of
28:38
the rivers institute at the university
28:40
of dayton fitz center
28:42
for leadership in the community and
28:43
tessa o'halloran
28:45
uh ud junior congratulations almost done
28:49
and river steward and working with the
28:51
miami valley conservancy district this
28:54
summer
28:55
and thank all of you for watching lwb
28:58
empowering you
28:59
the league of women voters encourages
29:01
everyone to participate in every
29:03
election
29:04
if you have any further questions about
29:06
this or upcoming programs you can
29:08
contact the league by emailing league at
29:12
lwvdayton.org you can mail us again
29:14
that's league
29:17
lwvdayton.org or call our office at
29:19
937-228-4041
29:23
thank you for sharing your time with us
29:25

and be well