

LRP - Jeff Kresch (Stonewall Jackson) May 2017 - It all started with a passion for fishing and a Facebook page that Jeff Kresch, Jr founded in February 2014. Jeff started Fishing Report WV in hopes that he could connect with people who were not only interested in fishing, but interested in keeping the sport around for future generations. What began as one person's endeavor has now grown to 22,000+ members in 2017 and statewide conservation efforts of our rivers and streams in West Virginia. Jeff lives in Elkins, WV near the Tygart River that flows into Tygart Lake. Once the Facebook page got up and running he started travelling throughout the state of West Virginia to do cleanups of popular fishing streams, all the while making one of his main focuses the Tygart River. In 2015, Jeff said he would love to become a volunteer for Tygart Lake. In May of 2016, Jeff came to



Tygart Lake with 10 volunteers and performed a total of 80 volunteer hours. He assembled and did a cleanup at one hardest hit areas of Tygart Lake. A dump truck load of tires was hauled away along with over 50 bags of garbage collected. On April 1, 2017, as a part of Tygart Lake's participation in West Virginia's Make It Shine statewide cleanup event, Jeff brought 11 other volunteers. They cleaned up even more tires and at least 30 bags of trash for a total of 88 hrs. Since becoming a Tygart Lake volunteer, Jeff has also volunteered for other partners of Tygart Lake. He has spent many

hours of cleaning up the Tygart River and its tributaries. Jeff has joined Save the Tygart Watershed group where he has put numerous hours and dedicated himself to clean waters in the Tygart River above and below the lake. In less than a year, Jeff has himself devoted over 100 hrs. (\$2,414) to Tygart Lake in cleanups, programming and coordinating with Resource Manager Stacy Lewis. His recruitment of 21 additional volunteers for the lake has added up to \$4,055.52 for a total of \$6,469.52 in one year alone. Resource Manager Stacy Lewis and Jeff are now in the process of forming a Water Safety Council at Tygart Lake. This will tie together several partnerships such as Save the Tygart Watershed, the Taylor County Local Emergency Planning Committee and Tygart Lake State Park. Jeff is a valuable volunteer at Tygart Lake. In just little over a year, he has put in 215 hours with a value of \$5,190.10. His efforts to keep the Tygart River and Tygart Lake clean and viable for fisheries are commendable. His dedication and commitment to Tygart Lake and its environmental stewardship program is deserving of recognition.