

# Montana Tech Public Lecture Series



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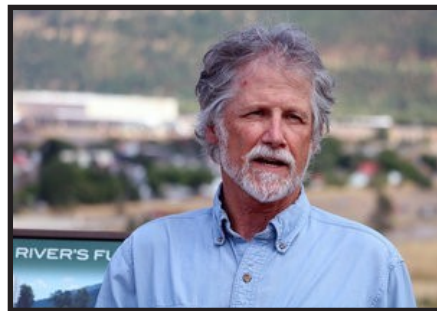
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### Contact:

Trisha Southergill  
psouthergill@mtech.edu

Montana Tech  
1300 W. Park St.  
Butte, MT 59701

## Restoring Silver Bow Creek After More than 100 Years of Mining — A Superfund Story



**Joe Griffin**

**MT-DEQ, Retired**

*Thursday, September 5, 2019*

*4 p.m. in ELC-202*

Silver Bow Creek is a world-class environmental-cleanup challenge that has required scientists, engineers, and lawyers to define the problems, develop remedies and determine the real limits of restoring a river. Having made order-of-magnitude improvements in water quality by a combination of managing groundwater, excavating tailings and rebuilding the stream and its floodplain along a 27-mile corridor, and reclaiming over 600 acres of waste rock, now mine-impacted urban stormwater is the most substantial remaining contamination source. Finding the practicable limit to restoring the stream IS a complex endeavor that begs the question, “why is it taking so long?”

**Hydrogeologist Joe Griffin** has spent the last 30 years evaluating the upper Clark Fork Superfund complex, as a consultant to Atlantic Richfield, a project manager for Montana DEQ, and now as a serious hobbyist.