



WOONASQUATUCKET RIVER
WATERSHED COUNCIL

June 30, 2014

Roy Najecki
President
Glocester

Woonasquatucket River Watershed Council (WRWC) FY14 Rivers Council Final Project Report

Donald T. Burns
Vice-President
Smithfield

The WRWC is pleased to report on our accomplishments for our Rivers Council grant.

Goal 1: Promote Stewardship through Recreational Use of the Woonasquatucket Watershed

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Executive Director

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- Publicize at least 5 paddles open to the public – the WRWC is currently publicizing our paddle program. We have planned the following paddles:
 - 1. Wednesday, July 9th, Lower River, 6pm launch.** Educational Paddle with Historian Jeff Emidy. This easy two hour paddle from South Water Street to Atwells Avenue and back will give participants a new perspective on the city. We will travel past some of the old mills as well as through Waterplace Park and past downtown Providence. Historian Jeff Emidy will lead a lecture and discussion focusing on the rich history of this vital city waterway.
 - 2. Wednesday, July 23rd, Georgiaville Pond, 5:30pm launch.** Evening Paddle and Swim. This relaxing paddle from the historic Smith-Appleby House at the north end of the pond will give paddlers a chance to enjoy one of the hidden gems of the Woonasquatucket River Watershed. Georgiaville Pond is a 90-acre pond with houses along some of the shoreline, a town park at the south end of the pond, and two lovely islands in the pond with tall white pine trees on them. We will paddle in a 2 mile loop around the pond, with a break at the halfway point to take a swim at the town beach.
 - 3. Thurs, August 7th, Lower River, 6pm launch.** This two Hour paddle from South Water Street to Eagle Square and back again passes through a rarely seen and surprisingly lush wooded corridor hidden in the middle of the city. .
 - 4. Thus, August 14th - Georgiaville Pond, SMITH-APPLBY TOUR.** This paddle begins at the Smith-Appleby House. Built in the 17th century, this nationally recognized historical site helps to paint a picture of the rich history of early New England. Staff of the Smith-Appleby house will lead a tour of the site which will be followed by a relaxing paddle around the 90 acre Georgiaville Pond
 - 5. Sat, August 23rd, Stump Pond, Noon Launch – Paddle, Picnic and Hike.**
 - 6. Sunday, September 14th, Lower River, 12:00 launch . Meet the board and staff of the WRWC.**

- Publicize at least 10 educational bike rides – the WRWC began educational bike rides for youth at our Red Shed Bike Camp on June 30. Daily rides are held week-days through August 22.
- Publicize and organize the 5th Annual Woony River Ride – our Woony River Ride committee has been meeting since January. We developed publicity materials including posters, brochures, media kits and on-line materials. Our registration has officially opened and we have begun publicity to past riders.

Goal 2: Promote Stewardship through Monitoring the Woonasquatucket River

- Recruit and train volunteers to monitor our three Watershed Watch sites – the WRWC successfully recruited and established training and monitoring schedules for volunteers for all three of our monitoring locations.
- Recruit and train volunteers to monitor/count migratory fish – the WRWC completed this program. We had a record fish return year. Here are the results from the last 5 years. Note the huge leap in numbers for this year:
 - 2011—7,269
 - 2012—9,264
 - 2013—12,336
 - 2014—39,518
- Recruit volunteers for fish community monitoring – this monitoring has begun. To date, we monitored two sites on the Moshassuck River and one site on the Woonasquatucket. In July and August we will monitor another site on the Woonasquatucket and two sites on the Ten Mile River. We monitored the Moshassuck with students and teachers from the Jacqueline Walsh School and the Woonasquatucket with many other volunteers. (See photos).

Budget: Of the \$1,900 budget allocated to us through the Rivers Council, we have expended all. \$750 went to our paddle trip leader for planning and \$150 was expended on paddle supplies. The \$1,000 allocated for monitoring fees to Watershed Watch was paid.

Please let us know if you require any further information regarding our program Rivers Council grant programs.

Sincerely,



Alicia J. Lehrer
Executive Director



"Jacqueline Walsh Student Holds Eel Collected in Upper Moshassuck to be Measured"



"Jacqueline Walsh Students Collect Fish on the Upper Moshassuck River"



"Large Bluegill Found in Urban Segment of the Woonasquatucket River"



"Volunteers Identify Urban Woonasquatucket Fish"



"One of Almost 50 Eels Found in the Lower Woonasquatucket River"