



*2010 Annual Report
Wood-Pawcatuck Watershed Association*



Recreation



Research



Education



Stewardship

*To promote and protect the integrity of the
lands and waters of the Wood-Pawcatuck Watershed*

Wood-Pawcatuck Watershed Association
2010 Annual Report
(Published May 2011)

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In recognition of 10 years monitoring the Queen River at Usquepaugh

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*In recognition of all his contributions of time and expertise
toward upgrading our technological systems*

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*Presented in recognition of outstanding support toward the ongoing initiatives of our organization and efforts to
protect and preserve the lands and waters of the Wood-Pawcatuck Watershed*

Thomas Halavik
Salomon Award

*Presented in recognition of exemplary efforts to preserve, protect and conserve the natural resources of the
Wood-Pawcatuck Watershed, in furtherance of the goals of the Mitch and Betty Salomon Endowment*

Ed and Linda Wood
Lifetime Achievement Award

*In recognition of over a quarter century of contributions
toward the protection of the watershed's natural resources as the principal founders
of the Wood-Pawcatuck Watershed Association*

Presented at WPWA Annual Meeting
May 20, 2011

Cover photos:

National Land Trust Alliance Conference field trip on the Pawcatuck River
Fish sampling in the Meadow Brook
Chariho Middle School field trip in the Carolina Management Area
Pawcatuck River flows free at Lower Shannock Falls

Wood-Pawcatuck Watershed Association
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www.wpwa.org

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2010 Annual Report**

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RIVER RESTORATION

Fish Passage - Pawcatuck River

- Engineering, design, permitting and construction for the removal of Lower Shannock Falls was completed by WPWA in partnership with The Town's of Richmond & Charlestown, the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management, USDOC's National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration, Rhode Island Coastal Resource Management Council, USDA's Natural Resource Conservation Service, US Fish & Wildlife Service, Save the Bay, Trout Unlimited, Rhode Island Historical Preservation & Heritage Commission, Fuss & O'Neill Inc and MAS Building & Bridge.
- Engineering, design and permitting for the 2010 construction of a Denil Fish Ladder & Eelway at the iconic Horseshoe Falls Dam was completed by WPWA with funding and technical support from USDOC's National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration, Rhode Island Coastal Resource Management Council, US Fish & Wildlife Service, and the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management. Special thanks to landowner Jeffrey Marlowe, dam owner Francis Flynn, and resident historian Sanford Neuschatz for their support of the Lawson M. Cary Jr Memorial Fishway.
- Preliminary engineering investigations at the Kenyon Mill Dam were initiated by WPWA thanks to significant funding provided by USDOC's National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration and Rhode Island Coastal Resource Management Council.

SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH AND DATA COLLECTION

Invasive Species Survey

- ↻ WPWA partnered with RIDEM to map Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) on the Wood and Pawcatuck Rivers. RIDEM had previously surveyed for AIS on only ponds and lakes in RI.
- ↻ Eighteen WPWA volunteers covered ten segments of the Wood and Pawcatuck Rivers during August and September, when the AIS are normally in bloom.
- ↻ AIS were documented on five river segments, two on the Pawcatuck and three on the Wood.
- ↻ Species documented included variable milfoil (*Myriophyllum heterophyllum*), Eurasian milfoil (*Myriophyllum spicatum*), and mudmat (*Glossostigma cleistanthum*).
- ↻ Results suggest that the Lower Wood River has suffered, or is at risk of, severe losses of biodiversity. See full report by Evan Ross, RIDEM, on the WPWA website.

*WPWA & the US Fish & Wildlife Service released beetles in the watershed for control of invasive Purple Loosestrife during 2010.

Water Quality Monitoring

- ↻ The Water Quality Data Management Project was completed by Elise Torello for all the sites in the watershed, including many historic sites. 137 data sites in the Pawcatuck Watershed are mapped and results available on WPWA's website.
- ↻ WPWA completed 23 years of water quality monitoring in the watershed.
- ↻ 35 volunteers monitored 10 lakes and ponds and 20 streams and rivers.

2008-10 WPWA Monitoring and Study Sites in CT and RI by Town

	2008	2009	2010
CONNECTICUT			
<i>North Stonington (These sites are monitored under the North Stonington Citizens Land Alliance programs)</i>			
Asseconk Brook	WQ Sampling 2 sites	WQ Sampling 2 sites	WQ Sampling 1 sites
Green Falls Brook	WQ Sampling 3 sites	WQ Sampling 3 sites	WQ Sampling 3 sites
Shunnock River	WQ Sampling 2 sites	WQ Sampling 4 sites	WQ Sampling 2 sites
Wyassup Lake	Lake Sampling	Lake Sampling	Lake Sampling
RHODE ISLAND			
<i>Charlestown</i>			
Pasquisset Pond	Lake Sampling	Lake Sampling	Lake Sampling
Watchaug Pond	Lake Sampling	Lake Sampling	Lake Sampling
Pawcatuck River	WQ Sampling 3 sites	WQ Sampling 3 sites	WQ Sampling 3 sites
<i>Exeter</i>			
Boone Lake	Lake Sampling	Lake Sampling	
Breakheart Pond	Lake Sampling		
Browning Mill Pond	Lake Sampling		
Eisenhower Lake	Lake Sampling	Lake Sampling	
Yawgoo Pond	Lake Sampling	Lake Sampling	Lake Sampling

	2008	2009	2010
Falls River	WQ Sampling 4 sites	WQ Sampling 4 sites	WQ Sampling 4 sites
Glen Rock Brook	WQ Sampling 1 site	WQ Sampling 1 site	WQ Sampling 1 site Fish Sampling 2 sites
Locke Brook	WQ Sampling 1 site	WQ Sampling 1 site	WQ Sampling 1 site
Queen River	WQ Sampling 4 sites	WQ Sampling 4 sites	WQ Sampling 4 sites Fish Sampling 2 sites
Sherman Brook	WQ Sampling 1 site	WQ Sampling 1 site	WQ Sampling 1 site
<i>Hopkinton</i>			
Alton Pond	Lake Sampling	Lake Sampling	Lake Sampling
Locustville Pond	Lake Sampling		
Wincheck Pond	Lake Sampling	Lake Sampling	Lake Sampling
Wyoming Pond	Lake Sampling		
Ashaway River	WQ Sampling 1 site	WQ Sampling 2 sites	WQ Sampling 2 sites
Brushy Brook			WQ Sampling 2 sites
Parameter Brook	WQ Sampling 2 sites	WQ Sampling 2 sites	WQ Sampling 1 sites
Pawcatuck River	WQ Sampling 3 sites	WQ Sampling 4 sites	WQ Sampling 4 sites
Tomaquag Brook	WQ Sampling 2 sites Temp Study 11 sites	WQ Sampling 2 site	
Wood River	Macro Study 3 sites		
<i>Richmond</i>			
Alton Pond	Lake Sampling	Lake Sampling	Lake Sampling
Browning Mill Pond	Lake Sampling		
Meadowbrook Pond	Lake Sampling	Lake Sampling	Lake Sampling
White Brook Pond	WQ Sampling 1 site	WQ Sampling 1 site	WQ Sampling 1 site
Wyoming Pond	Lake Sampling	Lake Sampling	Lake Sampling
Pawcatuck River	WQ Sampling 2 sites	WQ Sampling 2 sites	WQ Sampling 2 sites
<i>South Kingstown</i>			
Barber Pond	Lake Sampling	Lake Sampling	Lake Sampling
Hundred Acre Pond	Lake Sampling	Lake Sampling	Lake Sampling
Usquepaug Pond	Lake Sampling	Lake Sampling	Lake Sampling
Worden Pond	Lake Sampling	Lake Sampling	Lake Sampling
Yawgoo Pond	Lake Sampling	Lake Sampling	Lake Sampling
Chipuxet River	WQ Sampling 1 site	WQ Sampling 1 site	WQ Sampling 1 site
Glen Rock Brook	WQ Sampling 1 site Temp Study 4 sites	WQ Sampling 1 site	WQ Sampling 1 site
Pawcatuck River	WQ Sampling 1 site	WQ Sampling 2 site	WQ Sampling 2 sites
Queen River	WQ Sampling 1 site	WQ Sampling 1 site	WQ Sampling 1 site
Sherman Brook	WQ Sampling 1 site	WQ Sampling 1 site	WQ Sampling 1 site
Shickasheen Brook	WQ Sampling 4 site	WQ Sampling 4 site	WQ Sampling 4 sites
Tucker Pond	Lake Sampling	Lake Sampling	Lake Sampling
White Horn Brook	WQ Sampling 2 site	WQ Sampling 2 site	WQ Sampling 2 sites
<i>Westerly</i>			
Chapman Pond	Lake Sampling		
Mastuxet Brook	Temp Study 4 sites		
Pawcatuck River	WQ Sampling 4 sites	WQ Sampling 7 sites	WQ Sampling 7 sites

RECREATIONAL PROGRAMS

Paddle Programs

- ↯ Source to Sea on the Wood River in June had 33 participants, 7 of whom completed all 38 miles of paddling over 4 weeks. URE Outfitters donated gifts for the participants and Pizza Place donated pizza for the party on the last day.
- ↯ WPWA also offered six well attended paddle trips in July and August.
- ↯ WPWA helped initiate the Southern New England Paddlers (SNEP), a new paddle group that provides easy paddle trips twice a month on Wednesday evenings. WPWA kayaks were used on most of the trips by participants new to the sport.
- ↯ 150 campers from Roger Williams Park Zoo, Denison Pequot Nature Center, Alternatives School, and Norman Bird Sanctuary were instructed over the course of the summer.
- ↯ WPWA hosted 42 children of actively deployed military personnel during 2 kayaking programs for Operation Military Kids.
- ↯ Lincoln School had 15 of their students learn to canoe on the Wood River through WPWA.
- ↯ WPWA provided kayaks and instruction for the Nuweetooun School, RYSE School and Gateway Health Programs.
- ↯ Kenyon Grist Mill Open House - WPWA provided kayaks for use by hundreds, in return Kenyon's collected donations to benefit WPWA's programs.
- ↯ WPWA provided kayaks for use by over 250 people in attendance at the Browning Mill Pond RIDEM Great Outdoors Pursuit in July.
- ↯ WPWA partnered with the Westerly Land Trust to provide a kayaking field trip on the Pawcatuck River for the National Land Trust Alliance Conference in September.
- ↯ WPWA led 48 Cub Scouts and their families on a hike on the Ben Utter Trail.

Other Programs

- ↯ Litter Awareness, Opening Day of Trout Fishing Season
- ↯ Browning Mill Pond Bridge Repair & Hiking Guide Kickoff
- ↯ Vernal Pool Outreach Program at Clark Memorial Library
- ↯ Family Fun Fishing
- ↯ Fly Tying & Fly Fishing classes led by volunteers from WPWA, Trout Unlimited & Wood River Fly Fishing Club
- ↯ WPWA lead several hikes around the watershed throughout the year

EDUCATION

Special Programs

- ↯ Research Data Management with Chariho Middle School Science Class: With a 2009 Grant from the RIRC WPWA worked with CMS teachers and students to collect, organize, analyze and publish their data for the Wood River and Meadow Brook. WPWA staff also accompanied students on field trips in the spring to collect the data. Results are on the WPWA website.
- ↯ Watershed Science for Educators course: WPWA and our partner Narrow River Preservation Association received a 2010 grant from the RI Rivers Council to offer a 3-credit graduate level course for the Spring 2011 semester. The grant allows us to provide this course at no charge to the teachers. Both formal and non-formal educators from around the state will learn about watersheds and watershed issues.
- ↯ 100 fifth-grade students from Curtis Corner Middle School spent a day with WPWA at the Arcadia Management Area for a field trip that included, kayaking, macro sampling, and hiking.
- ↯ Groundwater Education: WPWA assisted a graduate student in a program to help students from Stonington and Exeter understand groundwater resources. Students collected well water samples for analysis, did research and produced slide shows to present to town officials.
- ↯ WPWA took thirty-three residents from Carritas House and Corkery House on educational hikes on the Ben Utter Trail to learn about natural history and outdoor photography.
- ↯ WPWA began working with the URI Non-point Education for Municipal Officials (NEMO) program to conduct outreach on storm water issues through our website, newsletter, and school programs.

Other Education Programs WPWA Contributed To

- ↯ Earth Day Program at Wheeler School, North Stonington
- ↯ Party for the Planet at Roger Williams Park Zoo
- ↯ RI Envirothon Competition
- ↯ Quest Montessori School classroom program
- ↯ Greene School teacher orientation
- ↯ Compass School field trip
- ↯ Coventry High School field trip
- ↯ Chariho Middle School field trip
- ↯ Americorp field trip
- ↯ URI Hydrology class field trip

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Projects and Presentations

- ↻ Students from Stonington and Exeter collected well water samples for analysis, did research and produced slide shows to present to town officials with help from WPWA.
- ↻ Collaborative effort with RI and CT Conservation Groups to distribute unified Nitrogen Reduction Information to the group's members and the public at large.
- ↻ 2009-2010 WPWA Lecture Series "Getting to Know the Watershed"
- ↻ "Restoring Our Connections to the Sea for Migratory Fish" a presentation on the Pawcatuck Fish Restoration project given at the Cross Mill Public Library as part of RI Sea Grant's Summer Lecture Series.
- ↻ "Lower Shannock Falls Dam Removal" a presentation on the Pawcatuck Fish Restoration project given at the Kettle Pond Visitor's Center as part of the RI Canoe and Kayak Association's monthly meeting.
- ↻ "Pawcatuck River Restoration" a workshop provided as part of the 2010 Land & Water Summit.
- ↻ "Horseshoe Falls Fish Passage" a presentation on the Pawcatuck Fish Restoration project given at the HL Arnold Fire Safety Complex to gather design input from the public for the fish ladder.
- ↻ "WPWA Scientific Monitoring and Research" a presentation to the New England Association of Environmental Biologists.

Committee and Board Affiliations

- ↻ Wetland Restoration Strategy Committee
- ↻ Rhode Island Habitat Restoration Team
- ↻ EPA wetland outreach committee
- ↻ Watershed Counts indicators committee
- ↻ Trail Advisory Committee: TAC Grant Review Committee
- ↻ RI Blueways Alliance: Paddle 2010 Chairperson
- ↻ New England Environmental Education Alliance
- ↻ Rhode Island Environmental Education Association
- ↻ Rhode Island River Restoration Working Group

Publications and Digital Media

- ↻ Volume 27, Numbers 1-3 of *Watershed* published, with a total distribution by mail of over 4000, and a global availability through our website.
- ↻ *Walks in the Watershed* was revised by the original authors, Charlie Hickox and Elly Heyder.
- ↻ WPWA website was completely revised by B. G. Hooke Consulting.
- ↻ WPWA's electronic equipment was replaced with high definition components and all software upgraded in a move to increase efficiency and reduce paper use.

CAPACITY BUILDING

Wild and Scenic Designation

- ↻ WPWA formed a partnership with The Nature Conservancy, Save the Bay, and RI DEM to work towards Wild and Scenic Designation for the rivers in the Pawcatuck Watershed.
- ↻ Presentations were made to all towns in the watershed to garner support for the designation.
- ↻ Congressmen Langevin (RI) and Courtney (CT) sponsored a bill to have the National Parks Service conduct a three year study to determine if the Wood, Pawcatuck, Chipuxet, Beaver, and Queen Rivers qualify for designation as Wild and Scenic rivers. The bill was introduced into the Natural Resources Committee in the summer. No action has been taken on it yet.

FINANCIALS

2010 Treasurer's Report to the Membership, May 20th, 2011

Dear Members,

The WPWA closed the 2010 budget year in a strong financial position. Income exceeded what we had budgeted for the year and expenses were less than we had expected.

The Treasurer extends his sincere thanks to the WPWA accountant Ms. Kristy Armstrong for the care she has taken in tracking our finances and the diligence she has shown in keeping the Treasurer and Executive Director informed of our financial position at all times. Because of the large sums of money flowing in and out of the organization, our finances are somewhat complex. Ms. Armstrong has done a superb job of tracking it all for us.

The auction at the 2010 annual meeting was a great success and the event netted the WPWA over \$3,000. The number and diversity of items that we have available this year is incredible and our goal is to surpass last year's success. A mantra that we frequently hear from our Fund Raising Committee is -- bid early and bid often! The treasurer urges you to heed this good advice.

Respectfully Submitted,

Peter August
Treasurer

WOOD-PAWCATUCK WATERSHED ASSOCIATION

STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION

December 31, 2010* 2009 and 2008

	<u>2009</u>	<u>2008</u>
ASSETS		
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash		
Operating.....	\$ 70,650	\$ 147,975
Special projects	203,419	129,103
Fiscal Agents	22,307	35,614
Investments		
Capital Revolving Fund.....	25,517	89,010
Polly Fund	165,686	132,888
Sisson Fund	16,876	15,424
Inventory	<u>1,253</u>	<u>2,428</u>
Total current assets.....	<u>505,708</u>	<u>552,442</u>
PROPERTY		
Office buildings and land	257,905	257,905
Rental house	88,064	88,064
Vehicle	18,416	18,416
Equipment	2,220	-
Less accumulated depreciation.....	<u>(46,970)</u>	<u>(36,389)</u>
Total property	<u>319,635</u>	<u>327,996</u>
OTHER ASSETS		
Land held for conservation.....	<u>261,000</u>	<u>261,000</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>\$ 1,086,343</u>	<u>\$ 1,141,438</u>
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Rental security deposit	\$ 1,200	\$ 1,200
Payroll taxes payable.....	775	-
Sales tax payable	80	-
Due to Fiscal Agents	<u>22,307</u>	<u>35,614</u>
Total current liabilities	<u>24,362</u>	<u>36,814</u>
NET ASSETS		
Unrestricted	389,483	473,516
Temporarily restricted	228,936	221,796
Permanently restricted.....	<u>443,562</u>	<u>409,312</u>
Total net assets	<u>1,061,981</u>	<u>1,104,624</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	<u>\$ 1,086,343</u>	<u>\$ 1,141,438</u>

* Due to the volume of federal funds managed by WPWA in 2010 and audited financial statement is now required as part of our annual financial reporting. This more detailed report of funds, assets, policies and procedures is not yet available. When it soon becomes available it may be viewed at www.wpwa.org