# WOOD-PAWCATUCK WATERSHED ASSOCIATION

## 2016 ANNUAL REPORT





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Published May 2017

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## **DIRECTOR'S NOTE**

Dear Members,

2016 was no less challenging than any of the other eight years of my service to WPWA. Whenever I hear the phrase "Climate Change" I often think of WPWA's constantly evolving programs and funding sources. Each year your organization must undergo changes, at all levels, to achieve the most work possible in an ever changing funding climate. But it is the support that is received from members like you that is the universal constant when it comes to program stability. So in this year of ever dwindling grant sources, I made serving you our members my top priority.

The dream of adding weekend staffing at our beautiful campus finally became a reality in 2016. This allowed us to better serve you by providing information, boats and gear to you when you want it the most. We now need you to help spread the word that we are eager and ready to assist you on the weekends. Please encourage anyone you know who loves to get out on the water that we are here to outfit them on their next water excursion.

We recognize that one of the most sought after member benefits is 24-7 access to our fleet of water-craft. As demand for them grew in 2016, we made investments in new boats and gear to provide a wider variety of equipment to you our members. We now offer angler kayaks, stand up paddle boards, tandem kayaks, women's life jackets, and more. Our goal is to help get you out on the water for far less than buying your own boats and gear. With the money you save, we hope you will make a deeper investment in WPWA.

It is your membership and donation investments that make all the great watershed protection efforts that WPWA engages in possible. The more you give, the more we can do to conserve and protect this beautiful watershed. Many of you are not aware that it is your financial support that allows us to monitor water quality in the watershed. Your membership dues educates hundreds of schoolchildren, removes trees blocking passage on the Wood and Pawcatuck Rivers, expands public access to your rivers, creates flood management plans and obtains a Wild & Scenic designation. These are just a few of the achievements that were made in 2016 with your financial and moral support.

Please take a moment to review the contents of this report and see all that we accomplished together in 2016. And know that each time you make a contribution to WPWA, you are helping to ensure that we can continue to bring these benefits and protections to the watershed for both the wildlife and enjoyment by our children's children. Thank you for your continuing support, and thank you to our tireless board of trustees, staff, consultants, contractors and our benefactors for making WPWA the outstanding organization that it has grown to be.

Most Sincerely,

Chris Fox

## **BOARD OF TRUSTEES REPORT**

Over the past decade WPWA has brought significant change to the watershed through its successful efforts to open fish passage. These efforts also changed WPWA. Large infusions of funds came into the organization to manage the myriad tasks that went into opening the door to the watershed for fish running in from the sea. A new model for organizational functioning was developed during this time, and the model served well, as we know, because fish now can travel up the Pawcatuck River and into the hinterlands of the watershed.

With those monumental efforts accomplished, WPWA is drifting back to functioning much as it did in earlier days, with a mix of small grants, foundation support, and support provided through the dues and donations provided by WPWA members. This change, along with change in grants funding opportunities and the needs of the watershed, means a change in the WPWA organizational model is now needed to provide smooth transition into the future.

We have been fortunate in that the Rhode Island Foundation has been able to provide support to the WPWA Board of Trustees to undertake several initiatives in helping to find and describe a model that will take WPWA into the future. The first assistance came in helping the board create a new strategic plan for WPWA, and defining what organizational change needed to happen to allow strategic goals and objectives to be met. Term limits for board members and a new mechanism for development of annual budgets were highlights of that assistance. The second assistance has just recently happened, and has helped the board better understand the flow of funds coming in and going out, and how we can influence those flows to make them stronger, and most importantly, more sustainable over the long term.

WPWA has been a force for sustainability in the watershed for more than 35 years. One of the first efforts of WPWA in its infancy was an attempt to gain Wild and Scenic designation for the Wood-Pawcatuck watershed. For a variety of reasons, it didn't happen. Here we are, 35 years later, and WPWA is leading the process that is seeking designation as Wild and Scenic. To me, this is proof that being resilient, and being here for the long run, constantly engaged in watershed affairs, can and does make a difference. This, to me, means we need to do what we can to keep WPWA here for another 35 years overseeing affairs of the watershed.

Chris and the WPWA staff have, as always, done a phenomenal job of accomplishing tasks that promote access to, and protection of, watershed resources. I am always amazed that, for so few staff, so very much can be accomplished. These people are not just staff, they are watershed guardians extraordinaire!

The WPWA Board of Trustees, attempting to mimic the vigor of staff, will continue its efforts over the coming year, building upon those of trustees who, for the past 35 years, have created an organization dedicated to watershed stewardship that is beyond compare. We thank again the Rhode Island Foundation for its assistance in helping us think long-term, strategically. And we thank you, the WPWA membership, for the support that helps keep the Wood-Pawcatuck watershed one of the most pristine, accessible, ecosystems in the Northeast corridor.

Alan Desbonnet

President

## ACCOMPLISHMENTS

#### COOL, CLEAN ABUNDANT WATER

#### WATER QUALITY AND QUANTITY

Flood Resiliency Management Plan - WPWA is working cooperatively with many project partners including the watershed municipalities, the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management, the Rhode Island Coastal Resource Management Council, the RI Emergency Management Agency, the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, the United States Geological Survey, and the Army Corp of Engineers to develop a flood and storm resiliency watershed-based management plan for the Wood and Pawcatuck Rivers. Much of the flooding and erosion in the watershed and its root causes – floodplain development, stream corridor modifications, and impervious cover – have also impacted water



quality and fish and wildlife species and habitat. Mitigation of flooding and erosion through strengthening natural ecosystems will also benefit the overall ecological health of the watershed.

The project's objectives are to: (1) assess the vulnerability of the watershed to the growing risks from flooding and associated storm-related threats; and (2) develop a comprehensive, watershed-based management plan that will protect and enhance the resiliency of the watershed communities against future flood damage and improve river and stream ecosystems, including water quality and habitat.

This project is being funded by a \$720,000 grant from the Hurricane Sandy Coastal Resiliency Competitive Grants Program. The engineering firm of Fuss & O'Neill, Inc along with WPWA interns conducted the field assessments and data collection to guide the development of the plan. During 2016 the results of the field work was analyzed



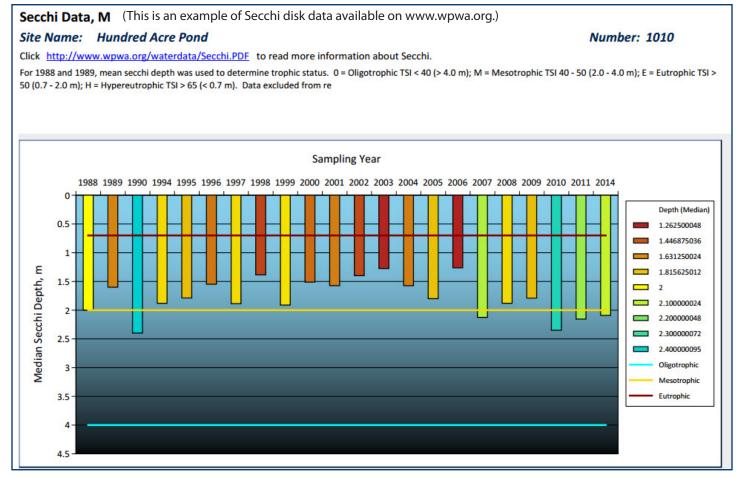
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and technical reports were written. The final report, due June of 2017, will include recommendations for each town, such as replacement or repair of culverts and bridges, creating green infrastructures, or modifying regulations used by town, state, and federal agencies to better enable flood mitigation.

**Temperature Monitoring** - The Narragansett Chapter of Trout Unlimited (TU) took the lead on conducting temperature monitoring in sixteen streams and rivers of the Upper Wood River Watershed. TU volunteers deployed loggers at 35 sites that recorded temperature every hour for three months during July, August and September. Due to the very warm, dry weather pattern this year many streams exhibited above normal temperatures. This can cause stress on the aquatic organisms inhabiting these streams. WPWA and TU plan to continue the temperature monitoring program in 2017.

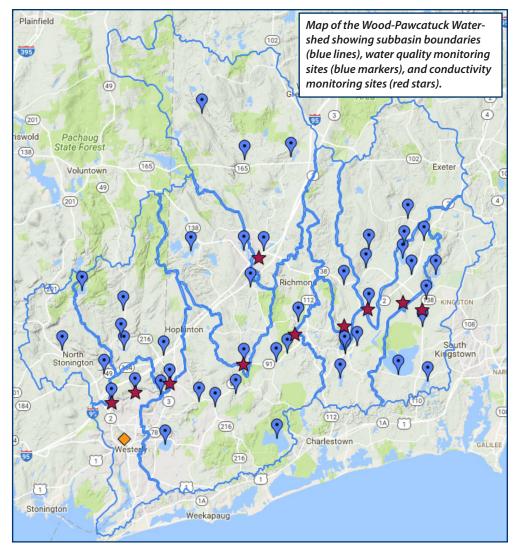
Water Quality Monitoring - WPWA conducted our 29th year of Water Quality Monitoring through the University of Rhode Island's Cooperative Extension Watershed Watch Program. More than 40 dedicated volunteer citizen scientists monitored 16 ponds & lakes and 29 river & stream sites throughout the watershed. Besides measuring clarity, temperature and dissolved oxygen, monitors collected water samples on a monthly or bimonthly basis to be analyzed for nutrients and bacteria. Many thanks to our partners in this effort: North Stonington Citizen's Land Alliance, Trout Unlimited Narragansett Chapter, and URI Watershed Watch.

WPWA completed a comprehensive assessment of our water quality monitoring program in spring 2016. The questions we try to answer through our monitoring include: What is the status of the waters of the watershed--improving, declining, or stable? Is there a glaring problem to investigate? Are we adequately covering the whole watershed? Are we seeing stormwater effects, and if so, where? And, are we sampling the right parameters to provide us the information we want? Our assessment was designed to determine whether our sampling program is providing the answers to these questions. We did a literature search, plus a thorough analysis of the data we already have. We used geographic information systems to assess location of impervious surfaces, extent of forest cover, and location of our monitoring sites on river/stream segments and in the watershed's 10 sub-basins. Our assessment committee, including WPWA



board members and scientists, concluded that overall, our spatial coverage of the watershed with our sampling locations is good, but we decided to add specific conductivity monitoring to our program (see below) to better capture stormwater effects. Once again, we gratefully acknowledge funding from RI Rivers Council/Bays, Rivers, and Watersheds Coordination Team and The Hurricane Sandy Relief grant which made this assessment process possible.

At the executive and board level careful review was given of the water quality program's assessment. Ultimately the board chose to adopt the WPWA Water Quality Committee's recommendation to monitor all high and medium priority sites in the assessment. They also voted to fund all sites within at an extra budgetary expense of \$10,000. This placed a significant cash burden to WPWA in 2016 forcing a withdrawal from our endowments to cover the ex-



tra expense. Recognition was given that this is not a sustainable funding mechanism and that in 2017 select sites will likely be suspended until a sponsorship program can be created to fund each of WPWA's sites.

**Specific Conductivity Monitoring** - Using funding from the Hurricane Sandy Coastal Resiliency Competitive Grants Program, WPWA purchased Hobo data loggers to monitor specific conductivity at 10 sites in the watershed. Conductivity is a measure of water's capability to pass electrical flow, which is directly related to the concentration of ions from dissolved salts and other inorganic materials in the water. The more ions that are present, the higher the conductivity of water, which can indicate the presence of pollutants. WPWA located the data loggers near the bottom of each subwatershed. They are set to record specific conductivity and temperature every 15 minutes year-round. We will download the data every six months.

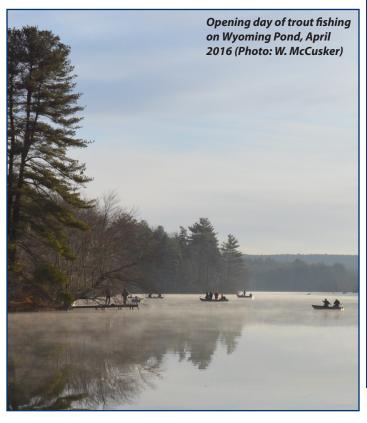


As part of this same funding WPWA will also develop a new extension to the URI Watershed Watch database that will enable us to store and analyze the information we receive from the temperature and specific conductivity monitoring programs. Whenever possible, WPWA seizes opportunities to build the capacity of our partner organizations. In this instance, WPWA

is hopeful that funding the expansion of Watershed Watch's database capacity will encourage other groups to begin to monitor for stormwater impacts and temperature.

## 2016 WPWA WATER QUALITY MONITORING SITES: LAKES/PONDS

Name	SITE TOWN(S)
Alton Pond	Hopkinton/Richmond
Barber Pond	South Kingstown
Boone Lake	Exeter
Chapman Pond	Westerly
Hundred Acre Pond	South Kingstown
Locustville Pond	Hopkinton
Meadowbrook Pond	Richmond
Pasquisett Pond	Charlestown
Spalding Pond	North Stonington
Tucker Pond	South Kingstown
Watchaug Pond	Charlestown
Wincheck Pond	Hopkinton
Worden Pond	South Kingstown
Wyassup Lake	North Stonington
Wyoming Pond	Hopkinton/Richmond
Yawgoo Pond	Exeter/South Kingstown



## 2016 WPWA WATER QUALITY MONITORING SITES: RIVERS/STREAMS

Name	SITE TOWN(S)
Ashaway R @ Rte 216	Hopkinton
Beaver R @ Rte 138 (#3)	Richmond
Chipuxet R @ Rte 138	South Kingstown
Falls R @ Step Stone Falls	West Greenwich
Falls R @ Twin Bridges	Exeter
Glen Rock Reservoir/	
Queen R @ Usquepaug	South Kingstown
Green Falls @ Rt 184/I-95	Hopkinton
Pasquisett Trib @ Rte 2	Charlestown
Pawcatuck R - Boombridge	N. Stonington/Westerly
Pawcatuck R @ Biscuit City	Charlestown/Richmond
Pawcatuck R @ Bradford	Hopkinton/Westerly
Pawcatuck R @ Burdickville	Charlestown/Hopkinton
Pawcatuck R @ Potter Hill	Hopkinton/Westerly
Pawcatuck R @ Rte 91	Charlestown/Richmond
Pawcatuck R Below Kenyon	Charlestown/Richmond
Pendelton Hill Bk @	
Grindstone	North Stonington
Pendleton Hill Bk @	
Rt 49/216	North Stonington
Queen R @ Mail Rd (QR#5)	Exeter
Sherman Bk @ Glen Rock Rd	South Kingstown
Shickasheen Bk @ Miskiana	Exeter
Shickasheen Bk @ Rte 2	Exeter
Shunock R @ Hewitt Rd	North Stonington
Shunock r @ I-95 off Rt 49	North Stonington
Shunock R @ Rt 184	North Stonington
Tomaquag Bk @ Chase Hill	Hopkinton
Usquepaugh R @ Rte 2	Richmond/S. Kingstown
White Bk @ Pine Hill Rd	Richmond
White Horn Bk @ Ministerial	South Kingstown
Wood R @ Switch Road	Hopkinton/Richmond

## WATERSHED WATCH MONITORS

Monitor(s)	Waterbody	# Years
Linda Green	Yawgoo Pond	29
Madeline Jeffery	N. Ston. Ct. Land Allnc.	28
Anne Marie Tavares	Meadowbrook Pond	25
Denise Poyer	Pawcatuck River sites	23
Al Ball	Falls River	22
Jim Latimer	Locustville Pd & Pawcatuck R	21
Peter Stack	Sherman Brk, Queen R.	18
Gerri Miceli	Wincheck Pond	17
Jim Cummings	Queen River @ Usquepaugh	16
Keith Manning	Pawcatuck River	14
Virginia Wooten	Watchaug Pond	14
Deb Luz	Wincheck Pond	13
Sandy Neuschatz	Pawcatuck River	13
Anne Sheffield	White Horn Brook	13
Carol Ann & Mark Baker	Alton Pond	12
Ben Bradley	Worden Pond	10
Bruce Burns	Pawcatuck River	10
Judy Kaplin	Pawcatuck River	10
Tom Ferrio	Pasquisett Pond	9
Maureen McCarthy	Pasquisett Pond	9
Jaimie Holmes	Yawgoo Pond	6
Becky Sprague, Tony Zaharie	Boone Lake	6
Jim McCutcheon	Spaulding P. & Green Falls R.	5
Paul Donahue	Boone Lake	4
Ron & Nathan Guilemette	Locustville Pond	4
Ron Marafioti	Falls River	4
Gary Palmer	Chapman Pond	4
Clyde Belgrave	Worden Pond	3
Linda Forrester	Hundred Acre Pond	3
Doug Jones	Wyoming Pond	3
Cindy Drake	Locustville Pond	2
Elwood Johnson	Locustville Pond	2
Madeline Amarante	Barber Pond	1
Ramon Garcia	Pawcatuck R	1
Harrison Gatch	Ashaway R & Pendleton Bk	1
Bruno Hancock, Sheri Shamblin	Shunock River	1
Frances Hinteregger	Wood River	1
Barbara Kennedy	Queen River	1
Mike Marconi	Pawcatuck River	1
Tom McCormick	Beaver River	1
Robert McCusker	Tucker Pond	1
Charlie Morgan	Pendleton Hill Bk, Shunock R.	1
Miranda Peyton	Barber Pond	1
Joe Spano	Wyassup Lake	1
Elise Torello	Pawcatuck R, Shunock R, etc	1

#### THRIVING NATIVE PLANTS AND ANIMALS

#### **Biodiversity**

Wild and Scenic Rivers Study - To promote biodiversity, WPWA has taken the lead on obtaining a federal Wild & Scenic designation for portions of the watershed. This congressional designation will forever bring attention and funding to protect habitat, allowing for the best possible long term biodiversity in the watershed. For the first year of the study a committee was formed consisting of representatives appointed by the towns of Charlestown, Exeter, Hopkinton, Richmond, South Kingstown, North Kingstown, Westerly, and West Greenwich, RI; North Stonington, Sterling, Stonington, and Voluntown CT. The committee also included representatives from the RI Department of Environmental Management, CT Department of Energy and Environmental Management, CT Department of Energy and Environmental



ronmental Protection, The RI Nature Conservancy, Save The Bay, and the National Parks Service (NPS). The committee has identified two rivers in CT to add to the study, Green Falls and Shunock Rivers. These are in addition to the Beaver, Chipuxet, Queen/Usquepaugh, Pawcatuck and Wood Rivers. Classifications based on the amount of human development and access to the rivers has been assigned to each river. The committee identified four Outstandingly Remarkable Values (ORVs) for the whole watershed: Geology/Hydrology, Exceptional Habitats, Cultural, and Recreation/Scenic. Each river shares one or more of these ORVs. NPS has started writing a report to Congress based on information from the study committee.

### **HEALTHY SALTWATER ENVIRONMENT (ESTUARY)**

In 2016 WPWA was awarded the RI Saltwater Angler's Association Award for the Environment. The award was given in recognition of WPWA's success in restoring migratory fish passage from Little Narragansett Bay to Worden Pond after centuries of obstruction by three dams in Richmond and Charlestown, RI. Restoring fish passage at each of the three dams was not only historic but also demonstrates the three primary methods of restoring fish passage; dam removal, fish ladder & eelway, and a nature-like fishway (rock ramp).

Attaining free passage throughout the Pawcatuck River supports a healthy saltwater environment by restoring the natural interactions between the salt and fresh water environments. Now that river herring are free to range throughout the system and have 1300 acres of new grounds in which to spawn, their population will dramatically increase. Although many adults will be foraged by salt water species like Striped Bass and Bluefish and the juvenile herring will serve as great sustenance for freshwater species like trout and bass.

WPWA's efforts to restore the balance of nature, while accounting for the needs of the unnatural environment, may well be the most significant effort ever accomplished in the watershed to support a more natural and healthy estuary ecosystem. Going forward, WPWA will continue its work to improve water quality throughout the watershed to reduce the nutrient loading on Little Narragansett Bay. However, discharges from the Westerly, RI and Pawcatuck, CT sewage treatment plants continue to have a major impact on water quality in the estuary. It is disheartening to work so hard to improve and protect water quality only to have it degraded by the plants as it enters the estuary. But with your help, we will persevere and hopefully attain reductions in those discharges.

#### PLENTIFUL ACCESS TO RECREATION

Opening the Rivers for People Passage - While WPWA prefers to keep the rivers as wild and natural as possible, trees often fall across the full width of the river and present a danger to paddlers. Paddlers can alert WPWA to the presence of these obstructions right on the spot from their smartphones or from the comfort of their homes using WPWA's interactive River Conditions Map. Check out the map and its capabilities here www.wpwa.org/river.php.

Each year WPWA hires a contractor to search out these trees and remove only sections of each tree to allow safe passage in high and low water. Leaving the majority of the tree preserves wildlife habitat, reduces the sun's warming affect on the water, and encourage "meanders" which are a natural function of a healthy river. Thanks in part to membership dues along with a small grant from the RI Trail Advisory Committee,



WPWA removed 40 trees in 2016. That's 40 less portages for paddlers in the watershed.



**WPWA Campus River Access -** It's been quite a while since the 2010 Flood, but sometimes things move slowly at the State level. WPWA assisted the RI Dept. of Environmental Management in a multi-year effort that culminated in the 2016 repair of the portage path across the street from the WPWA campus. The path was eroded during the great flood and received much need improvements including a boardwalk to prevent trampling of the river bank.

When paddling downstream from Arcadia Management Area, you eventually come to WPWA's campus and must portage around the Barberville Dam. To do so paddlers pull out at our handicapped accessible fishing pier and then must cross Arcadia Road to put back in downstream of the dam. That parcel across the street is owned by the State of Rhode Island, not WPWA. We are thankful to our partners at RIDEM and The RI Nature Conservancy for their assistance in making this repair project a reality.

John "Jay" Cronan River Access - Some might say that former biologist Jay Cronan was a stubborn yet fierce advocate for wildlife and the environment. His memorial Pawcatuck River access site in Richmond, RI has proven to be just as stubborn. During the 2010 flood the entire site was submerged underwater and from a layman's perspective did not incur much damage.

However, this relic donated to WPWA by the Dub's family in 2007 was really showing its age. Storm water from adjacent Rte 91 flowed unimpeded across the parking lot directly into the river. Bringing with it chemicals from the road and cars as well





as sand from the parking area. The banks were heavily trampled from pedestrian use and there was an unintended boat ramp that allowed you to drive your vehicle right into the river.

Thanks to generous funding from the Champlin and the Kimball Foundations WPWA developed a plan to correct these insensitive interactions with the river. The well thought out plan that removed the need for future repair projects developed by WPWA, the Town of Richmond and RIDEM was summarily rejected by RIDEM permitting. One of the comments received during permitting; "the current site does not feature handicapped accessibility, so we don't see why it needs to be a component of your rehabilitation project". Our answer? Because a public site should be available for use by the widest range of public users.

After extensive and expensive negotiations, the accessibility for physically challenged people was allowed. To our knowledge, it is one of only two fishing access areas in the watershed that has a handicapped accessible fishing pier. WPWA's campus being the other. To learn more about the project, read the recent edition of Watersheds, WPWA's newsletter, that can found at this link. www.wpwa. org/newsletters/2017MayNewsletter.pdf

**Dow Field River Access -** WPWA provided technical assistance to the Hope Valley Grange and Community Center toward their effort to create a formal river access area at the popular Dow Field baseball parks. The ball fields do currently feature a State of RI fishing access point to the river with an informal parking area. But the site could be used by a much wider range of recreationalists and have a lower water quality impact on the Wood River if it were improved.

The Grange volunteers are working hard to raise the funding needed to improve the area at which they hope to provide handicapped accessibility and a pavilion for weary paddlers to rest under and enjoy a picnic lunch. Special thanks

to the Kimball Foundation for its support to the Grange to make this project a reality, hopefully in 2017.

Carter Francis Preserve River Access - WPWA staff also assisted with the planning and development of the RI Nature Conservancy's effort to bring a new access area to the Pawcatuck River. A recent acquisition, which added more river and road frontage to TNC's Francis Carter Preserve, allowed them to receive a grant to construct a new river access area on this frontage. River access and parking at King's Factory Road in Charlestown, RI was sorely needed and the new access serves as a downstream compliment to the Cronan access area. The project was completed in late 2016.



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#### HELPING PEOPLE CARE ABOUT THE WATERSHED

#### **EDUCATION AND OUTREACH**

Membership - Membership is the core of WPWA's educational efforts. Our best opportunity to cultivate the current and future stewards of the watershed is through educating our members. Attracting new members to educate is the bane of any member supported non-profit and WPWA is no exception. To help expand our reach, we implemented a new membership structure in 2016 aimed at giving more benefits to our members. Most notably, we created a membership level that allows you to borrow our kayaks whenever you want and take them wherever you like to paddle for a day. We hope you will help spread the word about our new "why buy when you can borrow" membership development initiative. Special thanks to all our members for helping make all the great educational work we do possible.



Education – Twenty-four area schools and youth groups participated in educational programs, which included full day field trips, macroinvertebrate sampling, and kayaking on the Wood River. Ages ranged from fourth graders to undergraduates from URI who came to learn about macroinvertebrate sampling. The schools were: Cole Middle School from East Greenwich, Chariho ESY program, Chariho Middle School, Coventry High School, Wheeler School, Pawtucket Middle School, Ella Risk School from Woonsocket, Woonsocket Middle School, Met School, Westerly Middle School, and URI. Youth groups included Adventure Camp, John Rollins Recreational Center, Providence After School Program,

Roger Williams Park Zoo, Operation Military Kids, Ivy Labs, Gateways, Hopkinton Cub Scout den, and Project Goal. A total of 560 kids and young adults took part in twenty-eight WPWA education programs.

WPWA staff again served on the RIEEA Executive Board and served as a judge for the RI Envirothon.

Welcome Center - The Welcome Center was staffed from 9 AM until 2 PM on weekend days during the summer of 2016, allowing members to utilize kayaks and canoes. Also, the Welcome Center was used for many of WPWA's programs and is the meeting location for the Wild and Scenic Study Committee and the Flood Resiliency Management Plan Steering Committee. Other community groups have used the site for meetings as well.

**Newsletter -** WPWA joined the digital age in 2016 by going electronic with our newsletter, WATERSHED. This is a much more effective way for us to reach you, our members, in a timely manner and makes it much easier for you



to give us feedback on what you read. We are finding this new, electronic format to be a great education and outreach tool. Plus, it is allowing us to put the significant money WPWA saves in eliminated printing and postage costs toward WPWA's many programs.

**Programs** – WPWA offered a variety of programs for our members and the general public including a Map and Compass Workshop, Fly Tying and Fly Fishing lessons, Fly Rod Building workshops, two Almost Full Moon Paddles, three Wood River Paddles, and three Bioluminescent Paddles. A total of 85 people took part in one or more programs.

**Shed -** A generous unnamed donor offered a large storage shed to WPWA in 2016. It is just what WPWA needed to better serve the many school and civic groups who borrow our gear



and attend our educational programs. The only questions was... how will we get the shed to the campus? That's when the Champlin Foundation stepped in to pay the cost to move the shed. This was much less expensive than building a shed from scratch. Thanks to these generous donors we now have a proper shed that better serves the public and our members.



Kayaks & Storage - The Champlin Foundation once again stepped in to help solve our kayak storage and security challenges. Large plastic culvert pipes salvaged from a WPWA fish passage project were repurposed for use as kayak cubbies. Champlin was generous enough to provide the funding needed to surround the new kayak corral with a gated fence and add a few new kayaks and paddleboards to them too. School groups and members alike will be riding in style during the summer of 2017 thanks to this low cost, high benefit project.

#### Committee and Board Affiliations:

RI Environmental Education Association Board

Science mentor for GEMS-Net

RI Envirothon Judge

RI Rivers Council

RI Trail Advisory Committee

Richmond Land Trust Board

Westerly Environmental Education Literacy Council

Wildlife Community Planning Council

Land Trust Healthy Community Meeting

YMCA Camp Watchaug Committee



### **VOLUNTEERS**

Jay Aaron Alan Desbonnet Elly Heyder Robert McLevy Sally A. Allen E. Richard Diamond, Jr. Dale Higgs Trish & Mike Metzer Dara Amore Joseph DiBrino Frances Hinteregger Henry Meyer Wade A. Diehl Boze & Penny Arnold Bill Hixson Michael Migdail-Smith Samantha Migdail-Smith Ira Asher Paul Donahue Ardis S. Holliday Danielle R. Aube Sharon Ann Dragon Howard B. Huftalen Dennis Migneault Peter V. August Cindy Drake Janet Huntley Frank Morosky Carol Ann & Mark Baker Angela B. Ionata Emily Morse Helen Drew Albert & Sandra Ball Tina DuBosque Madeline Jeffery Barbara Murphy Ted & Jo-Ann Bates Richard J. Durant Christine Jennings Roger F. Nadeau, Jr. Carolyn Ellis Sanford Neuschatz Wendy Beck George Jenssen Elwood M. Johnson Clyde Belgrave Jon Ericson Glen Northup Theresa Bessette Nadine Evans Doug Jones John O'Brien Iane W. Blakeslee Steven Faria Judy Kaplin Thomas Orvosh Michael R. Bottaro Tom Ferrio Carl Kellers Donna Pacheco Samantha Kellers Gary Palmer Aidan Boving Janice H. Fifer Thomas & Kristina Boving Linda Forrester Shannon Kelley Jen Panko James & Mary Boyer Kathy Foster Barbara Kennedy Margaret Parsons J. Benjamin Bradley Maureen Kennelly Ayla Fox Peter Paton Ginger Brown Walter Galloway Meg Kerr Maggie Payne Christine Ganci Antonia Bryson Heidi Kranz Jeffrey N. Perry Kenneth Burke Andrea Gardiner Diane Laderoute Robert E. Pietrusza Ellen Burnett Harrison Gatch Chris Poulos James Latimer Bruce Burns Lauren Lawder Edward Poyer Roger Gibson John Buscaglia & Susan Shaw Bobbi Gilletlev Doreen Le Herissier David Prescott Karen Girouard Raoul Lefebvre Brenda Rashleigh, Ph. D. Kate Bussey Kelsi Govette James Leigh Kaitlin Rengigas Tom Butler & Maryjane Caleb Grant James E. Less Irene Rieder Spooner Malcolm & Marilyn Grant Bruce Loeckler Michael Rinaldi Rachel Calabro Linda T. Green George W. Loomis Mark Roberts Doug & Susan Carocari Susan Greene Mary Rooney Jay Lustgarten Lawson M. Cary III Christopher Grube Deb Luz & Gerri Miceli Peter Rossi Nina Rooks Cast Nathan Guillemette Joseph MacAndrew Kevin & Maureen Ryan Donald C. Chambers Ron Guillemette Jennifer Mackenzie James I. Sammons Deborah Cohen & Christopher Damon William Hahn Paige MacKenzie **Emily Santos** Jack & Suzanne Colby Bruno Hancock & Sheri Bonnie MacLaughlin Philip Scalise Shamblin Iim Cole Douglas & Joan MacPher-Jim Schroer Sally Hanson Evan Connolly Richard Seager Tracey Hanson Keith & Lea Manning Susan & Geoffrey Sewall Matt Costello Mairead Hardiman Ron Marafioti Kim M. Coulter Anne B. Sheffield Douglas Harris Hugh Markey Laura Craver-Rogers Rachel E. Sheldon Vivian Maxson Cindy & Jessica Havas Keith Cronin Fernando Silveira Roy Heaton Alyson J. McCann Karen D. Cryan Edward Simpson Corrie Heinz Maureen McCarthy James Cummings David Smith Mabel S. Hempstead Thomas McCormick Sam Curry Mary Alice Smith Sean Henry Robert McCusker Christopher Damon Catherine Sparks Elizabeth M. Herron William P. McCusker Iane Dawson Michael Spellman

Joseph McElrov

Nancy Hess

## VOLUNTEERS, CONTINUED

Louis Sposato

Becky Spraque & Tony Zaharie

Joan C. St. Clair Capt. Ray Stachelek Peter & Virginia Stack

Denise & Peter Stetson Joseph Stoos Ryan Sullivan

Sandra Sullivan

Mary Anne & Jack Sumner

Eric Taivalantti

Anne Marie Tavares

Kathryn Taylor Thomas J. Tetzner

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Jeffrey & Teresa Ulricksen

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Donna P. Walsh

Harry Whaley

Gary S. Whitney

Nils Wiberg

Amy Williams

Virginia Wootten

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EZ Waste Systems, Inc

Boisclair Building Concepts

Jay Boyer

Lawson M. Cary, III

Crazy Burger Cafe and Juice Bar

Paul Drumm, Kenyon Cornmeal Company

First Financial Advisory Services,

Cunningham & Associates

Fuss & O'Neill, Inc.

Hallman's Portable Toilets

Hawkin's Well & Pump

The Nutini Family

Ocean House Marina

Old Castle Lawn and Garden

Pat's Power Equipment

Richmond Department of Public Works

RI Deptartment of Environmental Management, *Aquatic Resource* 

Education Program

Shed Light Productions, LLC

Trout Unlimited, Narragansett

Chapter

**URE** Outfitters

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YKSM Accounting

David Smith



#### **Members**

**Dragonfly Household \$50** 

Tina DuBosque & Joel Ackerman

Richard & Marcia Albro

William P. Aldrich

Dennis L. Algiere

Manfred Armbruster

Karen & Ira Asher

Peter & Lynn August

James & Karin Aukerman

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Margaret S. Bearn

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Hillary & Priscilla Bercovici

Joseph & Shirley Beuth

Shirley Beuth

Robert & Eileen Bohler

John & Lori Bouchard

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Susan Shaw & John Buscaglia

Robert & Charlene Butler

Sandra Carmichael & John Faulise

Gloria & Lawson Cary

Nina Rooks Cast

Michael & Susan Cerullo

Kristen & Don Chambers

Marty & George Champlin Jr.

Joyce P. & William Clark III

Fran & Joel Cohen

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Wilfred & Catherine Collette

Donald & Ellen Conner

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Jack & Sandra Cross

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Evan & Catherine Iones

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Laurent & Eileen Menard

Michael & Shari Migdail-Smith

Scott & Susan Millar

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David & Carolyn Moultrop

Roger & Lynn Nadeau

Carl & Anna Norcross

James & Joan O'Brien

Pete & Sue Ogle

Gus & Mary Pagel

Tim Paradis

Margie & John Parsons

Frank & Prudence Patnoad

Suzanne & Peter Paton

Lisa Marquis & Matthew Pelland

Denise Pelletier

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Dennis & Cheryl Pimental

John & Michelle Pope

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Jeffrey & Teresa Ulricksen

David & Joy Wallis Peggy Warner Travis Warren

Gary & Cherine Whitney Ann & Walter Wojciechowski Wood River Fly Fishing Club Judith & Stephen Wood Robert & Karen Woods

Etta Zasloff

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Mackenzie Avedisian
Joseph & Donna Baer
Joseph & Susan Behl
Cordalie Benoit
Richard W. Benson
Edward L. Blamires
Philip E. Bourque

Denis Bousquet Pat Breslin

Nina Briggs

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Ann Crawford

Joseph L. Czerwinski Jr.

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Dana Denman & Fernando Silveira

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John Genovesi
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Elly Heyder Peter Heywood

Kay & Larry J. Hirsch

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Hope Valley Bait & Tackle

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Gerard & Margaret Houle

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Joanne Malise
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Ron Marafioti
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Robert E. Pietrusza

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Stanley & Roberta Rybka

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Susan & Clifford Snow Susan V. Sosnowski Col. Louis P. Sposato

Lucille Sposato Robin Springborn

Karen Stein Kathryn Taylor John A. Topping James G. Turek Paul L. Vachon Frederick F. Wagner Edward Walsh Tammy King Walsh William Blunt Thomas Willett

#### **Trout Household \$175**

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#### **Trout Individual \$100**

Joellen Anderson John J. Barney Ted & Jo-Ann Bates Theresa Bessette Robert T. Bolton

Boy Scout Troop 44 Matunuck

Stephen Brownell Sergio Cherenzia Steven J. Crandall Ernie & Edna Healey David Salomon Marc Davis

E. Richard Diamond Jr.

Wade A. Diehl Theodore Dionne

Jeannine M. Dougherty

Matt Dowling Anne G. Earle Joseph Fernandes Patricia J. Fontes Donald W. Forsyth Thomas A. Ginty Jr. Lillian M. Grant Linda Greenall Jr. Robert B. Hertling Jr.

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Scott S. Lisle

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Jennifer Mackenzie Elisabeth McLaughlin

Henry Meyer William J. Meyer Sara Michaud Arthur Milot Merrill Moone Tim P. Mooney Brian Murphy Sanford Neuschatz

Peter Ogle Eric Orava John R. Payne Jr. Paul E. Pezza Stewart T. Pucci

Richmond Veterinary Clinic

Janice E. Russell Saul Saila Philip Scalise J. P. Sheerar Richard E. Slimak

Mary Alice Smith Lauren Sposato

Raymond F. Stachelek Nicholas Steinberg

South County Carpentry, LLC

James M. Tackach Thomas W. Twyman

United Builders Supply Co., Inc.

Watch Hill Outfitters

Wincheck Pond Property Owners & Taxpayers Association

Peter Winne

Sandra Wiskari-Lukowski

John M. Woolsey Robert Yarnall

#### Otter Household \$250

Ray & Dara Amore Lorraine & Joseph Arruda Kraig Conrad & Kevin Prohaska David & Geraldine Cunningham Christopher & Lisa Grube Carl & Joyce Hagenstein John & Karin McCormick

#### MEMBERS CONTINUED

Thomas & Marguerite Moore
Brenda Rashleigh
Peter & Lee Stepanishen
John Turner
Harold R. Ward
Albert & Sandra Ball
Steven Miller & Sally Benbasset
Elaine M. Caldarone
Crazy Burger Cafe & Juice Bar
Ted & Lauren Lawder
Thomas Sculco M.D. & Cynthia
Sculco, M.D.

#### Osprey Household \$400

Dean & Lisa Audet
Alan & Charlene Desbonnet
Patrick & Tammy Lyons
Thompson & Helen Rowe-Drake
Judith Salomon & Jerome Weiss
Thomas Malone & Lynne Randall
The Preserve at Boulder Hills
Donna P. Walsh

#### Eagle Household \$1000

Malcolm & Marilyn Grant

#### **Business Membership \$1000**

Fuss & O'Neill

#### Complementary \$0

Fabiola Almazan
Joseph Alt
Spencer Alt
AQAL Therapies Inc
Guianeya Murillo Cornejo
Beth Donahue
Sharon MacLean
Fred Marinaro
Kayla Morris
Darlene Reilly

Beth & Mac Richardson Silverio Rodriguez

Ana Ruediger Sally Ryan

Barbara St. Germain Alejandra Villarreal-Siller

#### Lifetime \$0

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Conyngham Foundation Agency

Sarah H. Conyngham

Barbara Cronan

Christopher J. Fox Heather Hamilton

Peter & Kay Lisle

James & Frances Mancini

Brian & Kathy McCuin

Hatsy H. Moore Maurice V. Orlando

D : 0- E I D

Denise & Ed Poyer

John C. Quinn Family

Lori Urso & Marty Richards

Carl & Susan Rosen Jim & Pam Rubovits Geoffrey & Susan Sewall

Elise Torello & William McCusker

Joseph R. Zegarzewski



## MAJOR GRANTS AND GIFTS BY FOUNDATIONS AND GOVERNMENT AGENCIES

#### **Charitable Foundations:**

\$25,000 Forrest & Frances Lattner Foundation \$9,700 The Rhode Island Foundation

#### **Federal Agencies:**

\$292,331.02 The National Fish & Wildlife Federation, US Dept. of Interior, US Fish & Wildlife Service: Wood & Pawcatuck Rivers Flood Resiliency and Watershed Management Plan

\$31,951.79 National Parks Service: Wild and Scenic Rivers Study

#### **State Government:**

\$4,062.16 RI Trail Advisory Committee: Urban Youth Paddles

\$2,860.00 RI Trail Advisory Committee: River Trail Tree Removal Grant

\$1,900 RI Rivers Council: Water Quality Monitoring

\$2,500 RI Bays, Rivers, and Watersheds Coordination Team Stormwater Grant: Water Quality Monitoring Assessment

### **FUND DRIVE GIFTS AND INDIVIDUAL DONATIONS**

2016 Annual Fund Drive

Ray & Dara Amore

Bill & Chris Anderson

Joellen Anderson

Manfred Armbruster

Ashaway Charitable Trust

Dean & Lisa Audet

Peter & Lynn August

Margaret S. Bearn

Richard W. Benson

Joseph Berardy

Hillary & Priscilla Bercovici

Barbi Beyer

Eric & Christina Bibler

Robert & Eileen Bohler

Robert T. Bolton

Laura & Michael Bottaro

James & Mary Boyer

James & Elizabeth Boylan

Nina Briggs

Antonia & Thomas Bryson

Claire Y. Card

Sandra Carmichael & John Faulise

Nina Rooks Cast

Michael & Susan Cerullo

Fran & Joel Cohen

Betty L. Connors

Conyngham Foundation Agency

Patricia C. Cook

Steven J. Crandall

Henry & Martha Cruciani

David & Geraldine Cunningham

Harvey & Jeanne DeMovick

Dana Denman & Fernando Silveira

Alan & Charlene Desbonnet

E. Richard Diamond Jr.

Frank DiZoglio

Tina DuBosque & Joel Ackerman

Barbara Dunham

Anne G. Earle

Wenley Ferguson & John Wolf

Warren Fitzpatrick & Christine Kelly

Donald W. Forsyth

Joseph & Marie Fox

Fuller Family Charitable Trust

Walter & Hollie Galloway

Linda & Ronald Gardrel

Polly & Dr. R. Bruce Gillie

Arthur & Marion Gold

Gerard & Kathryn Grande

Malcolm & Marilyn Grant

William Hahn

Arnold M. Hall

Mabel S. Hempstead

Frank H. Heppner

Robert B. Hertling Jr.

Georg & Frances Hinteregger

John & Carol Howland

Dante & Angela Ionata

Michael & Karen Jarret

Madeline Jeffery

John & Karin McCormick

John & Rogean Makowski

Evan & Catherine Jones

Joseph & Shirley Beuth

Meg Kerr & Bob Vanderslice

Heidi Kranz & Nikolas Gvosdev

Peter & Marnie Lacouture

Harold & Gaytha Langlois

Marion & Dr. Franklin F. Leddy

Joseph & Ann MacAndrew

Suzanne G. MacLear

Douglas & Joan MacPherson

Thomas Malone & Lynne Randall

James & Frances Mancini

Elizabeth & David McNab

Henry Meyer

Merrill & Margaret Moone

Stephen & Ruth Morgan

Charlie & Tonya Morgan

David & Carolyn Moultrop

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Peter Ogle

Candace A. Oviatt

Frank & Prudence Patnoad

Suzanne & Peter Paton

Kenneth Payne & Helen Drew

Donald & Stacie Pepperd

Pfizer Foundation (matching gift)

Sandra M. Poirier

Nancy A. Potter

Brenda Rashleigh

Clayton Roffey

Thompson & Helen Rowe-Drake

Jim & Pam Rubovits

Saul & Jennifer Saila

David Salomon & Allison Crump

William & Jo-Ann Savage

Robert & Elizabeth Schiedler

Thomas Sculco M.D. & Cynthia

Sculco, M.D.

Sergio Cherenzia

Geoffrey & Susan Sewall

Henry & Peggy Sharpe

Susan Shaw & John Buscaglia

J. P. Sheerar

Thurman & Doris Silks

Richard E. Slimak

Stonington Garden Club

Kristine & Everett A. Stuart

Mary Anne & Jack Sumner

South County Carpentry, LLC

Kathryn Taylor

United Builders Supply Co., Inc.

Frederick F. Wagner

David & Joy Wallis

Robert Walsh & Mary McGrattan

Donna P. Walsh

Elizabeth B. Walsh

Harold R. Ward

Watch Hill Outfitters

Judith Salomon & Jerome Weiss

Michael White & Jane Desforges

#### FUND DRIVE GIFTS AND INDIVIDUAL DONATIONS CONTINUED

#### In Memory

Margit Conopask & Jeffrey Bluestein (Salomon Endowment)

Mary Epos

Mary Enos

Donal B. Hepworth

Elwood & Cynthia Johnson

Jacqueline I. Lewis

Matthew J. & Dorothy Piatek

Robert F. Prentiss

Audrey L. Quigley

Wincheck Pond Property Owners & Taxpayers Association

#### **Donations**

Joellen Anderson Karen & Ira Asher Peter & Lynn August Norman & Ann Baker Albert & Sandra Ball Robert & Eileen Bohler Boy Scout Troop 44 Matunuck Stephen Brownell Elaine M. Caldarone

Sandra Carmichael & John Faulise

Gloria & Lawson Cary, III

Joyce P. & William Clark III

Loraine Collins

Kraig Conrad & Kevin Prohaska

Gloria M. Courtois

Ann Crawford

Crazy Burger Cafe & Juice Bar

Alan & Charlene Desbonnet

Frank DiZoglio

Tina DuBosque & Joel Ackerman

Roger C. Earle

Joyce & Jerry Fingerut

Patricia J. Fontes

Joseph & Marie Fox

Patricia Grande

Gordon Gruetzmacher

Carl & Joyce Hagenstein

Rick Hall & Belinda Nattress

Arnold M. Hall

Bruno Hancock & Sheri Shamblin

Judith A. Larzelere

Ron Marafioti

John McCall III

Elisabeth McLaughlin

Gregory R. McNab

Carol McTaggart

David & Carolyn Moultrop

Anne H. Nalwalk

Richard Pearce

Nancy A. Potter

Stewart T. Pucci

Tim & Kathy Rancourt

Peter Robinson

William & Jo-Ann Savage

Michael Spellman

Robin Springborn

Daniel & Jeanne Thompson

Elise Torello & William McCusker

Michael White & Jane Desforges

Robert & Patricia Yarnall



#### PARTNER AGENCIES AND ORGANIZATIONS

Appalachian Mountain Club

Aquatic Resource Education Center (RIDEM)

American Rivers

Avalonia Land Conservancy Chariho Middle School

CT Dept. of Energy & Environmental Protection

Coventry High School

Curtis Corner Middle School (SK)

ecoRI

Federal Emergency Management Agency The Friends of the Hopkinton Land Trust Gateway Health Center, Youth Programs

**HopArts** 

Hopkinton Conservation Commission

Hopkinton Historical Association

Hopkinton Land Trust Kenyon Industries Kenyon Grist Mill

MA Dept. of Environmental Protection

Narragansett Bay Estuary Program Narrow River Preservation Association National Fish & Wildlife Foundation

National Park Service

National Oceanographic & Atmospheric Adm.

The Nature Conservancy of RI and CT

Norman Bird Sanctuary RI Blueways Alliance

RI Canoe and Kayak Association

RI Coastal Resources Management Council

RI DEM, Various Divisions

RI Emergency Management Agency

RI Envirothon Competition RI Land and Water Partnership

RI Land Trust Council

RI Resource Conservation & Development

RI Resource Recovery Corporation

RI Trail Advisory Committee

RI Environmental Education Association

RI Natural History Survey

RI NEMO Program

RI Rivers Council

RI Salt Water Anglers Association

RI Sea Grant

Richmond Conservation Commission Richmond Rural Preservation Land Trust

Roger Williams Park Zoo

RYSE School Safari RI

Salt Ponds Coalition

Save The Bay

Southern New England Paddlers South Kingstown Land Trust Southern RI Conservation District

Tomaquag Museum
Town of Charlestown
Town of Hopkinton

Town of North Stonington

Town of Richmond Town of Exeter Town of Stonington Town of Westerly

Town of West Greenwich

Trout Unlimited Narragansett Chapter

United Fly Tyers of RI University of Rhode Island URI Coastal Institute

URI Cooperative Extension Service

**URI** Watershed Watch

US Army Corps of Engineers

US Dept. of Agriculture, Natural Resource

Conservation Service US Fish and Wildlife Service US Geological Survey

US EPA, Region 1
Watershed Counts
Westerly Land Trust

Wheeler Middle School, N Stonington, CT

Wood River Fly Tying Association

Woonasquatucket River Watershed Council

#### TREASURER'S 2016 FINANCIAL REPORT

Dear WPWA Members,

The 2016 end-of- year financial reconciliation has been completed and is shown below. When making multi-year and internal adjustments, the total operating budget of \$200,000 exceeded income by \$9,640.00. The identified budget deficit was reduced by \$20,000 from original projections due to the stringent financial management by Executive Director Fox and his staff.

The board looked at many ways to reduce operating expenses during fiscal 2016, including the reduction of sites to be monitored for water quality. It was decided that both Tier 1 and Tier 2 sites would continue to be monitored. The large deficit depicted in the 2016 Financial Statement below is a result of the significant reduction in grant income due to a delay of work on the Pawcatuck Watershed Flood Resiliency Management Plan Grant and the Wild and Scenic Grant. In addition, our annual grant from The Lattner Foundation was reduced by more than half contributing \$35,000 to the budget shortfall. We have made appropriate adjustments to 2017 expenses such that when reviewing our finances over a five year period, this deficit evens out.

The Treasurer extends her sincere thanks to the WPWA controller Ms. Kristy Armstrong for the care she has taken in tracking our finances and the diligence she has shown in keeping the Treasurer, Executive Director, and Board informed of our financial position at all times. Thanks also go to the staff of the WPWA for their excellent work in keeping program costs down and working within the budgets we establish for the organization.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer MacKenzie

Treasurer

## 2016 Financial Statement

	Jan – Dec 2016	Budget
Income		
4010 Donations	25,430	22,500
4100 Fiscal Agency Fees	337	
4300 Gain (loss) on Securities	-4,087	
44800 Indirect Public Support	95	
4400 Grants	370,305	556,900
4700 Interest and Dividends	14,617	9,500
4800 Investment/Endowment Revenue	0	
4900 Membership Dues	28,017	26,000
5000 Program Fees	7,978	5,275
5200 Sales	684	390
5500 Special Project Revenues	165	1,500
Total Income	443,542	622,055
Expenses		
7000 Administration	57,259	59,215
7020 Board of Trustees	93	150
7105 Endowment Management Fee	831	125
7400 Educational Programs	242	1035
7500 Fund Raising	2,378	3000
7600 Grant Expenses	464,293	586,316
7700 Membership and Volunteers	2,489	<b>4,25</b> 0
7760 Outreach Expenses	8	
7800 Payroll and Benefits	88,951	84,405
7900 Recreational Programs	1,230	<b>4,45</b> 0
7995 Scientific Monitoring	12,675	9,000
9700 Foreign Tax	10	110
Total Expenses	630,451	751,946
Income – Expenses	(186,909)	(121,495)
Accounts Receivable	4,062	
Accounts Payable	16,512	
TOTAL	(166,335)	