# WOOD-PAWCATUCK WATERSHED ASSOCIATION

# 2015 ANNUAL REPORT





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Published May 2016

#### **BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

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Wood-Pawcatuck Watershed Association 203 Arcadia Road Hope Valley, RI 02832 401-539-9017 www.wpwa.org

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# Presented at WPWA Annual Meeting May 19, 2016

## WATERSHED WATCH MONITORS

Jim Latimer

20 year monitoring Pawcatuck River and Locustville Pond

### Jim Cummings

15 years monitoring Queen River at Usquepaugh

#### Becky Sprague & Tony Zaharie

5 years monitoring Boone Lake

# BOARD OF TRUSTEES EMERITUS STATUS Conferred upon Ed and Linda Wood

Ed and Linda envisioned a watershed association.

Working with like minded folks, their vision evolved from an idea to an organization to a successful, regionally recognized association that's served and advocated for our beautiful part of the Northeast.

# **DIRECTOR'S NOTE**

2015 brought yet another surge of high level improvements to the Wood-Pawcatuck Watershed thanks to your support of WPWA! Securing a federal grant for \$720,000 and bringing together the towns in the watershed to create a Flood Resiliency Management Plan is monumentally important to addressing the impacts of storms and climate change. The passage of the Wood Pawcatuck Watershed Protection Act in the US Congress was... well..... like "an act of Congress". But the protection this law provides to the watershed through its authorization for WPWA and the National Park Service to Pursue a Wild & Scenic River designation for the watershed is incalculable.

These high level watershed management efforts initiated and administered by WPWA could never happen without the support of our member donors. It is to YOU that I extend my sincerest thanks for enabling WPWA to rise to the level of capacity that exists today. A hearty thank you to all our partners and volunteers for their tireless dedication toward ensuring that all the great work that WPWA accomplished in 2015 was done with a smile. And above all, the tremendous staff that you entrust to carry out this work are tops in their field. Their unwavering persistence truly makes all the great accomplishments outlined in this report a reality. To them I extend my warmest and most sincere thanks for not only their leadership and achievements, but the love and kindness that they incorporate into all that they do.

With profound appreciation,

Christopher J Fox

# **BOARD OF TRUSTEES REPORT**

WPWA Board of Trustees is pleased to report its major activities for 2015. During 2015 it undertook one major initiative regarding water quality, established a policy recognizing additional emeritus trustees, formalized WPWA's easement monitoring procedures, continued efforts to build a development committee and initiated a membership committee. It welcomed new board members and with term limits saw some wonderful, long-standing board members conclude their terms in office.

The Trustees reviewed Water Quality data collected by the volunteer monitors and decided to initiate an assessment of that program, something which had not been done in years. The Trustees considered the location of monitoring sites, the data generated, and the costs of water sample analysis. The Trustees then authorized the development of a comprehensive report analyzing monitoring sites for the entire watershed. A Board, staff, and volunteer committee was charged with rethinking and potentially updating our monitoring strategy based on current issues, including storm water and climate change impacts. This committee reported its findings and confirmed that the majority of existing sites were providing valuable information and recommended additional sites for testing. Based on this effort the Trustees reaffirmed WPWA's priority commitment to water quality monitoring.

In addition Trustees engaged in committee work for fund and membership development. Its activities included reaching out to past members reminding them to renew, improving WPWA's outreach, and developing a plan to reinforce relationships with potential and exiting donors. Membership outreach identified opportunities to engage with the community at farmers' markets and at Hopkinton Land Trust days.

The Board wishes to acknowledge the engagement and contributions of WPWA's wonderful staff, Chris, Elise, and Denise and the invaluable efforts of WPWA's dedicated volunteers. Collectively we are all committed through WPWA to preserving and protecting the land and waters of the Wood Pawcatuck watershed for natural and human communities.

Respectfully submitted,

Helen Drew, 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 and O'Neill, Inc. is conducting the field assessments and data collection to develop the Plan. During the summer of 2015 field assessments were made on 442 bridges and culverts and 44 dams. In addition, 28 river miles were assessed by geomorphic specialists. The results will be analyzed for recommendations concerning removal, repair, or replacement of the structures. The final report will include other recommendations such as 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 helped WPWA conduct another year of temperature monitoring in six streams and rivers of the Upper Wood River Watershed. Volunteers deployed loggers 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 2016.

**Water Quality Monitoring** - WPWA conducted our 28th year of Water Quality Monitoring through the University of Rhode Island's Cooperative Extension Watershed Watch Program. Thirty-seven dedicated volunteer citizen scientists monitored fourteen ponds & lakes and seventeen 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.

**Water Quality Assessment** - WPWA received a grant from the Rhode Island Rives Council to conduct a thorough assessment of our Water Quality Monitoring Program. With 28 years worth of data we wanted to be sure we were optimizing our monitoring locations to cover the watershed as completely and comprehensively as possible. Water Quality trends, geographic locations of sampling sites, and parameters measured were all reviewed. WPWA was able to identify 45 sites as our top priorities, most of which we already cover. The final report was published in March 2016 and is available on the WPWA website.

# 2013-15 WPWA MONITORING AND STUDY SITES IN CT AND RI BY TOWN

#### CONNECTICUT

Town/Site	2013	2014	2015
-		the North Stonington Citizens	
Asseconk Brook	WQ Sampling 2 sites		1 0 /
Green Falls Brook	WQ Sampling 3 sites	WQ Sampling 3 sites	WQ Sampling 2 sites
Shunock River	WQ Sampling 4 sites	WQ Sampling 2 sites	WQ Sampling 2 sites
Pendleton Hill Brook	k		WQ Sampling 1 site
Wyassup Lake	Lake Sampling	Lake Sampling	Lake Sampling
RHODE ISLAND			
Town/Site	2013	2014	2015
Charlestown			
Pasquiset Pond	Lake Sampling	Lake Sampling	Lake Sampling
Pasquiset Brook		Temp Study 1 site	
Watchaug Pond	Lake Sampling	Lake Sampling	Lake Sampling
Perry Healy Brook		Temp Study 1 site	
Pawcatuck River	WQ Sampling 4 sites	WQ Sampling 3 sites	WQ Sampling 3 sites
Exeter			
Boone Lake	Lake Sampling	Lake Sampling	Lake Sampling
Yawgoo Pond	Lake Sampling	Lake Sampling	Lake Sampling
Chickasheen Brook			WQ Sampling 2 sites
Dutemple Brook		Temp Study 1 site	
Falls River	WQ Sampling 3 sites	WQ Sampling 3 sites	WQ Sampling 3 sites
		Temp Study 2 sites	Temp Study 2 sites
Locke Brook	WQ Sampling 1 site	WQ Sampling 1 site	
		Temp Study 1 site	
Mud Brook			WQ Sampling 1 site
Queen River	WQ Sampling 4 sites	WQ Sampling 2 sites	WQ Sampling 2 sites
		Temp Study 4 sites	
Roaring Brook		Temp Study 1 site	
Sodom Brook		Temp Study 1 site	
Hopkinton			
Alton Pond	Lake Sampling	Lake Sampling	Lake Sampling
Locustville Pond			Lake Sampling

Town/Site	2013	2014	2015
Hopkinton			
Wincheck Pond	Lake Sampling	Lake Sampling	Lake Sampling
Wyoming Pond	Lake Sampling	Lake Sampling	Lake Sampling
Ashaway River	WQ Sampling 1 site	WQ Sampling 1 site	WQ Sampling 1 site
Brushy Brook	WQ Sampling 2 sites	WQ Sampling 2 sites	
	Macro Sampling 1 site	Temp Study 2 Sites	
Canonchet Brook		Temp Study 3 sites	
Green Falls River			WQ Sampling 1 Site
Moscow Brook		Temp Study 1 site	
Parmenter Brook	WQ Sampling 2 sites	WQ Sampling 1 site	WQ Sampling 1 site
		Temp Study 1 site	
Parris Brook		Temp Study 1 site	
Pawcatuck River	WQ Sampling 3 sites	WQ Sampling 3 sites	WQ Sampling 2 sites
Tomaquag Brook	WQ Sampling 1 site Temp Study 2 site	WQ Sampling 1 site	
Wood River		Temp Study 2 sites	Temp Study 2 sites
Richmond			
Alton Pond	Lake Sampling	Lake Sampling	Lake Sampling
Meadowbrook Pd	Lake Sampling	Lake Sampling	Lake Sampling
Wyoming Pond	Lake Sampling	Lake Sampling	Lake Sampling
Baker Brook		Temp Study 1 site	
Beaver River	Temp Study 6 sites	Temp Study 3 sites	
Canob Brook		Temp Study 1 site	
Meadow Brook	Macro Sampling 1 site	Temp Study 3 sites	
Pawcatuck River	WQ Sampling 2 sites	WQ Sampling 2 sites	WQ Sampling 2 sites
Usquepaugh River			WQ Sampling 1 site
White Brook	WQ Sampling 1 site	WQ Sampling 1 site	
South Kingstown			
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

### 2013-15 WPWA MONITORING AND STUDY SITES IN CT AND RI BY TOWN CONT.

Town/Site	2013	2014	2015
South Kingstown cont.			
Chipuxet River	WQ Sampling 1 site	WQ Sampling 1 site	WQ Sampling 1 site
		Temp Study 1 site	
Glen Rock Brook	WQ Sampling 1 site	WQ Sampling 1 site	WQ Sampling 1 site
Pawcatuck River	WQ Sampling 2 sites	WQ Sampling 2 sites	
Queen River	WQ Sampling 2 sites	WQ Sampling 2 sites	WQ Sampling 2 sites
Sherman Brook	WQ Sampling 1 site	WQ Sampling 1 site	WQ Sampling 1 site
		Temp Study 1 site	
Shickasheen Brook	WQ Sampling 2 sites	WQ Sampling 2 sites	WQ Sampling 2 sites
Tucker Pond	Lake Sampling		
White Horn Brook	WQ Sampling 2 site	WQ Sampling 2 sites	WQ Sampling 2 sites
West Greenwich			
Acid Factory Brook		Temp Study 1 site	
Breakheart Brook		Temp Study 1 site	
Falls River	WQ Sampling 2 site	WQ Sampling 2site	WQ Sampling 2 site
		Temp Study 2sites	Temp Study 2 sites
Flat River		Temp Study 3 sites	Temp Study 4 sites
Kelly Brook		Temp Study 1 site	Temp Study 1 sites
Wood River		Temp Study 2 site	Temp Study 2 sites
Westerly			
Chapman Pond		Lake Sampling	Lake Sampling
Pawcatuck River	WQ Sampling 3 sites	WQ Sampling 3 sites	WQ Sampling 1 site
Mastuxet Brook		Temp Study 1 site	

### 2013-15 WPWA MONITORING AND STUDY SITES IN CT AND RI BY TOWN CONT.



# THRIVING NATIVE PLANTS AND ANIMALS BIODIVERSITY

Wild and Scenic Rivers Study - Thanks in large part to the work of our congressional delegation, Senators Reed (RI), Whitehouse (RI), Bluementhal (CT), and Murphy (CT); and Representatives Langevin (RI), Cecilline (RI), and Courtney (CT), Congress passed the Wood-Pawcatuck Watershed Protection Act. The Act requires that the National Parks Service (NPS) conduct a three year study to determine if the Wood, Chipuxet, Beaver, Queen, and Pawcatuck Rivers qualify for the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System. WPWA signed a Cooperative Agreement with NPS to be the study coordinators. A Study Committee has been formed with representatives from fourteen watershed towns, RI Department of Environmental Management, CT Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, The RI Nature Conservancy and Save The Bay. This committee will work to identify those Outstandingly Remarkable Values of the rivers that make them unique while at the same time developing a stewardship plan to protect the rivers. Some of the values to be examined will be wildlife, habitat, fisheries, botany, geology, and history.

White Rock Dam Removal - WPWA was a supporting partner with The Nature Conservancy to remove the dam at White Rock, between Stonington, CT and Westerly, RI. Collaboration was critical for this project which involved two state agencies, two towns, and several federal agencies. The dam came down in October, allowing the Pawcatuck to run free in that section for the first time since before the American Revolution.

**Upper Pawcatuck River Fish Passage Projects** - Thanks to the efforts of WPWA, and over fifteen partners, that began in 2003 with a feasibility study for fish passage on the upper Pawcatuck River, anadromous fish are making their way from the Atlantic Ocean to Worden's Pond for the first time in hundreds of years. First spotted in April of 2015 and seen again in 2016, river herring are entering age-old spawning grounds in the watershed. While fish are able to make their way up river there are still several obstacles that prevent the greatest number of fish from reaching spawning grounds. The focus for fish passage projects on the Pawcatuck will now turn towards the remaining dams, Potter Hill and Bradford; removing remnants of dams at Burdickville and Stillmanville; and the removing or renovating the USGS gaging weir at the Jay Cronan Fishing Access.

# HEALTHY SALTWATER ENVIRONMENT

### ESTUARY

The estuary is the receiving waters for all the surface water that drains from the Wood-Pawcatuck Watershed and it is stressed. The challenges faced by the estuary from climate change, sea level rise, and the impacts from storm water runoff and development are of great concern to WPWA. We continue to maintain strong partnership with the key organizations who's focus area is the estuary and provide whatever technical resources we can to support their efforts. But we feel that with the acceleration of sea level rise combined with the threat of more severe storms, these organizations could use even more assistance from WPWA. We will be positioning ourselves in 2016 to better support these organization and increase our capacity to engage directly with the threats that impact the quality of life for all the wildlife and people that rely on Little Narragansett Bay.

## HELPING PEOPLE CARE ABOUT THE WATERSHED

#### EDUCATION AND OUTREACH

**Education** – Fourteen area schools participated in twenty WPWA education programs, including full day field trips, fish sampling, and kayaking on the Wood River. Ages ranged from second graders to undergraduates from URI who came to learn about macroinvertebrate sampling. The schools were: Cole Middle School from East Greenwich, Curtis Corner Middle School from South Kingstown, Chariho ESY program, Chariho Middle School, Coventry High School, Wheeler School, Pawtucket Middle School, Calcutt Middle School and Ella Risk School from Woonsocket, Woonsocket Middle School, Greene High School, Compass School, Met School, and URI for a total of 675 kids and young adults.

As part of the RIEEA, WPWA took part in the RI Flower Show and New England Environmental Education Alliance conference. WPWA again gave workshops and judged the Aquatics section for the RI Envirothon.

**Programs –** WPWA offered a variety of programs for our members and the general public, including our first ever Wood River Ice Walk in February. Other programs included Winter Walk in the Great Swamp, Winter Tree Walk, Learn to Geocache, Vernal Pool Exploration, Map and Compass Workshop, Fly Tying and Fly Fishing lessons, a joint paddle with Audubon Society of RI to the Epply Wildlife Refuge, three Almost Full Moon Paddles, three Bioluminescent Paddles, and two Learn to Kayak Workshops. A total of 170 people took part in one or more programs.

**Welcome Center** - Due to several constraints the Welcome Center was not staffed during the summer as planned. However, it 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. Plans are underway to hire part time staff in 2016 so that WPWA members will be able to utilize kayaks and canoes on the weekends.

**Conferences** - In May Denise Poyer was invited by the EPA Urban Rivers Program to co-present at the National River Rally in New Mexico with Alicia Lehrer from the Woonasquatucket River Watershed Council. Denise and Alicia had collaborated on two-year EPA grant for the Urban Rivers Volunteer Fish Monitoring Program. Their efforts produced a sustainable method to assess fish populations in urban settings while engaging community members as citizen scientist.



Wood River Ice Walk, Feb. 7, 2015

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**Recognitions** - WPWA staff were recognized by the community for their outstanding work. Denise Poyer was awarded the 2015 RI Blueways Alliance Stewardship Award. According to her nominator, RI DEM Director Janet Coit, "Denise has made a tremendous impact over the past twenty year as the Program Director for the WPWA. With patience, passion and plain-spoken language, she brings alive the diversity and special qualities of the watershed." Denise also received the 2014 Lawson Cary Jr. Conservationist of the Year Award from the Narragansett Chapter of Trout Unlimited at their Annual Meeting held March 28, 2015. "Her outstanding work in conserving, protecting, restoring, and sustaining coldwater fisheries and their watersheds with cooperative, educational, and environmental activities throughout RI" was cited as the reason she was chosen to receive this award.

Elise Torello, who recently joined your WPWA family as Program Coordinator, received the 2015 URI Watershed Watch Watershed Stewards Award. Back in 2007 Elise compiled over 20 years of WPWA's water quality monitoring data into a database, producing reports that can be accessed online via a Google Map on the WPWA website. She then did the same for the Salt Ponds Coalition's (SPC's) almost 30 years of data. She has also been a frequent WPWA volunteer and has been a water quality monitor for SPC for eight years and counting.

#### **Committee and Board Affiliations**

RI Environmental Education Association Board Science mentor for GEMS-Net RI Envirothon Judge RI Rivers Council RI Trail Advisory Committee South Kingstown Planning Board Richmond Land Trust Board Westerly Environmental Education Literacy Council Wildlife Community Planning Council Land Trust Healthy Community Meeting

YMCA Camp Watchaug Committee



Queen River/Usquapaugh Pond

# Volunteers

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Samantha Migdail-Smith Sanford Neuschatz Glen Northup Gail & Robert Ornstein Gary Palmer Margaret Parsons Robert Petrocelli Nicholas Petrocelli Ed Poyer Brenda Rashleigh Cindy & Faith Richardson Michael Rinaldi Kevin Ryan James Sammons Dorothy Shackleton Anne Sheffield David Smith Loren Spears Becky Sprague Peter Stack Ryan Sullivan Mary Anne Sumner Anne Marie Tavares Mark Tucker Gary Whitney Nils Wiberg Amy Williams Virginia Wooten Tony Zaharie



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# **DONATED GOODS & SERVICES**

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Nils Wiberg Thomas Willett Virginia Wootten

#### LIFETIME MEMBERS

Danielle R. Aube Sarah H. Conyngham Barbara Cronan Christopher J. Fox Heather Hamilton Peter and Kay Lisle James and Frances Mancini Brian and Kathy McCuin Hatsy H. Moore Maurice V. Orlando Denise and Ed Poyer John C. Quinn Family Carl and Susan Rosen Geoffrey and Susan Sewall Lori Urso and Marty Richards Joseph R. Zegarzewski

# MAJOR GRANTS AND GIFTS

### BY FOUNDATIONS AND GOVERNMENT AGENCIES

#### JAY CRONAN RIVER ACCESS RENOVATION:

\$10,000 Kimball Foundation

#### CAMPUS RENOVATION AND EQUIPMENT:

\$32,186 Champlin Foundations

#### Wood & Pawcatuck Rivers Flood Resiliency and Watershed Management Plan:

\$346,130 The National Fish & Wildlife Federation via Sandy Relief: US Dept. of Interior, US Fish & Wildlife Service

#### WILD AND SCENIC RIVERS STUDY

\$10,000 National Parks Service

#### WATER QUALITY MONITORING:

\$1,000 Rhode Island Senate Grant\$2,200 RI Rivers Council

#### VARIOUS PROGRAMS:

\$75,000 Forrest & Frances Lattner Foundation

\$2,808 RI Trail Advisory Committee River Maintenance

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

#### LEADERSHIP GIVING (\$1000 & above)

Conyngham Foundation Agency Linda and Ed Wood

#### MAJOR DONORS (\$500 to \$999)

Laura and Michael Bottaro Richard and Ardis Holliday Ashaway Charitable Trust Dean and Lisa Audet Antonia and Thomas Bryson Walter and Hollie Galloway Malcolm and Marilyn Grant Richard Quinn and Mindy Merrell

#### 1983 FOUNDER'S SOCIETY (\$250 to \$499)

Alan and Charlene Desbonnet Donna P. Walsh David and Geraldine Cunningham Tom and Suzanne Ferrio Peter and Marnie Lacouture Thomas Malone and Lynne Randall Kenneth Payne and Helen Drew Kenneth Payne and Helen Drew Ray and Dara Amore David and Carolyn Moultrop Stonington Garden Club James and Mary Boyer Alyson McCann and Jake O'Neil Susan R. Rittling Ana Flores and Gabriel Warren Peter and Lynn August

#### TRUSTEES' CIRCLE (\$100 to \$249)

Manfred Armbruster Paul and Jane Blakeslee Kim M. Coulter Steven J. Crandall Ellen & David Dodge Tom and Suzanne Ferrio Joseph and Marie Fox Christopher J. Fox Polly and Dr. R. Bruce Gillie Robert B. Hertling Jr. John and Carol Howland Dante and Angela Ionata Helen A. Jankoski Madeline Jeffery Harold and Gaytha Langlois William J. Meyer North Stonington Citizens Land Alliance Noel Rowe Robert and Elizabeth Schiedler Susan Shaw and John Buscaglia Richard E. Slimak Burton H. Strom South County Carpentry, LLC Tom and Bertha Tetzner Elise Torello Thomas W. Twyman United Builders Supply Co., Inc. William J. Wilbur Robert and Patricia Yarnall

#### WATERSHED CLUB (\$50 to \$99)

Alan H. Banister Steven Miller & Sally Benbasset Edward L. Blamires Robert T. Bolton Kristen and Don Chambers Fran and Joel Cohen Patricia C. Cook Henry and Martha Cruciani Annelee Desjarlais and Bobby Holcomb Gordon Doe and Virginia Ellis Robert Ellis and Kathy Margerison Roseann B. Evans Warren Fitzpatrick and Christine Kelly Gerard and Kathryn Grande

Rick Hall and Belinda Nattress Mabel S. Hempstead Georg and Frances Hinteregger Duncan and Jeanne Hunter Evan and Catherine Jones Patricia Kennedy Diane and Charles Laderoute Thomas and Susan Lloyd Douglas and Joan MacPherson James and Frances Mancini Alfonse V. Manfredi Roger and Lynn Nadeau Sanford Neuschatz Glen Northup James and Joan O'Brien Gus Pagel Gus Pagel Suzanne and Peter Paton Sandra M. Poirier Kelly and Frederick Presley James and Vivian Quinn Jim & Pam Rubovits Deborah Salomon & Donald Davanzo Henry and Peggy Sharpe Peter and Lee Stepanishen Nancy R. Weissmuller Michael White and Jane Desforges Becky Sprague and Tony Zaharie

# STREAM OF FRIENDS (Up to \$49)

Thomas A. Palombo Nancy A. Potter Nina Rooks Cast Marilyn J. Malina William J. Meyer Donald J. Packer Esq. Robert P. Palmer Anna F. Prager Kristine and Everett A. Stuart Richard W. Benson Leila M. Connolly

### FUND DRIVE GIFTS CONTINUED

William Hahn William E. Knapp Michael Migdail-Smith Richard W. Nagle Jr. Richard Pearce David and Anita Pugh Paul F. Singer Elizabeth B. Walsh Betty L. Connors Charlotte and Arthur M. Cottrell III Ann Crawford Joseph L. Czerwinski Jr. Mary Anne and Jack Sumner Gloria M. Courtois John and Emily Miller

#### WATER QUALITY ASSESSMENT PROJECT

- Manfred Armbruster Peter and Lynn August Robert and Eileen Bohler Kraig Conrad and Kevin Prohaska Marc and Helen Davis Alan and Charlene Desbonnet Frank DiZoglio Caleb and Meghan Grant Howland and Linda Green Richard and Ardis Holliday Dante and Angela Ionata Jennifer Mackenzie
- Suzanne and Peter Paton David Smith James G. Turek Fred N. Vocatura Nancy R. Weissmuller

#### **IN MEMORY**

Mitch and Betty Salomon Endowment: Margit Conopask & Jeffrey Bluestein Judith Salomon and Jerome Weiss

Wincheck Pond Property Owners & Taxpayers Association



Wood-Pawcatuck Watershed Wood-Pawcatuck Watershed Association 2016 water quality monitoring sites chosen as a result of the Water Quality Assessment Project.

## **PARTNER AGENCIES AND ORGANIZATIONS**

Appalachian Mountain Club Aquatic Resource Education Center (RIDEM) American Rivers Chariho Middle School CT Dept. of Energy & Environmental Protection Coventry High School Curtis Corner Middle School (SK) Gateway Health Center, Youth Programs HopArts Hopkinton Conservation Commission Hopkinton Land Trust Kenyon Industries Kenyon Grist Mill MA Dept. of Environmental Protection Narragansett Bay Estuary Program Narrow River Preservation Association 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** Envirothon Competition RI Land and Water Partnership 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 Sea Grant **Richmond Conservation Commission** 

Richmond Rural Preservation Land Trust Roger Williams Park Zoo **RYSE School** 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 2015 FINANCIAL REPORT**

Dear WPWA Members,

The 2015 end-of-year financial reconciliation has been completed and is presented on the following page. With a total operating budget of just over \$550,000 we were right on target with income and expenses. The \$137,000 in net income represents grant funds received in 2015 but expenses will not be incurred until 2016. Again, our Executive Director, Chris Fox and his staff cut expenses at every available opportunity, as is evident in our operational expenses. Furthermore, they were very successful in securing tens of thousands of grant dollars for the program.

The major challenge during 2015 continued to be the funding of water quality monitoring at a cost of \$12,000. In response to that, an assessment of sites being monitored was undertaken by a water quality monitoring committee headed up by Walt Galloway. In this assessment, the committee ranked each site into three different groups of importance. It was decided by the board that the top two tiers would be monitored going forward. The fund development committee continues to seek out funding sources for this very important initiative.

Other challenges include a transition from large river restoration projects to higher level watershed-wide planning efforts. While both types of projects and the associated grants provide hundreds of thousands of dollars, little of that money is retained by WPWA for operating costs. Therefore, WPWA continues to focus on fund development through increased efforts to obtain more donations and increased membership. The staff are developing new membership packages and marketing materials to attract larger donations.

Kristy Armstrong, WPWAs Controller for over 5 years continues to be an invaluable asset. She works tirelessly to track and minimize expenses, keep us in line with auditor recommendations and most importantly, keep the Executive Director and the Board apprised of WPWA's financial position each month.

Sincerely,

Rom V angento

Peter August Treasurer

## 2015 FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Wood-Pawcatuck Watershed Association
2015 Financial Report

	Jan - Dec 15	Budget
Ordinary Income/Expense		
Income Donations	37,399	32,000
Fiscal Agency Fees	317	250
Gain (Loss) on Securities Grants	2,363 596,266	129,850
Interest & Dividends	11,668	10,400
Investment/Endowment Revenue Membership Dues	11 28,722	22,000
Miscellaneous	1	
Program Fees	12,646	13,025
Sales	994	760
Special Project Revenues	4,496	28,000
PY Adjustments	7,972	
Total Income	702,852	236,285
Cost of Goods Sold Add Beginning Inventory Less Ending Inventory Shipping	5,724 -4,689 4	
Total COGS	1,039	
Gross Profit	701,813	236,285
Expense Administration	52,352	53,886
Board of Trustees	452	700
Endowment Management Fee	0	1,000

### 2015 FINANCIAL STATEMENT

#### CONTINUED

#### Wood-Pawcatuck Watershed Association 2015 Financial Report

	Jan - Dec 15	Budget
Educational Programs	1,872	4,515
Fund Raising	1,417	500
Grant Expenses	391,593	12,300
Membership & Volunteers	1,608	1,100
Outreach Expenses	0	300
Payroll & Benefits	108,836	147,687
Recreational Programs	454	1,800
Scientific Monitoring	0	9,000
Special Projects Expenses	770	
Total Expense	559,354	232,788
Net Ordinary Income	142,459	3,497
Other Income/Expense		
Other Income Other Income	380	
Unrealized gains and losses	11,834	
Unrealized Gain/Loss on Securities	-28,025	
Total Other Income	-15,812	
Other Expense		
Less Fixed Asset Costs	-11,100	
Withholding Taxes	10	
In-Kind Donations	360	
Foreign Tax	28	100
Total Other Expense	-10,701	100
Net Other Income	-5,110	-100
Net Income	137,348	3,397