



**WOONASQUATUCKET RIVER
 WATERSHED COUNCIL**

August 6, 2015

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

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

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

- Our goal was to bring walkers, bikers and paddlers of all ages to the Woonasquatucket River, its greenway and its other water bodies through fun recreational opportunities. Our goal was to hold at least five paddles, ten bike rides and at least two Greenway walks. We also strive to incorporate education into our recreation. Our paddlers, walkers and bikers also learn about the Woonasquatucket's history, habitat and restoration. At least 200 people will participate in these programs in 2015.

- 1. Publicize at least 5 paddles open to the public** – the WRWC is currently publicizing our paddle program. We planned and publicized the paddles listed below through posters, email blasts and press releases (see attached poster):

Date	Time	Recreation Venue	Historian
6/12/2015	5:30	Downtown, Pre-Industrial & Industrial History	Erik Eckilson, trip leader with the Blackstone Valley Paddle Club, and volunteer at the Museum of Work & Culture in Woonsocket
6/24/2015	5:30	Georgiaville Pond & Smith-Appleby House Tour	Michael Korba, Smith-Appleby Docent
7/10/2015	5:30	Downtown, Native American History and Archaeology	Jay Waller, Senior Archaeologist, Public Archeology Lab
7/15/2015	6:00	Greystone Mill Pond, Greystone Mill and Village	Louis McGowan, President, Johnston Historical Society
7/18/2015	9:30	BIKE TOUR: Downtown, Brown & Sharp and Mill Worker Recreation	Sarah Zurier, Historian, Rhode Island Historical Preservation and Heritage Commission
7/19/2015	11:00	Stump Pond, Stillwater Reservoir History	Charlotte Taylor, Archaeologist, Rhode Island Historical Preservation Commission, Smithfield Resident

7/26/2015	11:00	Capron Grist Mill, Water Wheel Technology Advancement	Georges Bockstael, US Coast Guard, Bockstael Environmental Consultant, previous US Environmental Protection Agency Marine Biologist
8/2/2015	10:00	Stump Pond, Mowry Conservation Land & Post Industrial Restoration	Gregory Sankey Jr., Community Development, Revive the Roots
8/15/2015	5:30	Georgiaville Pond, walking tour of Georgiaville Mill Village	Don Burns, President of Smithfield Historical Society, member Smithfield Conservation Committee and Board Member of the WRWC
8/26/2015	5:30	Downtown, Rick Greenwood Memorial, Big Industry Downtown & Locomotive Works	Sarah Zurier, Historian, Rhode Island Historical Preservation and Heritage Commission
9/6/2015	5:30	Downtown, Post Industrial River Restoration, Paddle with the WRWC Board	Board Members and Alicia Lehrer, Executive Director, Woonasquatucket River Watershed Council

2. Host one annual spring bird walk on the Greenway. April/May 2015.

We held our annual Paul McElroy Memorial Bird Walk on May 30, 2015. 34 participants joined the walk.

3. Publicize and recruit youth to participate in our Red Shed Bike Camp.

We publicized the Red Shed Bike Camp through email blasts, our website, in Providence Monthly and on banners located at three active Providence public parks. We also placed 500 posters and flyers on bike camp throughout Providence. By June 30, 2015, we had registered 23 campers paying full-price and 32 campers that took advantage of our scholarship program.

4. Publicize and organize the 6th Annual Woony River Ride, a Bike-a-Thon throughout the Woonasquatucket Watershed. September 19, 2015.

The WRWC has been publicizing the Woony Ride through press releases, ads, email blasts, on our website, posters, business cards, and other printed materials. The committee has been meeting several times/month, split into organizational teams and is well set to hold the Woony Ride as planned.

Goal 2: Promote Stewardship through Monitoring the Woonasquatucket River

- Our goal was to engage at least 20 volunteers to participate in monitoring the water quality of the Woonasquatucket River and/or counting the migratory fish that return to the river to spawn via our fish ladders and/or surveying the Woonasquatucket's fish community at two locations.

1. Recruit and train volunteers, and carry out a water quality monitoring program from April through October for each of three Watershed Watch monitoring locations.

Watershed Watch trained our team of 8 volunteers to monitor our three locations. This team is led by a monitoring team coordinator.

2. Recruit and train volunteers, and carry out a program to monitor migratory fish passage from March through May.

Twenty four volunteers participated in our migratory fish passage monitoring program in 2015. This team was led by a volunteer and board member John Hake. Final results of the 2015 fish count as compared with previous years are as follows:

2015 Count: 20,448

2014 Count: 39,518

2013 Count: 12,336

2012 Count: 9,264

2011 Count: 7,269

3. Recruit volunteers for fish community. As this activity will take place in late July or August, we will report only on volunteer recruitment.

The WRWC recruited 15 volunteers to assess the Woonasquatucket's fish community in 2015.

Budget: Of the \$2,200 budget allocated to us through the Rivers Council, we have expended all. \$700 went to our paddle trip leader for planning and \$500 was expended on paddle supplies. The \$1,000 allocated for monitoring fees to Watershed Watch was paid.

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Alicia J. Lehrer".

Alicia J. Lehrer
Executive Director



WOONASQUATUCKET RIVER
WATERSHED COUNCIL

Sponsored by:



Blackstone
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WRWC.ORG



PADDLE INTO THE PAST

- Join a Historian on the Water -



Explore the Woonasquatucket River from the water! Join us and a historian on our paddles in the Woonasquatucket River watershed this summer!

We have canoes and kayaks, paddles & life jackets, or please do bring your own boat. Children are welcome as long as they are accompanied by an adult.

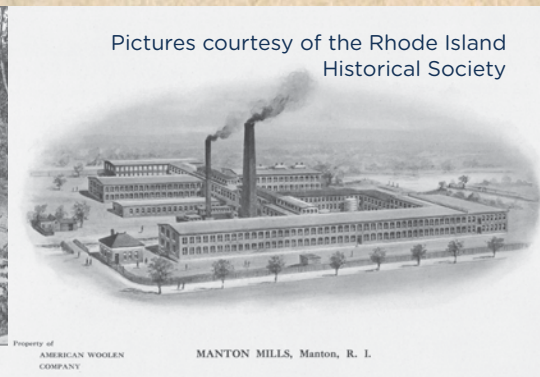
Contact Erik at the Watershed Council at etalley@wrwc.org or (401) 481-1376 to register & for more details. Advance sign-up is required.



Greystone Club House, Greystone, R.I.



MERINO PARK ON A SUMMER DAY



Pictures courtesy of the Rhode Island Historical Society

Property of AMERICAN WOOLEN COMPANY

MANTON MILLS, Manton, R. I.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

JUNE

- FRI., JUNE 12, 5:30PM: Lower River, Pre-Industrial and Industrial History
- WED., JUNE 24, 5PM: Georgiaville Pond, Smith-Appleby House Tour

JULY

- FRI., JULY 10, 5:30PM: Downtown, Native American History & Archaeology
- WED., JULY 15, 6PM: Greystone Mill Pond, Greystone Mill & Village Discussion
- **BIKE TOUR:** SAT., JULY 18, 9:30AM: Downtown Brown & Sharp and Mill Worker Recreation
- SUN., JULY 19, 11AM: Stump Pond, History of Stillwater Reservoir
- SUN., JULY 26: Capron Grist Mill, Water Wheel Technology Advancement

AUG.

- SUN., AUG. 2, 10AM: Stump Pond, Mowry Conservation Land & Post Industrial Restoration
- SAT., AUG. 15, 5:30PM: Georgiaville Pond, Walking Tour of Georgiaville Mill Village
- WEDS., AUG 26, 5:30PM: Downtown, Rick Greenwood Memorial, Big Industry Downtown & Locomotive Works

SEPT.

- SUN., SEPT. 6, 5:30PM: Downtown, Post Industrial River Restoration, Paddle with the WRWC Board



WOONASQUATUCKET RIVER
WATERSHED COUNCIL

WRWC.ORG



WOONY RIVER RIDE

Supports expansion of the Greenway & youth programs

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2015



Supported Ride • Food • Live Music • After Party with Local Beer
5MI • 10 MI • 30 MI • 40 MI • 62-MILE (METRIC CENTURY)

REGISTER: WOONYRIDE.ORG



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