



Farmington River Coordinating Committee

2008 FRCC Members

Barkhamsted

Jean Miller
Mario Santoro, alt.

Canton

Alis Ohlheiser
Terri Tracy, alt.

Colebrook

Tom Stanton
Edna Travis, alt.

Hartland

Fred Jones
Nicki Hall, alt.
Sam Slater, alt.

New Hartford

Pat Keener
Mark Lindquist, alt.

CT Department of Environmental Protection

Susan Peterson
MaryAnn Nusom
Haverstock, alt.

Farmington River Anglers Association

Dick Reynolds
Dan Busa, alt.

Farmington River Watershed Association

David Sinish
Eileen Fielding, alt.

Metropolitan District Commission

Tim Anthony
Carol Youell, alt.

National Park Service

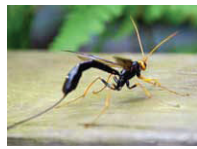
Jamie Fosburgh
Liz Lacy, alt.

Annual Report 2008

Greetings from Squire's Tavern, the home of the Farmington River Coordinating Committee and the Barkhamsted Historical Society...

If you have not visited this beautiful old tavern which is being restored by the historical society, please drop in on Monday, Tuesday, or Wednesday morning or a Sunday afternoon. FRCC is proud to have its headquarters in this historic building and to be able to help fund the ongoing restoration project. Historic significance is one of the values which was important to the Wild and Scenic designation of the upper Farmington River.

During 2008 FRCC continued to develop and fund projects that were important to the protection of the Farmington and were consistent with the Upper Farmington River Management Plan and the river's W&S designation values.



Utilizing the expertise of one of our members - Farmington River Watershed Association (FRWA) - FRCC has continued the identification of vernal pools in Canton and upper watershed water quality monitoring efforts. Also, in cooperation with the DEP, an inventory of macro-invertebrate (bugs!) is being conducted. This inventory will give us a strong indicator of the health of the river.

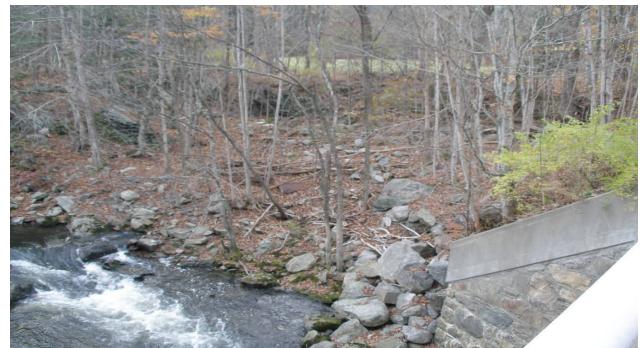
Jeff Bolton, FRWA's GIS staff expert, is conducting an analysis of the land use changes along the Wild and Scenic corridor since the designation in 1994.

FRCC and the MDC held a workshop for foresters and other land managers of forested lands on the importance of properly replacing road crossings, such as culverts and bridges, on rural and forest roads. The session was well attended, and the participants felt that the content was informative and important.

One of the valuable contributions to the FRCC communities is our grants program. Funds are available to any organization in the corridor towns for projects that are related to the Farmington River and that enhance the Wild and Scenic values. An explanation of the grants program is available on our web site, www.FarmingtonRiver.org.

In 2008 the following FRCC grants were awarded:

- Camp Jewel in Colebrook for watershed education in the after school program;
- Farmington River Angler's Association for revising and publishing its *Guide to Fishing the Farmington River*;
- Roaring Brook Nature Center for presenting its 'Keeping Water Clean' Program to the Canton Intermediate School;
- Barkhamsted Historical Society for continued archeological study at the Richard Smith forge site in Colebrook.



Two years ago our committee established the Nancy Johnson scholarship which is presented to a student from one of the Wild and Scenic corridor towns who wishes to study environmental related subjects. (The information about the scholarship can be found on our web site.) The 2008 scholarship was awarded to Lynn Bartolucci who is studying Natural Resources at Northwestern Connecticut Community College.



I have referred to our web site several times as a source of information about FRCC and our programs. The web site has been redesigned this year and is more user friendly and attractive. Please visit the web site to learn more about FRCC and its role in your community. To repeat, FarmingtonRiver.org.

FRCC has had some membership changes at the end of 2008. Dick Reynolds, who was instrumental in adding the Farmington River Anglers Association to the committee and was the FRAA representative has left and Rich Strolis and Tom Karpeichik are now representing the anglers. I am the other membership change. My term as chair was up in December 2008, and I have "retired" as the New Hartford representative. Tom Stanton from Colebrook is the new chair, and Alison Murdock is the New Hartford representative. FRCC is fortunate to have such hard-working and dedicated volunteers.

It has been a privilege and pleasure to serve as the New Hartford representative since the very beginning of FRCC. I will miss the friends and colleagues, but it will be nice to relax on my back deck on the river and appreciate the continued efforts of the FRCC.



Pat Keener
2008 FRCC Chair, New Hartford Representative
Farmington River Coordinating Committee



The "filtered view" of Pat's back deck and house from the river. Photo: Kevin Case

The Farmington River Coordinating Committee was established by the U.S. Congress to oversee and coordinate activities on the 14-mile federally designated Wild and Scenic section of the upper Farmington River. Each year the FRCC receives funding from Congress to fulfill its mandate. The Upper Farmington River Management Plan guides the actions of the Committee — and others who have an interest in stewardship of the river.

The Upper Farmington River Management Plan can be read at www.FarmingtonRiver.org

ACCOMPLISHMENTS 2008

Outreach and Education

Nancy Johnson Scholarship— A scholarship was awarded to Lynn Bartolucci of Barkhamsted who is studying in the Natural Resources program at Northwestern Connecticut Community College. A new scholarship was established in honor of Pat Keener.

FRCC Open House and W&S Art Exhibit — The 3rd FRCC Annual Open House and W&S Art Exhibit was a great success. Our favorite local band, *Traveling Trout* of Barkhamsted Land Trust, serenaded us again. There were 32 pieces of art—by 17 local artists or photographers. Join us again next year!

FRCC Newsletter — FRCC produced and distributed two newsletters to more than 400 riverfront landowners, town officials and organizations.

FRCC Website — FRCC updated and improved its website to make it more user-friendly and informative. Please visit—www.FarmingtonRiver.org

Resource Stewardship

Stream Crossing Workshop for Foresters and Land Managers — FRCC and MDC collaborated on a workshop for foresters and land managers that either install or repair roads over streams in wooded areas. Don Mysling of CT DEP Inland Fisheries and Jim MacCartney, a river restoration specialist with Trout Unlimited and the National Park Service, provided detailed presentations.

Land-Use Change Study —FRCC contracted with Jeff Bolton of FRWA to analyze the changes in land use within the watershed of the 14-mile W&S stretch since the river was designated.

Macroinvertebrate Study — FRCC is supporting an unusually detailed study of stream insect samples, to determine whether the insect community shows signs of pollution effects. The FRWA and DEP continued work on this study in 2008 and contributed to the support of the project. Results are expected in 2009.

Water Quality Monitoring — Upper Farmington River WQM continues, thanks to Alisa Phillips- Griggs at FRWA and the support of MDC. In 2008, the upper Farmington's mainstream water quality was generally high. Sections of the Mad River, Still River, and Morgan Brook showed elevated bacterial levels that are most likely connected with polluted stormwater runoff. These stretches were put on the 2008 CT Impaired Waters List and we will track their status in 2009.

Vernal Pools in Canton — More work was conducted by FRWA to identify vernal pools in Canton. The final stages of this project will take place in 2009.

The MDC and Farmington River Coordinating Committee present...

A workshop for foresters, landowners, land trusts, and others who manage roads on forest lands.

Forest Road Stream Crossings Workshop

Monday, June 9th, 2008
10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The workshop will be held at the Barkhamsted Senior Center on West River Rd in Pleasant Valley. Morning refreshments and lunch will be provided. There are limited places available—first come first served.

This workshop is approved for 1.0 Connecticut DEP Commercial Forest Practitioner CEU.

This workshop will cover the following topics:

- Context of stream crossings in a watershed;
- Habitat issues with stream crossings;
- Types of crossings that are most beneficial to habitat and riparian systems;
- How to correctly site a culvert;
- Some natural channel approaches to restoring a site and stabilizing banks after a culvert is installed;

And—

- An on-site demonstration project will be planned for later in the summer for attendees to take part in for a hands-on experience.

Please RSVP:
Lisa Wallace, 860-379-0916 x3120 or lw@ctmcdc.com

MDC

Grants Awarded in 2008

Camp Jewell in Colebrook—for watershed education in the after-school program.

Farmington River Angler's Association— for revising and publishing its *Guide to Fishing the Farmington River*.

Roaring Brook Nature Center in Canton—for presenting the 'Keeping Water Clean' Program in the Canton Intermediate School.

Barkhamsted Historical Society—for continued archeological study by Marc Banks and volunteers at Richard Smith forge site in Colebrook.





100 East River Road
P.O. Box 395
Pleasant Valley, CT 06063

Phone: 860-379-0282
Fax: 860-738-1092

E-mail: Liz_Lacy@nps.gov

Annual Report 2008 — Overview of Expenditures

Outreach and Education

Newsletters, Kiosks, Website	\$4,480
Open House	107
Nancy L Johnson Scholarship	1,000
Memorial Bench	<u>773</u>
Subtotal	\$6,603

Resource Stewardship

Vernal Pools Study	\$2,000
Water Quality Monitoring	7,500
Macro-invertebrate Study	4,000
Stream Crossings Workshop	378
Land Trust Support	150
Corridor Land Use Change Analysis	1,015
Flushing Flows Study	<u>2,184</u>
Subtotal	\$17,227

Grants Program

Fishing Guide Revisions— Farmington River Anglers Association	\$3,750
Start Up Funds—Hartland Land Trust	213
Trout in the Classroom—Trout Unlimited	770
R. Smith Site Archeology Study— Barkhamsted Historical Society	5,641
Keeping Water Clean School Prog. —Roaring Brook Nature Center	<u>475</u>
Subtotal	\$10,850

Operations

Operating and Office Costs	\$6,162
Organizational Development	<u>729</u>
Subtotal	\$6,891
TOTAL	\$41,571

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**2008 Leveraging**

|                            |                 |
|----------------------------|-----------------|
| Total Volunteer Hours: 950 |                 |
| Translated to dollars..... | <b>\$18,100</b> |

**Previews of 2009**

- **Continued Upper Farmington River Corridor Land Use Study**
- **Invasive Plant Management Plan Development**
- **River Users Etiquette Information**



www.FarmingtonRiver.org