



Farmington River Coordinating Committee

2013 FRCC Members

Barkhamsted

Mario Santoro
Roger Behrens, alt.

Canton

vacant
Cherie Robinson, alt.

Colebrook

Ross Delaney
Edna Travis, alt.

Hartland

Dan Bowler
Nicki Hall, alt.

New Hartford

Alison Murdock
Mark Lindquist, alt.

CT Department of Energy & Environmental Protection (DEEP)

Susan Peterson
MaryAnn Nusom Haverstock, alt.

Farmington River Anglers Association (FRAA)

Nick Masi
Scott Démoncada, alt.
Paul Pinette, alt.

Farmington River Watershed Association (FRWA)

David Sinich
Eileen Fielding, alt.

Metropolitan District Commission (MDC)

Tim Anthony
Carol Youell, alt.

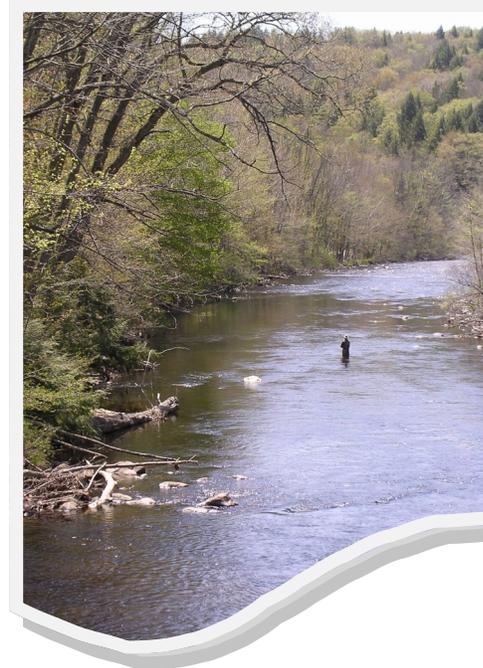
National Park Service (NPS)

Liz Lacy
Jamie Fosburgh, alt.

Annual Report 2013

Greetings:

Again this year, the FRCC has been successful in fulfilling its mission to promote long-term protection of the Upper Farmington Wild and Scenic River. The committee brings together people with a variety of knowledge and a shared love for this outstanding area. Comprised of volunteer representatives from the five-riverfront towns of Barkhamsted, Canton, Colebrook, Hartland and New Hartford, as well as representatives from the CT DEEP, Farmington River Watershed Association, Metropolitan District Commission, National Parks Service and the Farmington River Anglers Association, the committee meets on a regular basis to ensure the implementation of the Upper Farmington River Management Plan, advocate and educate for river quality, and resolve issues by coordinating and maintaining cooperation between the towns and various river stakeholders.



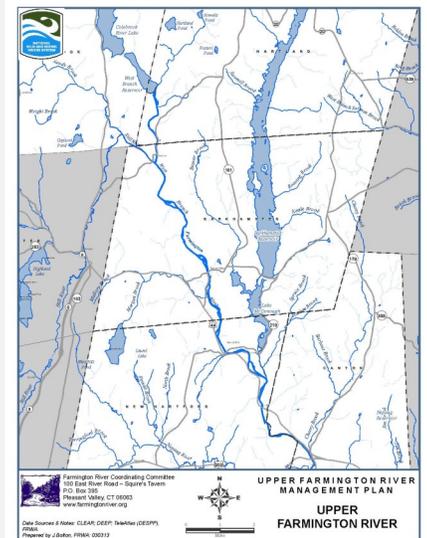
In this annual report, please find information about our many endeavors and accomplishments. We also invite you to visit our informative website at, www.farmingtonriver.org. Here you may read our newly revised **Upper Farmington River Management Plan**. The plan is not a set of regulations but rather a stewardship guidance document approved by Congress and required for the upper Farmington to be included in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers system. The FRCC follows its guidelines and recommendations. The plan is a resource rich with maps and information about the wild and scenic corridor.

Looking ahead, a significant challenge will be to manage the environmental impact on the river due to increased recreational use. In this report, you will read about our efforts to implement an effective “No Glass – No Trash” initiative.

For anyone with an eye for nature and even those without, the Farmington River continues to sustain and delight us. It adds beauty and vitality to our towns as well as economic well-being. A treasure like this needs to be appreciated and protected. We are fortunate to be able to play a small part in guaranteeing that this wonderful river will remain *wild and scenic* for generations to come. We encourage you to share your thoughts and ideas with us and wish you continued enjoyment of this special area.

Roger Behrens

FRCC Chairman, Barkhamsted



Map produced by Jeff Bolton, FRWA



ACCOMPLISHMENTS 2013

Education and Outreach

Keener and Johnson Scholarships— The 2013 Pat Keener scholarship was awarded to Bianca Beland of Barkhamsted who graduated from Northwest Regional 7 and is attending the University of Maine at Orono pursuing a degree in Forestry and Wildlife Ecology. The 2013 Nancy Johnson scholarship was awarded to Nicole Cloud who is attending Montana State University majoring in Fish & Wildlife Ecology and Management.



FRCC Open House and W&S

Art Exhibit — The 9th FRCC Annual Open House and W&S Art Exhibit was a great success in 2013. Music again from our local band Travelin' Trout, wonderful art from many talented local artists—it was great fun to connect with so many friends and partners.

FRCC Newsletter — FRCC produced and distributed several E-newsletters to our email list including interested citizens, riverfront landowners, town officials and organizations. Our list continues to grow—please add your name!

FRCC Website — Our website continues to evolve and improve every year. In 2013, we added a committee members only page to share documents and information amongst FRCC committee representatives.



River Stewardship Project— FRCC continues to try new ways to engage the public in efforts to end trash and sometimes inhospitable behavior on the river. This year's "No Glass, No Trash" campaign was successful in many ways—thanks to our campaign's logo (at right).

Outreach to Local Land Trusts— FRCC continued offering grants for land protection assistance and nurtured communication efforts with local land trusts.

Outreach to Local Boards, Organizations, and Schools— FRCC members continue to meet with other groups and share information. One of our favorite outreach activities is the Barkhamsted 4th of July Parade!

Junior River Ranger Program—FRCC published a new version of its Junior River Ranger booklet which highlights special places along the Farmington W&S River. Now kids and their families can explore and learn about the river using this booklet and receive a badge and certificate when done! Please visit our website or call to request a copy of the booklet.

Informational Kiosks— On-going maintenance of our eight informational kiosks continues with FRCC reps monitoring each location.



The Farmington River Coordinating Committee was established by the U.S. Congress to oversee and coordinate activities on the 14-mile federally designated Wild & 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 W&S River designation extends from just below the Goodwin (Hogsback) Dam in Hartland to the New Hartford-Canton town line.

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

ACCOMPLISHMENTS 2013

Resource Stewardship

Invasive Plant Management—FRCC remains committed to battling non-native invasive plants along the river corridor. These invaders change the habitat values along the river—which can eventually alter the river environment itself. Our consulting botanist/biologist Betsy Corrigan and several interns continued to work on monitoring and eradication of species that are just appearing in our region.

Still River Watershed Assessment—Because the Still River still shows many pollutants that are reaching the West Branch Farmington, FRCC continued work with FRWA and the NW Conservation District to locate sources of the pollutants. A simultaneous effort is underway to find businesses and property owners willing to install improved stormwater management methods.



Goats still play an important role in the removal of unwanted plants.



The Still River parcel in Winsted. Photo: Shelley Harms, WLT

Land Protection—FRCC provided a grant to the Winchester Land Trust for associated costs in protecting a parcel of land on the Still River in Winsted. It is an oasis for wildlife within the urban village.

Mapping Project—Jeff Bolton of FRWA created many detailed maps to accompany the updated Upper Farmington River Management Plan. These maps provide visual geographic information that was not included in the original version of the plan.

Water Quality Monitoring — Upper Farmington River WQM continues, thanks to Alisa Phillips-Griggs at FRWA and the support of MDC. In 2013, the upper Farmington's mainstream water quality was generally high. There remain concerns about stormwater runoff into the Still River and silting that recurs in Sandy Brook—these are two important tributaries to the Farmington.

Other Notable Accomplishments and Actions—

- FRCC completed the update to the **Upper Farmington River Management Plan**. Please visit our website to view it—or request a copy from our office.
- FRCC joined the **Sandy Brook Conservation Corridor Coalition**. The growing group of organizations has formed to protect the Sandy Brook watershed - a major tributary area to the Farmington River. For more information please visit the website: <http://sandybrookhome.blogspot.com/>
- **FRCC Interns**—FRCC received assistance from several talented interns throughout the year—Serena DiPilato helped with the River Stewardship project; Peter LeDuc (also a past FRCC scholarship recipient) worked on the invasives eradication project; Carl Favata served as our communications and outreach specialist.



Annual Report 2013 — Overview of Expenditures

Outreach and Education

Newsletters, Kiosks, Website	1,506.00
Keener and Johnson Scholarships and Interns	8,970.00
River Stewardship Project	709.00
Open House	335.00
Junior River Rangers	<u>2,600.00</u>
Subtotal	\$14,120.00

Resource Stewardship

Water Quality Monitoring	20,000.00
Still River Watershed Assessment	500.00
Invasive Plant Management	20,344.00
Land Protection - Winchester Land Trust—Associated Costs Still River Property	<u>2,400.00</u>
Subtotal	\$43,244.00

Grants Program

Canton Land Trust—Watershed Trail Signage	<u>220.00</u>
Subtotal	220.00

Operations

Operating and Office Costs	<u>6,995.00</u>
Subtotal	<u>\$6,995.00</u>

TOTAL **\$64,579.00**

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#### 2013 Leveraging

Total Volunteer Hours: 825

Translated to dollars.....\$16,500.00

[www.FarmingtonRiver.org](http://www.FarmingtonRiver.org)



**HELP! HOW DO I STOP INVASIVE PLANTS?**