

Celebrating Forty Years of Being The Voice For The Rivers

A HISTORY OF THE NORTH AND SOUTH RIVERS WATERSHED

1970

1970: NSRWA Founded



1976-78: North River Scenic Protective Order passed, establishing the North River Commission

1977: The North and South Rivers designated a National Natural Landmark

1980

1987: Monitoring discharges at the Scituate Treatment plant begins

1988: First River Cleanup Day

1988: First staff hired and office established

1988: The North and South River shellfish beds are closed due to pollution



1989: Lawsuit against the town of Scituate for illegal discharges from the wastewater treatment plant initiated

1990

1990: First study to locate stormwater pollution on the North River and implement strategies to fix them

1990: River-Watch Volunteer Monitoring program started

1991: Harvest 95 Campaign launched to restore shellfishing on the North River

1993: Pollution monitoring on South River begins

1993: Launch the Indian Head Greenway Project to provide public access in Hanover

1994: Scituate ordered to bring its treatment plant into compliance

1994: Install stormwater treatment system at Riverside Circle

1994: Adopt a Fishway program begins



1995: Begin monitoring the construction plans for the Greenbush Train line by the MBTA



1995: Provide public outreach for the Superfund Cleanup of hazardous waste at the South Weymouth Naval Air Station

1996: North River Shellfish Beds opened for one month - December



1997: Donovan property in Norwell, Fleetwood and Willowbrook Farms in Pembroke saved

1997: The South River Initiative begins with water quality monitoring, identification of lands along the South River in need of protection, and education about the South River

2000

2000: First Herring Brook Initiative launched

2000: Macro-invertebrates survey in the North River watershed completed

2000: Passage of Sewer in Marshfield and reducing the impact of failing septic systems on the South River



2000: River Adventures Camp begins

2001: Community Preservation passed in Duxbury, Marshfield, Norwell and Scituate

2001: Save Our River Campaign keeps the MBTA Greenbush Layover Station from being on the North River marsh

2001: North River mapping project begins

2001: The YMCA Mill Pond dam fails on Third Herring Brook, leading NSRWA to call for river restoration for herring passage



2002: Chosen to host South Shore staff for the Massachusetts Bays National Estuary Program



2002: Launch the Watershed Action Alliance of South-eastern Massachusetts

2003: Greenscapes program started



2003: Study of boater needs in support of No Discharge Designation

2003: First Herring Brook initiates stream-flow monitoring

2004: Preserved 54 acres in First Herring Brook Watershed and 2.3 acres in North River Watershed

2004: Stormdrain pollution sources study in the downtown area of Marshfield

2004: Prioritize land along the North River for protection

2004: Pass Community Preservation in Hanover

2005: Launch Protecting What Matters to preserve land critical to the North and South Rivers

2005: 20 acres at Canoe Club in Pembroke and 25 acre Messer Property in Marshfield on North River preserved

2005: Marshfield High School Biology Class installs rain garden to clean stormwater at town hall

2006: Pass Community Preservation in Pembroke

2006: Appeal the Rockland Wastewater Treatment Plant permit for discharge of partially treated sewage results in stronger requirements to upgrade system

2006: 27.7 acre Ellis Property preserved in the South River Watershed. Preserved 70 acre Cervelli Farm in Hanover, 67.7 acres in Norwell, 24.9 acres in Marshfield - all in North River Watershed

2007: 50 additional acres of shellfishing beds are opened in the North River



2007: Condition placed on Scituate's Water Withdrawal Permit requires investigation to restore herring run

2008: Pass Stormwater Bylaw in Scituate requiring development to reduce impervious surfaces and to treat and recharge stormwater

2008: 25 acre Little's Conservation area along North River in Marshfield and 36 acre Stetson Kindred along North River in Norwell preserved

2008: Former Buckles and Boards property acquired on South River in Marshfield

2008: No Discharge Area for boat waste designation for rivers



2008: Pilot "Water All Around You" education program in Scituate 5th grade schools

2008: Streamflow gages installed in Third Herring Brook to assess impacts from dams and drinking water withdrawals

2008: The NSRWA successfully advocates for rain gardens to treat runoff from the 18 acre Target parking lot in the Third Herring Brook watershed

2008: Weymouth Naval Air station redevelopment project include NSRWA's request for daylighting of French's Stream

2009: Installed a demonstration rain garden in every town on the South Shore

2010

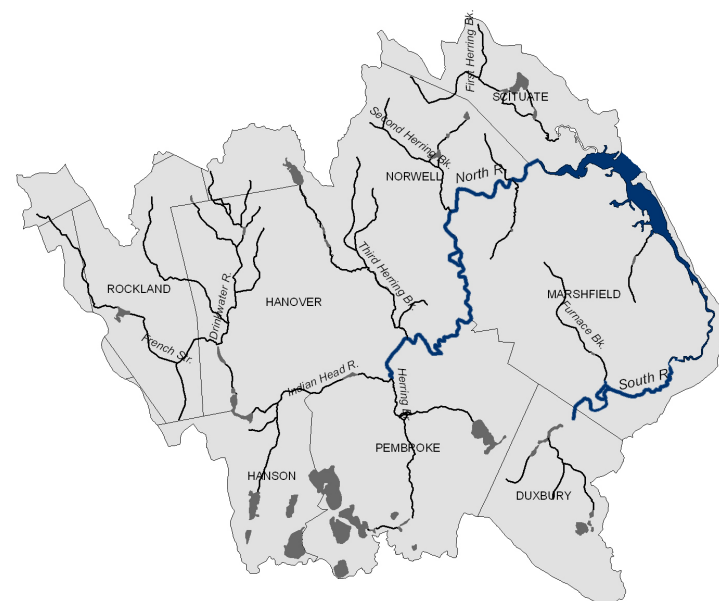
2010: Herring Brook fish ladder funding obtained for Pembroke

2010: 5 acres preserved next to Third Herring Brook in Norwell

2010: Launch Blue Communities Campaign focused on restoring nature's water cycle to restore shellfish beds and fish runs by reducing water consumption, improving stormwater treatment and overcoming impediments in streams

2010: Pass South River Park funding in Marshfield for former Buckles and Boards property

2010: Water quality improved such that shellfish beds are open from December until June 30th



North and South Rivers Watershed