



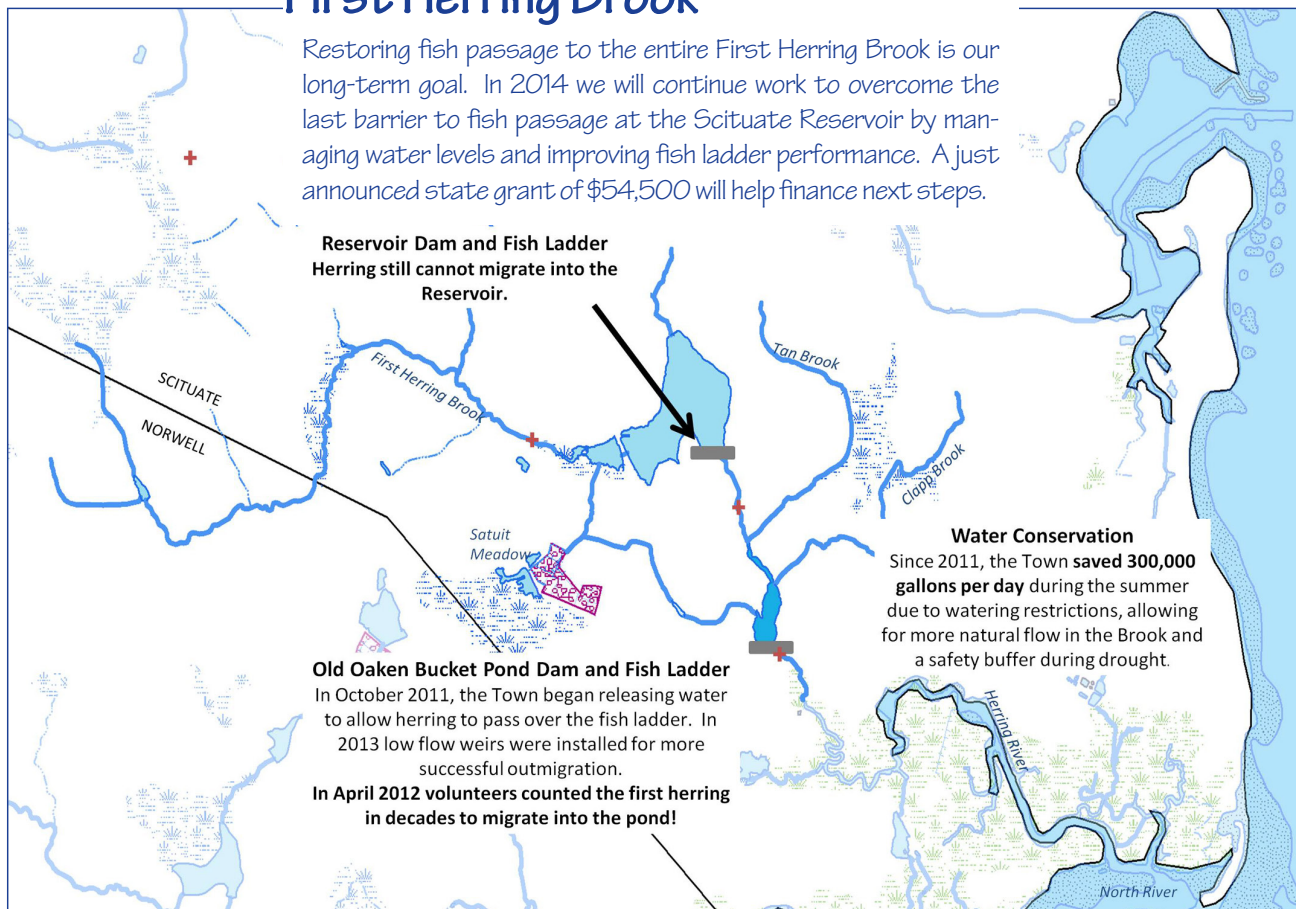
RiverWatch

April 2014

THE NORTH AND SOUTH RIVERS WATERSHED ASSOCIATION, INC.
Protecting And Restoring The Rivers Since 1970

2013 Annual Report: Highlights of 2014 Goals

First Herring Brook



The state's Department of Environmental Protection just announced a grant of \$54,500 to the town of Scituate to work with NSRWA on next steps to ensuring fish passage to the Scituate Reservoir.

Passage to the reservoir is important to the viability of the herring population as it offers 70 acres of spawning habitat that is currently inaccessible. Implementing solutions identified in a feasibility study conducted last year, the grant will fund detailed planning to manage the reservoir levels for fish passage, to lower the fish ladder exitway, and to support public and agency outreach on the plan. These steps will build on recent progress achieved through a combination of water conservation by town residents, flow management in the brook, and structural improvements to the fish ladder at Old Oaken

Bucket pond.

The Association is proud of the effective partnership we forged beginning in 2003 between the Town of Scituate, state and Federal agencies, and our own science based monitoring, modeling, public education, and advocacy. Further progress in flow management and fish passage will be the latest step in a complex restoration program that goes back to 1996, when our initial monitoring showed there were no herring at all in a brook once named for the fish! Since then our efforts have led to the first herring returning to above Old Oaken Bucket Dam in 2012 and 2013, and to Scituate earning the 2012 Sustainable Communities Award from the Gulf of Maine Council on the Marine Environment.

THE NORTH AND SOUTH RIVERS WATERSHED ASSOCIATION

The mission of the North & South Rivers Watershed Association is to preserve, restore, maintain and conserve in their natural state, the waters and related natural resources within the watershed.

Our goals are to:

- *Restore the water quality of the rivers by identifying and correcting adverse impacts;*

- *Encourage stewardship of the watershed through public education, outreach and recreation programs; and*

- *Promote responsible growth by working in partnerships to preserve open space, scenic vistas and sensitive natural resources.*

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Treasurer: Richard Leach

Secretary: Barbara Carney

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Assistant Director

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Watershed Ecologist &

Massachusetts Bays Program

South Shore Regional Coordinator

Sara Grady

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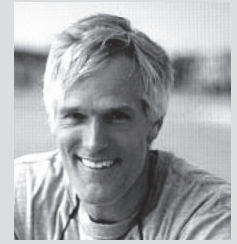
NSRWA

P.O. Box 43

Norwell, MA 02061

phone: 781-659-8168

www.nsrwa.org



Letter from the President

Well, we made it through another winter, one that saw our rivers frozen over for weeks and kept too many of us inside. However, spring is now here and it's time to get outside. Maybe you are planning to help us count herring, or engage in clean-up day (we always need more hands!), join us for an upcoming fishing workshop, or sign up for yoga on the river. Whatever your interest, our goal is to engage you, as we have in years past, and we are grateful for your participation.

Speaking of years past, last year was a very good one, and with your help we got a lot done. Here were some of the highlights.

Restoring the Environment:

We continued our Third Herring Brook restoration efforts. To date we have obtained grants totaling \$275,000 to help remove two old and crumbling dams that impede herring migration and degrade river habitat. We still have more to raise but our progress is exciting! Removal of these dams will open up miles of spawning grounds.

In the First Herring Brook, the NSRWA continued our partnership with Scituate to ensure adequate water releases to allow herring passage in both directions. And we got a sign up on Route 3A – “Help Put the Herring Back in First Herring Brook” - to make people aware of the link between water conservation and fish habitat.

We also explored the feasibility of increasing blue mussel populations in our rivers, and the shellfish beds were opened a month earlier due to improving water quality. Of course, we continued our herring counts and our water quality monitoring.

Education:

We hit a milestone reaching our 10,000th! fifth grader in the Water All Around You Program. The NSRWA also instituted Science Fridays, which included 40 children from low-income housing in Rockland.

Recreation:

All work and no play is no fun. Part of the point of protecting these marvelous resources is so that we can get out and enjoy them! The NSRWA sponsored its 23rd annual Great River Race, its 2nd South River 5K, a November clamming trip, fishing workshops, and numerous walks along the rivers and their tributaries. We hope you were able to join us last year, and we look forward to having you join us this year, now that the weather is finally warming up!

Sincerely,
Peter Kelly-Detwiler
NSRWA Board President

South River

Promote recreational access to the river in downtown Marshfield
Restore streamflow and herring access above Veteran's Park Dam

South River Greenway and Trail



Please attend Marshfield Town Meeting April 28th and vote to support funding the new South River Kayak and Canoe Launch.

Recreational Access

A half mile stretch of the South River in Marshfield has seen remarkable improvement over the past few years: The South River Park was completed and the 37.5 acre Pratt parcel was acquired, both in 2012, and Japanese Knotweed removal was begun from the South River Park.

In 2014 our goals are to:

- Enhance access to the South River through development of a kayak/canoe launch off the Bridle Path at the Keville Foot Bridge;
- Construct trails and parking at the newly acquired Pratt parcel;
- Continue with our 3rd year of Japanese Knotweed removal and the installation of interpretive signage at the South River Park.

Streamflow Restoration

NSRWA has monitored flows and herring runs since 2011, and identified many large and small structural impediments that prevent fish passage to spawning habitat and degrade river habitat upstream of Veteran's Park on the South River. During 2014 we will work with Marshfield to ensure that flow is managed through the fish ladder at Veteran's Park, and seek grant funding for an engineering study for the removal of the Chandler Pond and Temple Street dams upstream of Veteran's Park.



Veterans Park Dam and Fish Ladder on the South River in Marshfield.

Shellfish Enhancement

Achieve further extension of shellfishing season

In 2012 the South River shellfish beds were re-opened from December 1 to May 31 for recreational shellfishing after being closed for over 20 years due to water pollution. This past year the beds were opened a month earlier, November 1, due to improving water quality, a direct result of NSRWA's long running advocacy and work to remediate pollution to the rivers.

In 2014 we hope to see continued improvements in water quality and for the state to extend the season at least back to October 1. Our long term goal is to continue to improve water quality, and for shellfishing to be open for recreational harvest year round.

Begin pilot mussel growing project with Scituate and Marshfield

In an effort to enhance shellfish populations, we will pilot a mussel growing project in the North River this summer with the towns of Marshfield and Scituate. The pilot study will enable us to gauge how much the project could be expanded to benefit existing populations and enhance the river's ecosystem.



Sara Grady identifying species at the Spit at one of our popular Science Friday programs.

Third Herring Brook

Remove the YMCA's Mill Pond Dam

Begin permitting for the removal of Cardinal Cushing's Tack Factory Pond Dam

Work with varied stakeholders towards establishing a Third Herring Brook Trail

For over a decade NSRWA has been working to restore the Third Herring Brook and allow for fish passage of herring and other river species such as Brook Trout. We are confident that in 2014 the Mill Pond Dam, owned by the South Shore YMCA, will be removed and the river restored at that site. Also in 2014 the permitting process will begin for the removal of the first dam on the brook from the ocean owned by Cardinal Cushing Centers. Both dams are dilapidated and in failing condition and both prevent natural streamflow and fish passage.

Through our volunteer herring counts we documented over 600 herring spawning just below the Cardinal Cushing dam at Tack Factory Pond in 2012, and over 1000 in 2013. Removal of the two dams will restore 8.4 miles of stream, cooling stream temperatures, increasing dissolved oxygen levels, allowing natural sediment transport to resume, and fish and other organisms to access the full length of stream habitat.



Tack Factory Pond Dam in Hanover - September 2013

Climate Change

Help South Shore communities adapt through education and monitoring

In early 2014 we co-sponsored a climate change workshop series with the Mass Bays Program and the Jones River Watershed Association. The series focused on how South Shore residents can adapt to sea level rise. The series has been videotaped and is available on our website at nsrwa.org and will be played on local cable TV channels. The topics ranged from how to elevate your home to building dunes and other natural features to protect eroding shorelines.

This summer we will revisit and reassess salt marsh sites within the North and South Rivers that were studied in 2000 to determine if there are any biological indicators showing salt marsh migration due to sea level rise. This study will provide us insight at the local level on rates of change and impacts to our rivers and salt marshes.

Education and Outreach

Increasing engagement through education and recreation

In 2013, we passed the milestone of 10,000 kids in our river education programs, and began a popular new “Science Fridays in the Shed” family program.

In 2014, we will continue to expand our watershed education program to the few towns we don’t yet reach, prepare and distribute a “stewardship guide” for riverfront property owners, and organize a “herring viewing” tour of the watershed this April.

We are also considering offering a new river recreation program specifically for kids through other community organizations like the Marshfield Boys & Girls Club.



Juvenile herring return to the sea, from Pembroke.



Above: Last summer’s intern Margo Ballenas examines macroinvertebrates found in the Second Herring Brook at one of our Science Friday programs.



At left: Kayaking on the North River.

Annual Report 2013



“We must begin thinking like a river if we are to leave a legacy of beauty and life for future generations.” - *David Brower*

“The activist is not the man who says the river is dirty. The activist is the man who cleans up the river.” - *Ross Perot*

TREASURER'S REPORT

We did well in 2013, the result of all of your contributions, great fundraising events, a matching challenge and grants. We are grateful to the Sylvester Fund for their \$10,000 matching challenge which many of you stepped up to help us make! In addition, our new president, Peter Kelly-Detweiler, raised over \$9,100 by paddling the 72 mile Wampanoag Canoe Passage. We thank Peter and his many supporters for this successful fund raiser. Grants from the Mass DEP for our work on the First Herring Brook also contributed to make 2013 a solid financial year for the Association.

Our membership continues to grow and, as of the end of 2013, our membership stood at 1,241 households. Of this number, 68 are members of our River Guardian Circle which means they contributed \$500 or more annually. We of course appreciate the support of all of our members. We are a small organization and while these numbers may not seem like much in a different context, they are of major importance for our organization.

We are pleased to announce that the value of our endowment fund is now over \$100,000. We began this fund in December 2008, a time of great volatility in the financial markets, with \$62,776. In just over five years it has grown to \$105,557 as of the end of February 2014. The fund's shares have increased in value and, rather than take income at this time, we continue to re-invest dividends and capital gains back

into the fund in order to continue to grow the fund. The growth of our endowment fund is essential for the future of the NSRWA.

It has been a year since we established a retirement plan for our staff of four and all have taken advantage of this benefit. The NSRWA matches 3% of each employee's salary, although each employee may contribute more than 3%. The success of the organization's mission is due in no small part to the dedication and efforts of all of our staff.

We look forward in 2014 to more exciting projects that support our mission to preserve, restore and conserve in their natural state, the waters and related natural resources within the watershed. We are only able to continue this important work thanks to the support of our members. Thank you!

by Richard Leach, Treasurer

NORTH AND SOUTH RIVERS WATERSHED ASSOCIATION Statement of Financial Position

Balance Sheet

	2013*	2012	2011
Total Assets	\$ 579,627	\$ 511,012	\$ 513,300
Total Liabilities	\$ 23,861	\$ 7,569	\$ 16,230
Net Assets	\$ 421,180	\$ 413,975	\$ 413,974
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$ 579,627	\$ 511,074	\$ 513,300

Statement of Activities

	2013*	2012	2011
Revenues			
Restricted Grants	\$ 215,510	\$ 180,039	\$ 175,794
Donations (Restricted and Unrestricted)	\$ 110,264	\$ 97,183	\$ 105,316
Program/Events	\$ 39,154	\$ 29,588	\$ 29,912
All Other	\$ 12,693	\$ 12,789	\$ 13,316
Total Revenue	\$ 377,620	\$ 319,600	\$ 324,338
Expenses			
Payroll	\$ 216,595	\$ 200,153	\$ 201,725
Contract and Professional Services	\$ 72,322	\$ 67,368	\$ 48,030
Occupancy and Utilities	\$ 13,864	\$ 9,419	\$ 11,252
Printing and Postage	\$ 15,052	\$ 13,478	\$ 18,916
All Other	\$ 56,217	\$ 33,606	\$ 43,556
Total Expenses	\$ 374,049	\$ 324,024	\$ 323,479
Net Revenues	\$ 3,571	\$ (4,424)	\$ 859

*2013 Not reviewed by Account

2013 NSRWA Members

RIVER GUARDIANS 2013

River Guardians \$2,500 +

Mark & Joell Bianchi
Herb & Pauline Emilson
Bruce & Marcia Humphrey
Richard & Jackie Leach

Foundations, Businesses & Partners

River Guardians \$2,500 +

Clean Harbors
Greater Boston Trout Unlimited
The Island Foundation
The Norcross Wildlife Foundation
Sheehan Family Foundation
Sylvester Fund

River Guardians \$1,000 - \$2,499

Anonymous (2)
Del & Ann Berrada
Donna Burrell & Jane Eggerstedt
Paul Coolidge
Mark DiRico
Mary Eliot
Peter & Roberta Fairbanks
Craig & Daniel Hannafin
Valmai Hilton
Peter & Julie Kelly-Detwiler
Debbie & Bruce Lenahan
Sandra & Peter Moll
Peter & Paula Tyack
Julie & Al Uhler
Kristen Williams Hascotes

Business River Guardians

\$500 - \$2,499

Bayside Marine Corp.
Billington Sea Kayak
Bond Printing
Black Pond Veterinary Service, Inc.
CMC Design-Build, Inc.
Covanta Energy
Dancing Crow Yoga
First Parish Church in Norwell
Horsley Witten Group

Mill Wharf Restaurant
Rice, Heard, & Bigelow
Rockland Federal Credit Union
Roht Marine/Mary's Boat Livery
Scituate Federal Savings
Verc Enterprises
Whole Foods Market - Hingham

River Guardians \$500 - \$999

Kezia Bacon
Kevin Beggs & Stephanie Whiting
William & Susanne Bottiggi
Susan & David Caron
Brian & Gracemarie Concannon
Robert & Betsey Detwiler
Kathleen & David Donahue
Charles & Sandra Drea
William Earley
Harold Flight
Peter & Pattie Hainer
Alan & Janet Holbrook
James Hughes
Patty Jackson
Patrick & Lee McCarthy
Adele Milani
Andrea Miller
Sally Moore
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Karen & Bert O'Donnell
Margery & Allan Parker
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Marty & Adria Pitkow
John & Laurie Schneider
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Bill Stanton & Lisa Lenon
Andrew & Jaime Sullivan
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Susan Tedeschi Trucks & Derek Trucks
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Susan & Michael Wolfe
Samantha Woods & Lanny Day

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Debbie & Thomas Cook
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Carrie Cullen Hitt
Michael & Anne Cuneo
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Stephen Goodhue
Crystal & David Gould
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Chick & Donna Luther
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Arlene Marchant
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Ralph Mastriano
& Julaine McInnis
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James & Amanda McGuire
Don McLellan
Tom McManus
Judith McPhee
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Winnie Lou Rounds
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Scott & Patty Santos
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Pete & Kathleen Sheehan
Ava & Robert Sigsby
Robert Skolnick
Karen & John Smethurst
Alice Smyth
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Kathleen & Dana Staples
Karen Stone & Michael Waddell
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Leo & Maureen Boudreau
Richard & Dorothy Bresnahan
Lebaron Briggs
Steven & Leslie Brigham
Sewall Bronstein
Donna & Richard Brown
Jeff Burns
Gary & Elena Cadman

2013 Government Grants and Contracts

Aquarion Water Company
City of Weymouth
Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation
Massachusetts Department of Ecological Restoration
Massachusetts Environmental Trust
Town of Hanover
Town of Kingston
Town of Marshfield
Town of Norwell
Town of Pembroke
Town of Scituate
US EPA - Massachusetts Bays

Sustaining \$250 - \$499

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Joanne Butterall
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Michael Gaffney	Bonita Mockler & Bruce McLeish	Family \$35 - \$49	Pamela & Lionel Giovannini	Raymond & Marcia Noyes
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& Deborah Shadd	Mary Roach	Paul Buckovich	Carolyn & Michael Hofferd	Michael Pollard & Jennifer Davis
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Spit Dudes Beach & BBQ
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Village Green Landscape
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Special Thanks to Harvest Moon Vendors

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Tinker's Son
Harpoon Brewery
Hola
Lavishly Dunn Catering
Mill Wharf Restaurant
Mullaney's Seafood
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Orta
Riva at Scituate Harbor
The Barker Tavern
The Silent Chef
Whole Foods Market - Hingham
Yankee Trader Seafood

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Margo Ballenas
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Edward Barrie
Rob Beatson
Donna, Stella & Tess Beaudry
Del and Anne Berrada
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Maribara Cunningham
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 Ed Walsh
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 Rachel Wencek
 Tom Whalen
 Warren Winders
 Jo-Ellen Wood
 Sharon Yekselen
 John Zarella



Striper fishing on the North River.

SAVE THE DATE!
**NSRWA Sponsors 24th Annual
 Great River Race**
 on Saturday, August 9th
 Race registration begins June 23rd! Visit nsrwa.org to download forms.

Yoga at the River's Edge
 Saturdays 8:30 – 10 am • June 14 – September 13th
 Different locations along the rivers. For details visit nsrwa.org or "like" us on Facebook (Yoga at the River's Edge). Contact yogariversedge@verizon.net for weekly emails. \$10 pp NSRWA Members, \$15 non-members. No registration required.

**Herring on the Run:
 A Tour of Herring Runs in the Watershed**
 Sunday April 27, 2014, 1 – 4 pm
 Herring will be on the run to their historic spawning grounds starting in early April. Join our watershed ecologists on a driving tour (we provide the vans) and learn about the history, science and social significance, as well as restoration efforts. If we are lucky we might see some actual herring making their way upstream! Meet at Mass Audubon's North River Sanctuary on Rt 3A Marshfield. A limited number of seats are available on the van – pre-registration is required! Cost: \$12 for NSRWA or Mass Audubon members, \$15 for non-members. Payment is due day of the event.

FISHING AND CLAMMING EVENTS
Fly Fishing for the Shad
 at Luddam's Ford Park in Hanover • Saturday, May 3 at 9 am
 Learn how to catch American shad while learning about conservation of the rivers which is so important for the health of the fish. Participants should bring their own equipment, some rods and materials will be available. Suggested donation is \$10. Register at nsrwa.org. This event is co-sponsored with Trout Unlimited and is held at Luddam's Ford Park in Hanover.

**Guided Fly Fishing Expedition on North River
 with the Experts**
 Saturday May 17th, 6 am to noon
 Join two expert fly fishermen for a guided 4-hour fly fishing expedition for Striped Bass on the North River! Have an experience of lifetime fishing with those who know how to catch fish on the North River using fly fishing gear. Please bring your own equipment, flies and leaders will be provided if necessary. If you don't have equipment, we may be able to provide. The cost is \$100 for non-members and \$75 for NSRWA members. Register at nsrwa.org – space is limited to 8 people.

Clamming on the North River
 Sunday May 4, 8 am.
 This is your opportunity to go clamming before the shellfish beds close on May 31. You will be transported by boat out to the flats. Participants must have Scituate shellfishing permit and equipment. Register at nsrwa.org – space is limited.

Exploring the History of River Conservation Lands

The landscape has changed greatly over time and many of our conservation areas along the rivers have rich histories to tell. History buffs and conservationists won't want to miss these fascinating walks! *Pre-registration is mandatory as space is limited. These walks are free for NSRWA member and \$5 for non-members. To register visit www.nsrwa.org or call (781)-659-8168.*

History of Luddam's Ford Walk in Hanover

Sunday, May 18th at 1pm

Luddam's Ford Park in Hanover has been home to many industries from saw mill to rubber mill and now is a lovely recreational area with miles of walking trails along the Indian Head River. Join Joe Grecco to discover this site's rich history.

History of Jacobs Pond Walk in Norwell

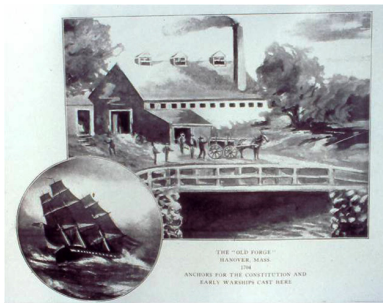
Sunday, June 8 at 1pm

Long time Norwell residents Wes and David Osborne will lead you through the history of the 60 acre Jacobs Pond, the headwaters of the Third Herring Brook, created in 1730 with the damming of the brook.

History of Stetson Meadows Walk

Sunday, June 22nd at 1pm

Stetson Meadow is a 116-acre hidden treasure with fields, trails and a beautiful view of the North River and its vast marsh. Learn the history of Cornet Robert Stetson who settled this area 14 years after the Pilgrims landed in Plymouth from Judy Grecco, a descendant of the Stetsons!



The Old Forge, Hanover, MA.

KAYAKING ON THE RIVERS

*Information and event registration is online at nsrwa.org
Price includes all paddling equipment. All paddles require NSRWA membership.
Children 8-14 are welcome when accompanied by an adult.
Kayak events are in partnership with the Coastal Kayak Educators.*

Learn To Kayak (Kids & Adults 8+)

Saturday, May 31 – 3:30-5:30pm at Union Street

Saturday, June 14 – 1:30-3:30pm at Union Street

Intro to Kayak is a 2.5 hour course on the North River emphasizing safety with the goal to provide paddlers with the basic knowledge needed to become a successful paddler. *Cost per Member: \$50 (includes all kayaking equipment)/ Non members: \$75 (includes NSRWA Membership)*

Scenic Tours (Kids & Adults 8+)

Sunday, June 1 – 3:30-5:30pm at Union Street

Saturday, June 28 – 2:30-4:30 at Union Street

Saturday, July 26 – 1:00-3:00 at Union Street

Our 2-hour Scenic Tour is recommended for kayakers with some experience.

Cost per Member: \$50 (includes all kayaking equipment) /

Non members: \$75 (includes NSRWA Membership)

Historic North River tour (Adults & Children 8+)

Saturday, May 17 – 2:00-6:00 at Union Street

Sunday June 15 – 1:00-5:00 at Union Street

An 8 1/2-mile paddle on the scenic and historically rich, North River. This will be a leisurely excursion featuring the North River's role in the lives of Native Americans, colonial shipbuilders, the industrial revolution, and the modern day era and will examine how its ecology has changed throughout time. This trip will take approximately 4 hours. *Cost per Member: \$70 (includes all kayaking equipment)/ Non members: \$95 (includes NSRWA Membership)*

Stand Up Paddle Board Instruction

Wednesday May 7 and May 21,

Thursday June 5 and June 19 at 6pm

Learn to stand up paddle with the NSRWA and their partners Luminate Surf & Skate for a 1.5 hour lesson on the South River. *Fee is \$35 for members and \$50 for non-member (includes membership) All equipment is included.*

Science Fridays in the Shed

Explore your rivers!

Join the NSRWA's science staff from 10 am – 12 pm on a Friday this summer for some ecological exploration and science. This program is designed to introduce children and their families to the different habitats and ecology within our own North and South Rivers. Participants will be actively engaged in collecting field data using scientific sampling gear to analyze water quality and identify plants and animals unique to these habitats. *Pre-registration is required – sign up on line at nsrwa.org. The cost to participate is \$10 for nonmembers and \$5 for members per person – kids under 12 free.*

Friday July 11th • Freshwater Tributaries – 2nd Herring Brook Norris Reservation

Friday July 18th • Tidepooling and Barrier Beach Geology – The Spit, Scituate

Friday July 25th • Exploring North River Marshes – Messer Conservation Area, North Marshfield

Friday August 15th • Freshwater Tidal Exploration – Hanover Canoe Launch



RiverWatch

THE NORTH AND SOUTH RIVERS WATERSHED ASSOCIATION, INC.
P.O. BOX 43 NORWELL, MA 02061
www.nsrwa.org • 781-659-8168

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- 2014 Priorities
- Spring and Summer Outdoor Events



Connect with us on Facebook

Calling All Volunteers!

27th Annual River Clean Up Day

Saturday, April 12th from 10 am to noon.

The NSRWA is partnering with the Towns of Scituate, Marshfield and Norwell to make this a regional event. Celebratory cookout at 12 pm at Driftway Park in Scituate. Sponsored by Covanta Energy and Whole Foods Market. Visit www.nsrw.org for sites and more information.

Citizen Volunteers Needed!

*To sign up, please contact our office
or visit nsrwa.org for more info.*

Riverwatch Water Quality Monitoring Training

Thursday, June 5th 8:30 am – noon

Horseshoe Crab Monitoring in Duxbury Bay

May and June

Herring Counting

April and May

Japanese Knotweed Removal

June and September



Summer Field Science Volunteer Internships

Our volunteer summer college intern program benefits students by giving them valuable, marketable skills, and the interns will provide important contributions to our work by collecting data on some of our top-priority projects. Interns will work on projects as diverse as researching the feasibility of increasing the mussel population in the North and South Rivers; monitoring horseshoe crabs in Duxbury Bay; assessing and managing invasive species; and analyzing salt marsh vegetation change.

For a specific job description, please visit nsrwa.org or contact Sara@nsrwa.org. Deadline for applying is May 9th. Please submit a resume, cover letter to sara@nsrwa.org