



Thames River Basin Partnership

Partners in Action Quarterly Report

Autumn 2011

Volume 12

The Thames River watershed includes the Five Mile, French, Moosup, Natchaug, Pachaug, Quinebaug, Shetucket, Willimantic, and Yantic Rivers and all their tributaries. We're not just the "Thames main stem."

Greetings from the [Thames River Basin Partnership](#). Once again this quarter our partners have proven their ability to work cooperatively on projects compatible with the [TRBP Workplan](#) and in support of our common mission statement to share organizational resources and to develop a regional approach to natural resource protection. I hope you enjoy reading about these activities as much as I enjoy sharing information about them with you. For more information on any of these updates, just click on the blue website hyperlinks in this e-publication, but be sure to come back to finish reading the rest of the report.

*Jean Pillo, Watershed Conservation Coordinator
Eastern Connecticut Conservation District*

The fall meeting of the Thames River Basin Partnership was hosted by the Connecticut Audubon Society Center at Pomfret at their new Lois Orswell Grassland Bird Conservation Center. The official ribbon cutting ceremony for this education center was held on October 8, 2011. The energy efficient building is located on the footprint of a former dairy barn and it overlooks the 700 acre Bafflin Sanctuary. Much of the Bafflin Sanctuary is managed as grassland bird habitat. The Bafflin Sanctuary was donated to the Connecticut Audubon Society by Lois Orswell over a period of years in the 1990s. The new center, located at 218 Day Road in Pomfret Center, Connecticut is open Monday – Friday 9 AM – 4 PM and weekends from noon – 4 PM. Follow this link <http://www.ctaudubon.org/center-at-pomfret> for more CAS program information.

TRBP Updates

The Thames River Basin Partnership began preliminary discussions for the 2012 Floating Workshop and potential locations and themes. Below is a list of the eleven successful workshops previously held:

- 2001 – Thames River Estuary Dynamics/New London waterfront development - Thames River Cruise
- 2002 – Wastewater Dischargers in the Thames River – Thames River Cruise
- 2003 – Marine Transportation and Usage Issues – Thames River Cruise
- 2004 - Thames Water Quality and Area Conservation/Development Patterns - Thames River Cruise
- 2005 – USGS Study of West Thompson Lake – West Thompson Paddle
- 2006 – Smart Growth/Smart Conservation, Norwich Harbor - Thames River Cruise
- 2007 – “Rolling on the River” Shetucket River Dam Bus Tour
- 2008 - The Natchaug Watershed Basin, Water for People and Nature – Mansfield Hollow Paddle

2009 - Municipal Actions to Reduce Harmful Hypoxia in Long Island Sound – Thames River Cruise

2010 – Partnering to Protect Poquetanuck Cove – Poquetanuck Cove Paddle

2011 – Featuring the French River – Webster Lake Cruise

If you are interested in joining the TRBP Floating Workshop Planning Committee, please contact [Jean Pillo](#) at 860-928-4948.

Partner Reports

The Eastern Connecticut Resource Conservation and Development Council and the USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service are sponsoring a series of Healthy Soils Workshops to promote use of cover crops to improve soil health. These workshops will be held November 14, 15 and 16, 2011 at [Scout Hall](#), 28 Abbe Road, East Windsor, CT. Registration for each workshop will begin at 8 AM and the program will end at 4:30 PM.

Each day of this multiple day workshop will cover a different facet of land use, and topics will be directly relevant to the land use type of the day. Participants do not need to sign up for all three days. There is a \$10 fee for each workshop

- Monday, November 14th -- Row Crops and Livestock
- Tuesday, November 15th – Perennial Crops (Orchard, Vineyard, Xmas Trees) and Greenhouse Growers
- Wednesday, November 16th – Small Scale Farming, the Residential Landscape, and Permaculture

For More information, please contact [Lisa Krall](#) 860-871-4051 or [Raymond Covino](#) 860-774-8397 x 102. To download a registration form, click this link http://easternrccd-ct.org/pdf/HEALTHYSOILS_Registration_2011.pdf.

Avalonia Land Conservancy hosted a National Estuaries Day event at Poquetanuck Cove in celebration of a new environmental kiosk erected near the public access car top boat launch. This launch is at the end of Royal Oak Drive in Ledyard, CT. Funds for this kiosk were provided in part with Challenge Cost Funds through the US Fish and Wildlife Service. Connecticut Sea Grant and the Eastern Connecticut Conservation District developed educational information for the kiosk on the ecological value of intertidal mudflats. In addition, the Poquetanuck Cove Canoe/Kayak Trail Guide prototype developed for the Thames River Basin Partnership Floating Workshop IX was improved by USFWS staff and a limited number were printed on water resistant paper. To download a copy of this guide, click [here](#).

A coalition of land conservationists led by DEEP and the Avalonia Land Conservancy recently worked with the Crowley family of the Wequetequock section of Stonington to acquire a 16-acre coastal grassland on Wequetequock Cove in Stonington. The property is adjacent to DEEP's Barn Island Wildlife Management Area (WMA), Connecticut's largest and most ecologically significant coastal wildlife management area, and was part of the Crowley family's dairy farm operation which ceased in 1958. DEEP's coastal land conservation planning process identified

the Crowley property in 2005 as an acquisition priority to enhance the protection of the Barn Island WMA. For more information on this acquisition, go to the [press release](#).

The U.S. Geological Survey National Water Quality Assessment program (NAWQA) regional study of nutrient concentrations and loads in rivers of the northeastern United States is nearly complete. This study includes the Connecticut, Housatonic, and Thames River basins, and will show the nutrient trends and loads in these rivers in a regional context. In addition, the USGS Connecticut Water Science Center is developing a project for real-time stream temperature data online for the Connecticut River Basin. Analysis is ongoing to compile and incorporate stream temperature data into a predictive model that includes all drainage basins in Connecticut.

The Eastern Connecticut Conservation District completed their analysis and developed Watershed Based Plans for [Mashamoquet Brook](#) in Pomfret and [Baker Cove](#) in Groton. Both watersheds experience bacteria concentrations in excess of the allowable [standards](#) by the CT DEEP.

In 2012, ECCD will be investigating the sources of excess bacteria in Flat Brook in Ledyard, and the sources of excess nutrients in Amos Lake in Preston. These projects are funded in part with EPA Clean Water Act § 319 Funds through the CT DEEP.

After years of negotiations, the final signatures required for installation of the Hallville Fish Ladder in Preston was obtained by ECCD and construction of that project is being planned for spring 2012. With the installation of this fish ladder, 8.5 miles of historical breeding habitat and up to 158 acres of high quality ponded habitat will become available to anadromous fish upstream of Poquetanuck Cove.

ECCD and Connecticut's other 4 Conservation Districts are developing a potential partnership with the USDA NRCS to provide educational workshops for landowners and municipal officials, and technical assistance to agricultural operations to help them prevent soil erosion and nutrient NPS pollution. The project will also include the pursuit of Best Management Practices, recommended by existing watershed plans that will improve the water quality of Long Island Sound.

The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation announced the Long Island Sound Futures Fund projects that will receive funding this grant cycle. ECCD was awarded funds to work with the Towns of Ledyard and Preston and other partners to develop a Conservation Action Plan for Poquetanuck Cove. The [Conservation Action Plan](#) model was developed by The Nature Conservancy and recently was successfully implemented in the [Natchaug River Watershed](#). For more information or to participate in this project, please contact [Jean Pillo](#), ECCD's Watershed Conservation Coordinator.

ECCD will also be sharing in another LISFF project with the Connecticut River Coastal Conservation District and the Southwest Conservation District to Improve Equine Operation Nutrient Management in municipalities within the Connecticut Coastal Management Zone.

A nonprofit established by Congress in 1984, the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation sustains, restores and enhances the nation's fish, wildlife, plants and habitats. Through leadership conservation investments with public and private partners, NFWF is dedicated to achieving maximum conservation impact. The Foundation has awarded over 10,800 grants to more than 3,700 organizations in the United States and abroad and leveraged – with its partners – more than

\$490 million in federal funds into more than \$1.6 billion for on-the-ground conservation. To learn more, visit www.nfwf.org.

The [Eastern Connecticut Conservation and Development Council](#) is in the process of hiring a part time staff person to manage several ongoing projects. The ECRC&D Council is a non-profit organization that until recently worked with a NRCS staff coordinator until the federal RC&D program was discontinued by federal budget cuts.

John Meyer, a participant in the Natchaug River Basin Conservation Compact process, produced a short movie titled *For Grandchildren; the Natchaug River Basin Conservation Compact*. Click [here](#) to see this 11 minute production posted on YouTube.

The Windham Region Council of Governments (WINCOG) November meeting agenda will contain an item in support of a resolution in favor of watershed based planning. This resolution is being sponsored by the Town of Chaplin. This meeting will take place on November 4, 2011 at the Windham Town Hall beginning at 8:30 AM. The draft resolution is also being forwarded to Northeast Connecticut Council of Governments (NECCOG) for consideration. The eight watershed towns of the Natchaug River Basin are split between the WINCOG and NECCOG areas.

The Last Green Valley Water Quality Monitoring Program trained an additional 15 volunteers to complete Rapid Bioassessments of wadeable streams in eastern Connecticut. This year's training was held at the Ashford Town Hall. A special focus on the Natchaug River watershed is underway in cooperation with the recent [Natchaug River Basin Conservation Compact](#) signed by the 8 watershed towns. Several teachers are incorporating this monitoring into their science curriculum. For more information, contact [Jean Pillo](#).

The Last Green Valley Water Subcommittee is developing a watershed conference/summit focused on the condition of the watershed. The conference will be tailored to volunteers and other watershed citizens and will take place in winter 2012. The program is being sponsored in part with funding assistance provided by Connecticut Light and Power.

The Last Green Valley Water Trails Steering Committee is continuing to focus on close to home recreational opportunities. More than 50 miles of river segments in the upper Thames watershed are proposed for designation as [National Recreational Trails](#) in the Quinebaug and Willimantic Rivers. The committee is continuing to expand the list of public access sites, working with the river communities and property owners to prepare an application for this honorary designation. For more information, contact [Lois Bruinooge](#). To view a guide to paddling opportunities in the Quinebaug River, click [here](#).

The Last Green Valley and the Town of Dudley, Massachusetts hosted a Stormwater Management Workshop. The program was geared towards conservation commissions, planning boards, zoning boards of appeal, boards of selectmen, city councilors, department of public work employees, and citizens interested in better stormwater management. Topics included recent developments under the Massachusetts Stormwater Regulations, enacting and implementing stormwater ordinances, bylaws and subdivision regulations, and building an effective stormwater maintenance program.

The workshop is part of a statewide series of training seminars and will be led by stormwater experts Bethany Eisenberg, EIT, LEED AP and Deb Caraco, P.E.

The Center for Landuse Education and Research (CLEAR) has completed watershed based plan for Eagleville Brook, located in the Town of Mansfield including the UCONN main campus. Eagleville Brook is a tributary to the Willimantic River. This plan includes a seven step process to address water quality in stormwater runoff, and incorporates recommendations for land use regulatory changes. Eagleville Brook is the first waterbody in the nation to be listed as impaired due to the amount of impervious cover in the watershed. For a list of all DEEP Watershed Plans and Documents, click [here](#).

CLEAR would like to welcome the Community and Natural Resource Planning (CNP) Program to its family of partners. This new organization evolved out of the Green Valley Institute (GVI) which conducted land use education and outreach in the 35 towns of The Last Green Valley Heritage Corridor since 1999. CNP will expand GVI's mission - improving the knowledge base from which land use and natural resources are made - to reach a larger audience. The new format and collaborations will address community and natural resource planning issues throughout the entire state of Connecticut.

In partnership with the Connecticut Environmental Review Team and the Eastern Connecticut Resource Conservation and Development Area, CNP will conduct a series of land use workshops over the next year. The agreement includes "GVI-type" workshops in two new regions of the state in the fall of 2011 and in the spring of 2012. Other CLEAR partner organizations, including CT NEMO, will provide expertise in the workshop series as well.

The fall CNP workshop series are being planned in conjunction with the CT River Estuary Regional Planning Agency and the Central CT Regional Planning Agency. Each RPA conducted a brief online survey to assess the educational needs of the land use decision-makers in their region. As a result, the workshop series will address the following issues:

- Development Alternatives
- Economics of Land Use
- Growth and Community Character
- Building Sustainable Communities
- Low Impact Development

For more information on the fall 2011 CNP Workshop Series see the RPAs' websites at www.ccrpa.org and www.crerpa.org . This winter two different target regions will be identified for spring 2012 programs.

The CNP staff includes Susan Westa, Associate Extension Educator who specializes in land use planning and policy and Paula Stahl, Assistant Extension Educator, licensed Landscape Architect and community finance specialist. They bring together a wealth of information and experience addressing a wide range of issues from community planning and design to economic development. Other CNP staff and organizational partnerships provide expertise in natural resource protection. Holly Drinkuth, CNP Natural Resource Program Coordinator also serves as the Director of Education and Outreach Programs for The Nature Conservancy in Connecticut focusing on the benefits of healthy natural systems for communities. She currently works with CLEAR's Extension Forestry Program to provide information and support to Connecticut woodland owners, managers and community land use decision makers. CNP's work program

will continue to evolve as we identify new regions around the state and work with different communities over the next year.

CLEAR is hosting a free webinar on November 8, 2011 focused on [Using CLEAR Web Tools for Local Conservation Planning](#). This workshop will be from 2 – 3 PM and will highlight free online mapping resources and how to use them.

The CT Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) has prepared a draft Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) for [Ekonk Brook](#) in Plainfield. Ekonk Brook is a tributary to the Moosup River. Public comments were solicited on this draft document and are under review.

The DEEP Land Acquisition Fund is currently not funded but if there is land in eastern Connecticut with true watershed value, please send information to [Eric Thomas](#) of DEEP to be ranked and filed in the event funds become available. There is a level interest in working with the Town of Killingly in a partial acquisition of [five ponds in East Killingly](#). The dams for these ponds have condition issues that need to be carefully reviewed before support of this acquisition can take place.

DEEP continues to work on the comprehensive evaluation and transformation of the state cleanup laws. Hundreds of stakeholders have been involved through public meetings, commenting on draft reports, providing comments on the existing program, and suggesting improvements that would benefit Connecticut. To stay involved, please monitor the [webpage](#) established for this top-to-bottom review. If you subscribe to eAlerts through this webpage, you will be provided notices of opportunities to participate.

Public comments are currently being sought on six [Draft Evaluation Workgroup Reports](#). Comments, questions, or information can be submitted through the dedicated e-mail.

The Department of Economic and Community Development announced multiple funding and liability relief opportunities in a [September 19, 2011 letter](#). This announcement includes multiple opportunities to apply for grants and loans as well as to apply to the new Brownfield Remediation and Revitalization Program (section 17 of the 2011 [Brownfields Bill](#)). These funding and liability relief opportunities will greatly enhance business opportunities in Connecticut and help municipalities address these often underutilized properties that are not contributing to the tax base, pose a risk to the environment, and are not contributing to the vitality of the community.

Scientists and staff at DEEP and UCONN are continuing their collaborative efforts to control mile-a-minute vine and are asking municipalities to remain on the lookout for this plant. Mile-a-minute vine is a highly invasive annual plant from eastern Asia that can quickly outcompete and replace native vegetation, damaging habitat for native plants and animals. Mile-a-minute was first found in Connecticut in Fairfield County in 1997. Since then, it has spread to 20 Connecticut towns, as far east as Stonington and as far north as Simsbury. Mile-a-minute spreads by seed and quickly grows into dense stands that can cover and out-compete native vegetation.

Municipal employees are a good source of reports about this invasive plant, and as the end of the growing season approaches, these plants become more visible in local parks, forests, and other town properties. Early fall is the ideal time to find and report these problem plants. The location of any mile-a-minute plants should be reported to UCONN before they are removed. Visit the

[mile-a-minute vine website](#) for identification tips, control information and to report a suspected invasion. You can also e-mail [Logan Senack](#) or [Donna Ellis](#) or call 860-486-6448 for additional information.

The Dudley Conservation Land Trust, in partnership with Mass Audubon, purchased 75 acres of forested land known locally as [Slater Woods](#). This parcel of land links 25 acres owned by the Dudley Conservation Land Trust and 260 acres owned by Mass Audubon. This purchase was supported in part by a State of Massachusetts [Conservation Partnership Grant](#). This acquisition is supported by the [Dudley Reconnaissance Report Heritage Landscape Inventory](#).

The [Atlantic State Rural Water and Wastewater Association](#) is developing a Sourcewater Protection Plan in Salem and Old Lyme. ASRWVA will potentially be working with the Towns of Thompson and Brooklyn on protecting undeveloped aquifers for potable drinking water for future use using DEEP potential aquifer maps.

In the last two years, the AGvocate Program has worked successfully with ten Last Green Valley towns to strengthen the farm-friendliness of their municipal regulations and to improve the long-term viability of agricultural businesses within each community.

Ashford, Brooklyn, Canterbury, Eastford, Franklin, Hampton, Sterling, Thompson, Windham, and Woodstock have all established Agriculture Commissions or Committees (some combined with Conservation) in order to give agricultural businesses a more formal voice within town government.

With AGvocate support, each town has reviewed its land use planning documents and regulations to ensure they support agricultural businesses. Canterbury, Franklin, Sterling, and Thompson drafted Agriculture sections for their Plans of Conservation and Development, and Canterbury, Eastford, Franklin, Hampton, and Thompson passed Right-to-Farm Ordinances. Ashford drafted a comprehensive agriculture section for its zoning regulations, and Brooklyn and Sterling reviewed properties in their towns that had been placed in agricultural and forestry tax classifications to help define and better understand the range of agriculture producers. Thompson drafted an ordinance that allows tax exemptions for certain farm machinery and buildings.

Canterbury worked with the CT Department of Agriculture to complete the Purchase of Development Rights (PDR) on Wanungatuck Farm, preserving 124 acres for agriculture use in perpetuity.

All of the AGvocate communities sought creative ways to publicize and promote local agriculture. Eastford developed and hosted the first annual “Eastford Agricultural Faire,” and worked with Eastford School to plant a “Pizza Garden,” while Canterbury created a float and marched in the town’s 4th of July parade. Brooklyn hosted guest speakers, presented community workshops, and conducted an agricultural producers’ forum. Franklin worked with the local elementary school’s library to expand and update agriculture publications on hand, and Sterling worked with the “Agriculture in the Classroom” program to provide agricultural books and materials to its teachers and town library.

Each town identified all of its agricultural product and service providers and developed a “Grown In…” brochure to advertise its locally-produced products. The eye-catching brochures

are available in town halls or at <http://aginfotlgy.org/>, click on the “AGvocate Program” link on the left-hand menu, then “Town Ag Resources.”

The AGvocate Program is currently funded by an Agriculture Viability Grant from the CT Department of Agriculture, and in 2011 it has grown to include four additional towns - Bozrah, Killingly, Pomfret, and Scotland. The AGvocate Project Leader, Jennifer Kaufman, will focus on these communities but will continue to be available for technical assistance to the original ten towns. For more information about the AGvocate Program, contact Jennifer Kaufman at agvocate@yahoo.com or 860-450-6007.

The 11th Annual Celebrating Agriculture event was held on Saturday, September 24th. About 4,000 people were able to enjoy learning about farms and forests; as they sampled food, explored exhibits and participated in activities throughout the day. Highlights this year were the garden tractor train that gave rides to children and grownups and a Scavenger Hunt that helped children and their parents connect to sources of their food.

The event is always free to the public and exhibitors and made possible by the generosity of the Woodstock Agricultural Society with the use of the Woodstock Fairgrounds. Many groups and individuals contribute their time and talents to make the day a fun and informative event. Sponsors and information are at: www.celebratingagriculture.org.

Two new river segments were designated greenways by the Connecticut Greenways Council in 2011:

- **Shetucket River Greenway** - The Shetucket River is recognized by federal, state, local and private agencies as a valuable wildlife habitat for a rich diversity of aquatic and terrestrial plants and animals. The natural, historic and recreational resources enjoyed by communities are dependent upon the continued conservation along the river. This designation will facilitate natural resource protection on both sides of the Shetucket River as well as increasing public recreational opportunities. The participating communities in the Shetucket River Greenway will work to preserve the waters quality as well as the habitats within the greenway through community education and promotion of the natural, historic and recreation resources of the river corridor. For more information contact Scotland Planning & Zoning scotland.zeoplan@yahoo.com
- **Canterbury’s Quinebaug River Corridor** – This greenway is a continuance of CT’s previously designated “Quinebaug River Multipurpose Trail” in Brooklyn/Killingly and the Trolley Trail in Plainfield. Designation of Canterbury’s section of this greenway is felt to be the Town’s next natural step in promoting stewardship, conservation and education of Canterbury’s best natural resource. Contact Canterbury’s Town Planner for more information StevenSadlowski@canterbury-ct.org

News from the Municipalities

The Town of Tolland Recreation Department is partnering with the UCONN to collect water quality data in Crandall Pond in the upper Willimantic River watershed. The pond is not meeting recreational water quality standards due to exceedances of E. coli bacteria. This

research will lead to the development of a watershed based plan to address the sources of the bacterial exceedances.

In Dudley, Massachusetts, volunteer water quality monitoring, trail and greenway development are under town governance. The volunteer water quality monitoring, supported by The Last Green Valley, is continuing for the third season.

Along the Quinebaug River Valley Trail, a parking lot and kiosk were installed at Papermill Road. A portion of the parking lot has been paved for horse trailer parking. Rails on the Quinebaug River Trail have been removed. Funding for a canoe/kayak launch West Dudley Road has been secured for a 2012 installation. Funding support for these trail enhancements were provided by a grant from the Janet Masler Humanities Trust.

Massachusetts Fish and Game have determined that there is an additional 950 acres of land in Dudley owned by 17 different owners that are targeted as Natural Heritage Areas in the State of Massachusetts.

Other news

EPA's WaterSense partners across the country are promoting water-saving bathroom "mini-makeovers." Giving a home's main bathroom a mini-makeover by installing a WaterSense labeled toilet, faucet, and showerhead can save a household more than \$80 annually and 7,000 gallons of water per year—enough water to wash six months' worth of laundry. In addition to saving water, a mini-makeover saves energy by reducing the amount of water that needs to be heated—enough to power a refrigerator for two months. The combined utility savings can pay for the new fixtures in as little as two years.

Bathrooms are the biggest water users in homes, accounting for more than half of all indoor water use. With water utility costs on the rise—now averaging more than \$700 per household per year across the United States—Americans can save by giving their bathrooms a mini-makeover with a WaterSense labeled toilet, faucet, and showerhead. For more information, please visit <http://www.epa.gov/watersense/pubs/bathroom.html>

The USDA Grassland Reserve Program Sign-Up is underway. Jay T. Mar, State Conservationist for the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), and Marsha B. Jette, State Executive Director of the Farm Service Agency (FSA) in Connecticut have announced that applications will be taken for the agencies' Grassland Reserve Program (GRP). **Deadline to receive applications is November 4, 2011.**

For more information, visit the [NRCS website](#) at or the [FSA website](#) or contact your nearest USDA Field Office:

BROOKLYN
FSA and NRCS
(860) 774-0224

NORWICH
FSA – (860) 859-5218
NRCS - (860) 887-3604

Charlotte Pyle and Jasmine Wolf forwarded information on the release of a 3-part video on Japanese barberry control. The videos feature Jeffrey Ward of the Connecticut Agricultural

Experiment Station (CAES), Tom Worthley of the University of Connecticut Cooperative Extension System, and Kirby Stafford, the CAES Vice Director and State Entomologist who studies ticks and the spread of tick-borne diseases like Lyme Disease. Jasmine Wolf is also featured in the videos. The videos provide information on Japanese barberry and its control, including flame-weeding, and discussions on deer ticks and Lyme disease. The videos are dedicated to Les Mehrhoff. Click [here](#) to link to the videos.

If you would like your organization's efforts included in the next edition of the TRBP Partners in Action Report, consider attending one of our quarterly meetings. It includes a [Plan of Work](#) activity reporting session, which is an informal "round the table" discussion of Partner activities. It is a great time to network with like-focused organizations. All meetings begin at 9:30 AM. Generally, the TRBP meet quarterly on the 3rd Tuesday of the month

The next meeting of the Thames River Basin Partnership will be held on Tuesday, January 17, 2012 beginning at 9:30 AM. The location and theme of this meeting is still being determined.

Look for updates at www.trbp.org. Please mark your calendars to save the date. Meeting content and locations will be posted on the TRBP [Calendar](#) of upcoming events, or contact [Jean Pillo](#) at (860) 928-4948 for more information or to be added to the TRBP distribution list

If you are not already on the e-distribution list for this publication, contact [Jean Pillo](#) by email and request to be added, or you can download the most current version of this quarterly publication from the [TRBP website](#).

The Thames River Basin Partnership is a voluntary, cooperative effort to share resources, and strives to develop a regional approach to resource protection. The Partnership is made up of a variety of agencies, organizations, municipalities, educational institutions, companies, and individuals interested in the environmental health of the greater Thames River basin. Funding support for FY 11 for TRBP Coordinator time has been provided by The Last Green Valley. Sources of funding are being sought to continue the TRBP Coordinator position. Please consider making a donation to the Eastern Connecticut Conservation District and designate it to support the Thames River Basin Partnership Coordinator position.