

Pachaug – the River Be Dammed



Thames River Basin Partnership
Floating Workshop XIV
June 20, 2014



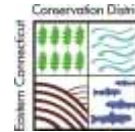
Thames River Basin Partnership

The Thames River Basin Partnership is a voluntary, cooperative effort to share organizational resources and to develop a regional approach to natural resource protection. The partnership grew out of locally led workshops held by the region's Soil and Water Conservation Districts.

Our Mission

- Protect the region's agricultural and natural areas being threatened by land use changes.
- Protect ground and surface water quantity and quality being threatened and degraded by contamination.
- Protect the region's biodiversity.
- Improve the coastal zone resource conditions.

Who are the Thames River Basin Partners?



The Pachaug River is a 16.0-mile-long river arising from the Pachaug State Forest at the Connecticut - Rhode Island border and draining into the Quinebaug River Below Jewett City.

Along those 16 miles are 14 registered dams (source CT DEEP)

Griswold Town Hall



Workshop participants were welcomed to Griswold by First Selectman Kevin Skulczyck.



Tom Giard, Jr., Chairman Griswold Economic Development Commission

Tom presented workshop attendees with an overview of the Jewett City Main Street Corridor & Streetscape Improvement Master Plan and a preliminary Pachaug Riverwalk vision for their Heritage River Community.

Jack Wesa, Chairman Voluntown Economic Development Commission

Jack gave a historic overview of four water powered mills along the Pachaug River and how Voluntown has adapted since their closing.

Seventy-five percent of the land area of Voluntown is now part of Pachaug State Forest.





Waiting to board the boats at the Pachaug Pond boat launch

Courtesy of several Pachaug Pond boat owners, workshop participants were floated to our next workshop location.



Jean Pillo, Volunteer Water Quality Monitoring Coordinator for The Last Green Valley, explains how volunteer collected data has value in lake management decision making and invites lake groups to get involved in monitoring activities supported by TLGV.



Chuck Lee of the DEEP Lakes Management Program, reviewed the pros and cons of lake drawdowns as a aquatic weed management tool, and encouraged lake groups to become involved in volunteer monitoring.



For more information on the impacts of lake drawdowns, visit <http://www.hlwa.org/drawdownfall09.html>

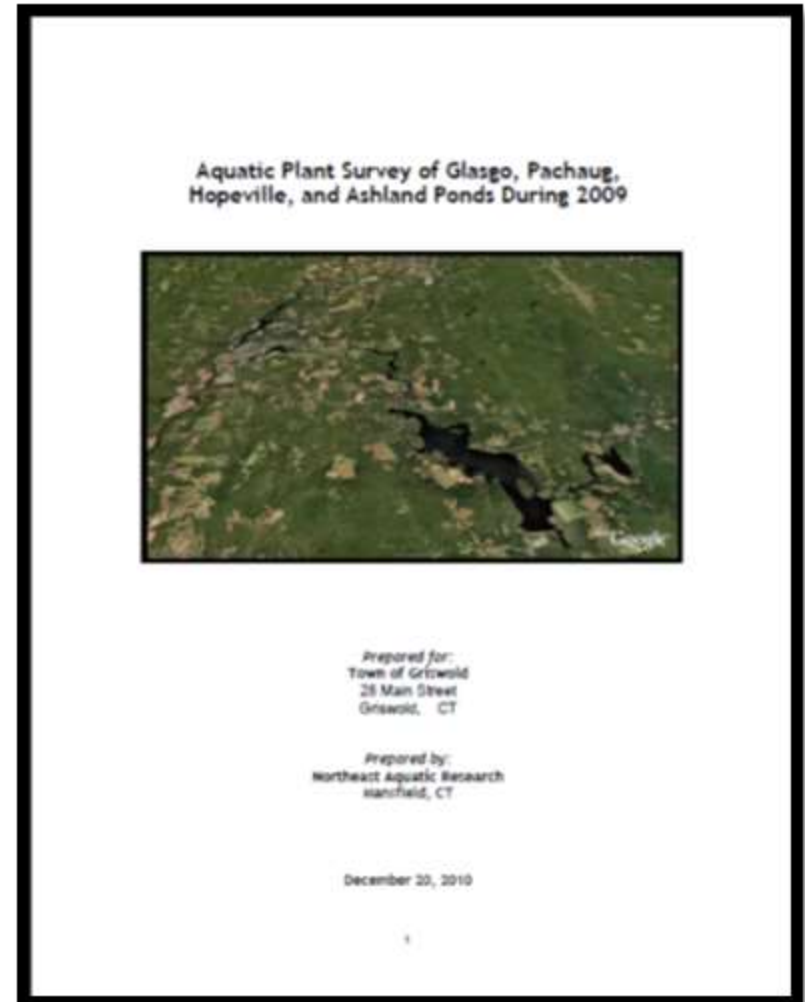


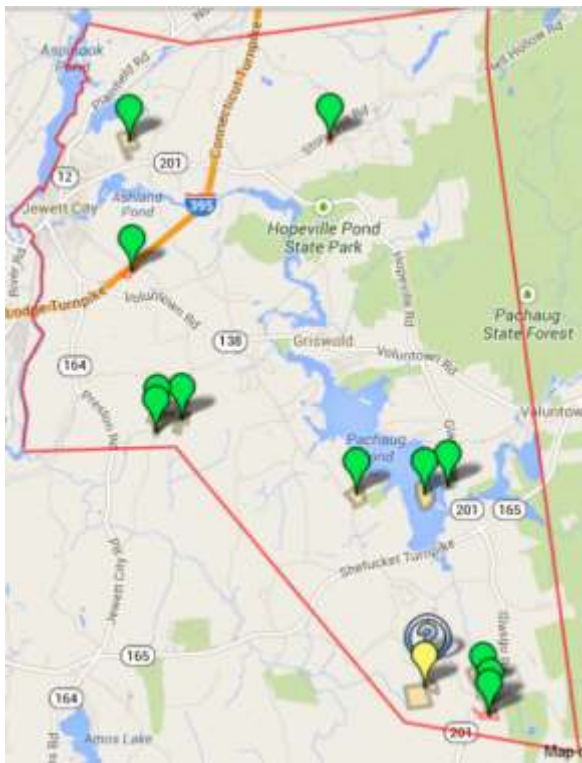
Limnologist George Knoecklein of Northeast Aquatic Research overviewed the *Aquatic Plant Survey of Glasgo, Pachaug, Hopeville, and Ashland Ponds During 2009* that the Town of Griswold commissioned him to conduct.

http://www.thamesriverbasinpartnership.org/acrobat_files/Pachaug/Griswold%20Ponds%20Report%20Final.pdf

Knoecklein advice regarding ponds of the Pachaug River:

- Annual drawdowns are not practical.
- Shallow, weedy coves with soft bottoms least likely to benefit from a winter drawdown.
- Representatives from each pond should meet together to coordinate an aquatic weed control strategy.





Anne Roberts Pierson of Avalonia Land Conservancy, Inc discusses the recent acquisition of an island in Pachaug Pond, known as the Scola Preserve, which includes the subaqueous soils around the island that are under the surface of Pachaug Pond.



TRBP thanks our volunteer boat pilots!

- Pat McGrath
- Jay Waitte
- Kevin Trahan
- Tom Burke
- Theresa
Madonna
- Art Barber







**Post TRBP Floating Workshop
networking over farm fresh ice
cream courtesy of Buttonwoods
Farm located at 473 Shetucket
Turnpike, Griswold, CT**

Double scoops!



Thank you to our Floating Workshop Supporters!

- Eastern Connecticut Conservation District
- Avalonia Land Conservancy
- CT DEEP
- Town of Griswold
- Town of Voluntown
- Northeast Aquatic Research



NORTHEAST AQUATIC RESEARCH



- The Last Green Valley
- Buttonwoods Ice Cream
- Dean's Corner Restaurant
- Arremony's Quality Bakery
- Frito Lay



Thank you to our Floating Workshop Sponsors!

