

SCANTIC RIVER CURRENTS - Winter Update 2008



SCANTIC RIVER WATERSHED ASSOCIATION
P.O. BOX 303 SOMERS CT, 06071

WEB SITE: SCANTICRIVERWATERSHED.ORG



From The Chairman —Mike Dynia

Greetings

and welcome to the SRWA Winter 2008 newsletter. 2007 was a great year with great attendance at all of the SRWA sponsored events. At the **annual meeting** in October it was voted that Pat Sharron will continue as President, Scott King Vice President, Margaret Steinbugler as Secretary and Jan Collins as Treasurer.

Kirsten Martin and Gail Manning have joined the Board of Directors. Culver Modisette, the founder of the SRWA, was honored as a Director emeritus for his important leadership. We thank Jeff Feldman for presenting his beautiful nature slideshow titled "Views from a Kayak" at the meeting.

Due to popular demand we are adding a series of hikes and paddling trips this year!

Please join us for this years 17th annual **SpringSplash** canoe/kayak race on March 29th. We are looking for **volunteers** to help out with this years "Splash" as well as other events and activities.

I look forward to seeing you at an event this year! Mike

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Scantic River Outings - Judy Snyder

Full Moon paddles. July and October the SRWA hosted full moon paddles in the Somersville Mill Pond. At the July event Eastern Mountain Sports offered instructions in their kayaks. 30 canoes and kayaks enjoyed a warm summer evening paddling with a

clear sky by the light of the silvery moon (and a few glow sticks!). The fall paddle was threatened by a heavy rainstorm. A half hour before the event the skies cleared and a hearty crew enjoyed a nice paddle and brief appearance of a full moon.



Hiking has become very popular. The December hike explored from the Scantic Recreational Park in Scitico to the Somersville Mill Pond. Judy Snyder started the New Year with 35 hikers on the new Schlatz trail in Somers. In February Rex Joffray led

65 hikers from the State land at Bailey road to the Somersville Mill Pond. The trail followed the old historic canals and remnants of the Enfield Power Company dam.

Come out and join us for a hike or paddle!

River Cleanup and Water Testing

The annual **Wadeable Stream Project** held in October was led by Mike Dynia and biologist Kirsten Martin. A mobile laboratory was setup along the Powder Hollow section. The results continue to be positive from the water qual-

ity samples taken.

The Source to Sea Project in September was organized by Betty Slanetz and co-sponsored by the SRWA. 35 participants removed over 4.5 tons of garbage from the Enfield river banks.

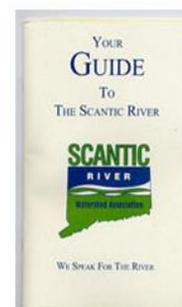
River Cleanup is a continuous task for the SRWA with volunteers removing tree falls and other obstructions from the river. We need **your help** cleaning up the river! A very active beaver population has created dams along the river.

Note: Beavers and their dams are protected by state statute. Please contact the SRWA or the CT DEP for more information.

Please help us keep the river clean for all of us to enjoy!

Scantic River Guide

The first edition of the **Scantic River Guide** has sold over 600 copies. The guide contains great maps, information on the river sections, and historic and natural resource information. The guide is available in local stores and banks such as Rockville Bank in Enfield and Somers and Enfield Federal Savings on route 190 in Enfield. You can also send a check to the SRWA at P.O. Box 303, Somers CT 06071 and include a check for \$6. (\$5 for the book and \$1 for shipping and handling).



WE SPEAK FOR THE RIVER!

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Watershed Activity - President Patrick Sharron

Springborn Dam Removal: The Connecticut DEP, Connecticut River Watershed Association, American Rivers and SRWA are working on a project that would remove the Springborn Dam in Enfield. The engineering firm Fuss and O'Neill have been chosen to provide a feasibility study to report on the impact and cost of removal.

In December Fuss & O'Neill dropped a barge into the river by the dam and took test borings of the sediment. Official test results should be available soon.

The SRWA supports a full removal of the dam for safety reasons, for enhancement to recreational activities and encouraging for the migration of fish.

River Access and protection: Dick Sherman has made great progress with the State, Town of East Windsor and property owners to provide access and land protection from the Filter Bed section to Omelia Road.

The SRWA has participated in town council meetings in Enfield to oppose zoning changes that would create

escarpment issues.

In January 2008 the SRWA supported the DEP's proposal to add a small parking lot at 464 Hazard Avenue in order to provide another access point to the river. Cheers, Pat!



Scantic Greenway Nomination - Jan Collins and Rex Joffray

The SRWA has submitted a nomination for **Greenway Designation** with the DEP Greenways Council for the section linking the Enfield Powder Hollow area to the Somersville Mill Pond. The SRWA believes that this area

is very important to be recognized as a Greenway for resource protection, historic preservation, land conservation, improvement on recreational activities and access to the river. The SRWA has applied for a \$5,000 **Green-**

way grant to assist in the planning, development and implementation on the proposed Greenway. We are very grateful for many letters of support from State officials, Town officials and local organizations. Thank you!

We will keep you posted on the outcome of our nomination.



2008 Spring Calendar

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Contact</u>
February 24th	Scantic River Hike	Melrose	Albert Grant
March 29th	17th Annual SpringSplash Race	Somersville	ScanticSpringSplash.com
May 3rd	Annual Spring Bird Watch	Somersville Mill Pond	Judith Snyder
June 14th	CT River Trails Paddle	CT River boat launch Enfield	Pat Sharron
Jun-Oct	Full Moon Paddle Series	Somersville Mill Pond	TBD

~ Check [HTTP://ScanticRiverWatershed.org](http://ScanticRiverWatershed.org) for updates and contact information! ~

Help! Volunteers wanted!

If you are interested in donating your time to a SRWA project or event please contact

Patrick Sharron @ (860) 741-2314 or Mike Dynia @ (860)745-9986

Membership renewal

It is time to renew your annual membership which is tax deductible and helps to support the Associations activities throughout the year! You will receive email notices and newsletters or our planned activities.

Please send in a check with the enclosed renewal form. We are always looking for new members. Please spread the word to your friends, families, schools, corporations and other organizations. Enclosed is a membership brochure form.



THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

WE SPEAK FOR THE RIVER!

SCANTIC RIVER WATERSHED ASSOCIATION
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION AND RENEWAL



Yes! Count me in!

- | | | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|------|-----------------------------------|-------|-----------------------------------|-------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Student | \$10 | <input type="checkbox"/> Family | \$35 | <input type="checkbox"/> Business | \$100 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Individual | \$20 | <input type="checkbox"/> Lifetime | \$250 | <input type="checkbox"/> Patron | \$500 |

Name _____ Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Telephone # _____ Email _____

Members receive our newsletters, invitations to all events, a SRWA decal, and the opportunity to DO something about the quality of life where we live.

Send your tax-deductible check (payable to "SRWA" to P.O. Box 303, Somers, CT 06071)

Please note: your name and address will not be released to any other organizations.

SRWA is a tax-exempt not-for-profit corporation.

~ THANK YOU! ~

WE SPEAK FOR THE RIVER!