

The content in this preview is based on the last saved version of your email - any changes made to your email that have not been saved will not be shown in this preview.

June 2019

[View Email as Webpage](#)

Deerfield River Watershed Association News



DEERFIELD RIVER
WATERSHED ASSOCIATION

An affiliate of
Connecticut River Conservancy

What's New in 2019

DONATE

Recreation Water Releases

New Website and Phone Number

If you are planning to swim, fish, boat, or float the **Deerfield River through Florida/Rowe and Charlemont** this summer, you will want the latest water flow information. The hydroelectric power companies periodically increase river flow rates to benefit boating and floating recreation.



Check out the new website for [water flow information below the Fife Brook Dam](#) as well as a link to a **Release Dates Calendar** showing you all of the days of increased river recreational flows for boating and floating. You can also call the **Safe Waters hotline at 1-844-430-FLOW (3569)**.

Water releases from the Fife Brook Dam last about 3 hours. It takes the increased flow of water (the bubble) about two hours to reach the Zoar Picnic Area boat and tube launch on Zoar Road. About 3½ hours for it to reach the MassDOT Shunpike Rest Area and boat launch on Route 2.

We hope to see you on the river this summer!

Where to Hike and Float

New Map



There is an all new and extremely cool **Mahican-Mohawk Trail Map** available **for free**. The map, unlike any you have probably ever seen, shows the history, photos, elevations, and routes of the many sections of trail passing through the Deerfield River watershed to North Adams. The map also includes something new—a **water trail** with river floating information including **put-ins and take-outs** along the Charlemont section of the Deerfield River. The Deerfield River Watershed Association serves as the steward of the trail between the towns of Deerfield and Shelburne Falls. We also participated with the Mahican-Mohawk Trail Council in the design of the new trail map.

Find free trail maps at:

- Shelburne Falls Visitor Information Center
- Franklin Land Trust office at 5 Mechanic Street in Shelburne Falls
- Franklin Land Trust trail head near Aubuchon's Hardware on Route 2
- Trailhead to the Shelburne Fire Tower on Halligan Avenue just north of the old Sweetheart Restaurant on Route 2

School Mini-Grant Program Ongoing



We issued one school mini-grant last winter. We will be requesting proposals this summer for additional small grants (up to \$250 each) for school projects related to watershed studies/outreach/awareness. Public school teachers and students within the Deerfield River watershed are eligible to apply. Contact us for more information at: drwa@deerfieldriver.org

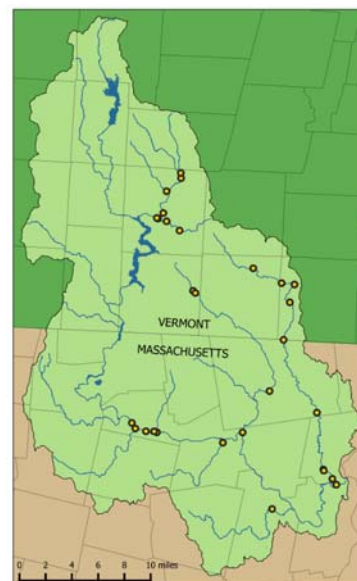
Lessons from the Field: Water Quality Monitoring

For the third year, Deerfield River Watershed Association will be monitoring water quality in both Vermont and Massachusetts. Volunteers will be out every other Wednesday morning collecting samples at 29 sites on the Deerfield River and its tributaries. The samples will be tested for bacteria, nutrients, and other water quality parameters. We work with State and local officials to select sites that will show where the high quality waters are, in addition to sites where we should be concerned about pollutants.

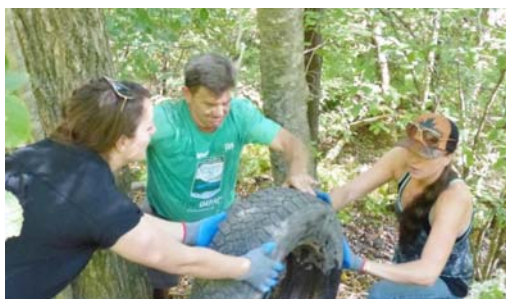
Results from 2018 showed some areas of concern around the downtown areas of both Wilmington, VT and Greenfield, MA for high levels of bacteria. In the upper Green River, we saw very turbid waters after heavy rains caused severe erosion.

In 2019, we will continue to partner with the Green River Watershed Alliance to study the Green River watershed in depth. We will also be adding the Mill Brook (Charlemont, MA) to the list of tributaries that we monitor. Check out Connecticut River Conservancy's ['Is It Clean' website to find the latest Deerfield River water quality results.](#)

2019 water sampling sites
in the Deerfield River
Watershed:



Mark Your Calendars: Green River Cleanup



The Green River Cleanup is a fun way everyone can be a river steward. Those who participate each year know this to be an enjoyable, social, and worthy event. You can join hundreds of



motivated, excited, and dedicated students and volunteers to collect and recycle literally tons of trash and tires. Our volunteers represent what is good in our valley and hill towns.

SAVE THE DATE: We hope you will join us **September 28, 2019, from 9am to 3pm**. Meet at Green River Swim Area on Nash's Mill Road, Greenfield. Visit [Connecticut River Conservancy's Source to Sea Cleanup website](#) for more information, to sign up, or to [report a site that needs cleaning up](#).

“Advocacy” is the word for 2019

This continues to be a busy year for the Deerfield River Watershed Association volunteers, advocating for your river system. We have been long-term environmental partners in the Mohawk Trail Woodlands Partnership. The Bear Swamp power project relicensing has been a long-term review and commenting effort. We also continue to push for desperately needed restroom facilities at the Route 2 Shunpike Rest Area floater put-in and take-out.



It is so important to have a consistent, reasonable, holistic environmental player at the table offering solutions to difficult problems, and we fill that role. **We will continue advocating for your incredibly special river. Please join us!**

You can reach me at: drwa@deerfieldriver.org

See you on the water or trails this summer!



Jim Perry
President
DRWA Board of Directors



GIVE FOR YOUR RIVERS

**DRWA is an affiliate of Connecticut River Conservancy.
This working partnership makes us a more effective
advocate for this special watershed.**

**Your donations go to the Deerfield River Watershed
Association and our many projects.**



CONNECTICUT RIVER
CONSERVANCY

DONATE

STAY CONNECTED

