

FALL NEWSLETTER 2009

**LAMPREY
RIVER**
Wild & Scenic



LAMPREY RIVER ADVISORY COMMITTEE

**NEWMARKET - DURHAM - LEE - EPPING
NEW HAMPSHIRE**

www.lampreyriver.org

Lamprey River Advisory Committee News, Fall 2009

The Lamprey River Advisory Committee is pleased to share some of its current activities with the communities of the Lamprey River watershed. The Lamprey is one of two New Hampshire rivers recognized in the federal Wild and Scenic Rivers, a program administered by the National Park Service.

Projects

LRAC land protection specialists continue their important work of helping land-owners find ways to protect and enhance their land for the future. They are working with several owners of sensitive land currently.

A kiosk was recently completed and installed for the Mary Folsom Blair Park in Epping. Kevin Martin, Neil Folsom, and Dick Lord created the kiosk honoring this wonderful woman and the start of the Wild and Scenic portion of the Lamprey.

Nineteen children and their parents had fun in late August learning about dragonflies and damselflies. The programs served as an introduction to a NH DES and NH Audubon project to map the occurrence of these beautiful insects. Participants learned about their life history and tried their hand at catching and identifying them along the Lamprey River. (All insects were released back to the river to continue their jobs in mosquito control.)



Planning has begun for a park and interpretation of the natural and historic assets of the Wiswall Dam in Durham. The dam was granted federal funding by FEMA for replacement of the current one-lane bridge, building of a fish ladder, and interpretation.

Plans for a canoe access ramp above Wadleigh Falls in Lee are progressing. The access will consist of rough granite steps and a kiosk describing the area. Site preparation will likely start in the summer of 2010.



The LRAC will be hosting a book-signing with award winning nature author David Carroll in November. Mr. Carroll is a New Hampshire artist and author who specializes in fresh water wetland habitats and the turtles that live there. His latest book is *Following The Water: A Hydromancer's Notebook*.

Grants

In addition to its own work, the LRAC has announced the recipients of four small grants aimed at increasing the public's awareness of and appreciation for the Lamprey River:

Paul Gasowski of Wonder Lake Media will be creating videos to supplement recent activities of the Lamprey River Advisory Committee and the Lamprey River Watershed Association. His projects will include the new Mary Folsom Blair Park kiosk in Epping, an interview with turtle expert and award winning author David Carroll, a "Streamwalk" tributary characterization and clean-up, and a short piece highlighting some of the river's quiet beauty. Mr. Gasowski is a retired high school media teacher and lives in Lee.

Curt Mackail will be creating a documentary about the historic Wiswall Dam and Mills in Durham. His work will include how the fast water of the river was harnessed to power mills to perform work and what life was like for the communities that were built around mills. Mr. Mackail has experience in communications and currently teaches music at several local schools. He lives in Exeter.

Bambi Miller will be using her experience in land conservation to do outreach to land-owners and land-users with the goal of increasing awareness of and access to conservation programs. She intends to match land-owner needs with resources that are available to protect and enhance land, control sediment and erosion, enhance water quality and quantity, and enhance wildlife. Ms. Miller is the district manager of the Strafford County Conservation District, Dover.

Neatline Associates (Anne and Jim Deely, Gile Beye) are specialists in geographic information systems (GIS) and will use their expertise to identify and map former mill sites along the Lamprey. Three sites in Epping, Lee, Durham, or Newmarket will be selected to undergo a thorough historic survey to document their lay-out, situation, and current condition. These data will be submitted to the NH State Historic Preservation Office for the statewide database of historic and archaeological sites. Neatline Associates is located in Deerfield.

The Lamprey River Advisory Committee looks forward to sharing these final products with the community and hopes that everyone remembers to "tread lightly" along the shores of this ecologically and historically important river. The committee is always looking for volunteers who would like to help with its projects. Subcommittees include land protection, outreach and education, history and archaeology, recreation, and wildlife. For more information on the Lamprey River Advisory Committee, please contact Sharon Meeker, chair, at 659-5441 or s-meeker@comcast.net.