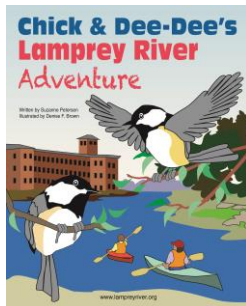


Newsletter Fall 2020



Chick and Dee-Dee's Lamprey River Adventure Now Available for FREE at www.LampreyRiver.org



This engaging children's book with a totally local setting is now available on the www.LampreyRiver.org website. You can read the story with your kids or grandkids at your leisure and share the adventure together. We hope older readers will share some of their own Lamprey River adventures with the younger generation as they follow Chick and Dee-Dee to discover natural and historical features of the Lamprey River.

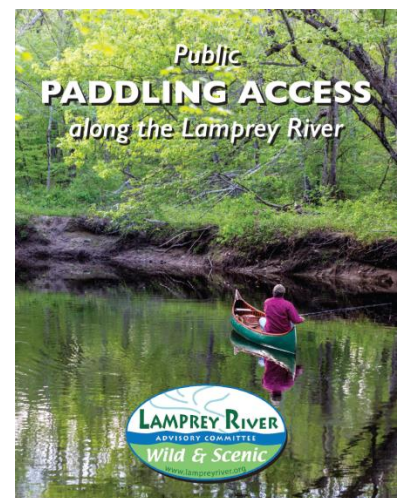
New! Lamprey River Public Paddling Access Map and Guide Now Available.

This past summer offered local people more opportunity than usual to get out on the river with a canoe or kayak. Due to many requests for public access areas, we created a map to meet that need.

The map includes driving directions, GPS coordinates, notes about each site, and rental information where applicable.

Two versions of the map allow reading on-screen or easy printing from a home computer so you can take it with you. Links for both versions are available on the home page at www.LampreyRiver.org.

(Due to repairs at Macallen Dam that began 9-1-2020, the river upstream of the dam is now extremely low.)



Town of Raymond Wetlands Inventory and Mapping Community Grant

In September, 2019, the Raymond Conservation Commission announced its intentions to update the town's wetland map and regulations to help ensure an appropriate balance between sustaining the town's identity as a rural community, including its water resources and natural habitat, and maintaining property owners' reasonable use of their land. The town applied for a Community Grant of \$6000.00 from the LRAC and the committee was pleased to help support this effort.

To accomplish its goals, DuBois & King, Inc. was contracted to map and evaluate the town's wetlands and make regulatory recommendations. Since the vast majority of the town relies upon private wells, the protection of groundwater was assumed to be of critical importance to the entire community.

The final report was completed in August 2020 and is available at the Town of Raymond website under the conservation commission page. Raymond voters will have their say about the recommendations in March 2021. Other towns are invited to review the report and process to protect their own water resources and to improve wetlands regulations.

White Nose Syndrome Update: Bad News for New Hampshire's Bats

We humans are sick and tired of Coronavirus and many have died after being infected. Bats are also suffering from a very contagious disease, but the death rate is nearly 100%. White nose syndrome first appeared in the United States in 2006-2007. Since its arrival, the fungus that causes the disease has decimated the populations of several bat species that hibernate in caves. Areas that have been hit especially hard include New Hampshire. The effect of the virus on our bats is clear: it's deadly. What has not yet been fully determined is the effect on the environment of losing so many bats.

The long-eared bat has been listed as endangered in NH for a few years and it is also federally listed as endangered. Sadly, what was once our most numerous bat, the little brown bat, is now listed as endangered in New Hampshire. Two other bats, the eastern small-footed bat and the tri-colored bat, have also been listed as endangered in New Hampshire, bringing the total number of endangered bat species to four. A fifth species, the big brown bat, has been listed as threatened. A survey undertaken by the LRAC in 2018 showed that all the expected species of bats were present, but the survey relied on bat sounds and could only record that at least one bat of a particular species was present; it did not tell how many bats of that species were present.



Photo by Nancy Heaslip, New York Department of Environmental Conservation.

These bats have white nose syndrome. The fungus attacks their face and wings and causes metabolism to rise, interrupting hibernation and routinely leading to death.

Bats are an important piece of our landscape and they are in trouble. For more information on white nose syndrome or what you can do to help bats, visit <https://wildlife.state.nh.us/nongame/white-nose-syndrome.html>.

When in Drought...

Dick Lord, long-time LRAC representative from Durham, shared these images of two sites near Packers Falls allowing us to compare last year to this year. Flows in the Lamprey River tend to be low in late summer and into fall, but this year's drought has resulted in exceptionally low flows.

Packers Falls Aug. 2019, normal flow	Packers Falls Aug. 2020, drought
 A wide river flows through a forest with vibrant autumn foliage. The water is dark and turbulent, cascading over numerous rocks. The sky is blue with a few white clouds.	 The same river site is shown, but the water is significantly lower and calmer. The rocky banks are exposed, and the surrounding forest is lush green.
 A close-up view of a waterfall with high, white, turbulent water cascading over dark rocks. The surrounding forest has some autumn-colored trees.	 The same waterfall site is shown, but the water is much lower and more spread out, with a thin layer of white foam over the rocks. The surrounding forest is green.