

LAMPREY RIVER STREAM TEAM: Key Issues to Report

Most of the land along the Lamprey River and its tributaries is under private ownership. While you have the right to be on or in the water, you will be trespassing if you go onto private land without permission. Do not put yourself in danger by engaging in unlawful detective work for a better photo or to confront a landowner. The best way to handle issues is to provide evidence and let authorized town or state officials take it from there.

In most cases, reporting is easy:

1. Take a photo with GPS enabled.
2. Record any pertinent notes to accompany the issue.
3. Contact the authority listed for the issue.

issue	what to look for	for more details	report to
illegal dumping	lawn clippings or yard waste next to river or dumped in river	Section 482-A:3 Excavating and Dredging Permit; Certain Exemptions. (state.nh.us)	town code enforcement officer
unpermitted clearing	** logging, freshly cut trees ** lawn or greenhouse plants right next to river ** bare soil	swqpa-summary.pdf (nh.gov)	town code enforcement officer
rare wildlife	especially Blanding's turtle, spotted turtle, wood turtle, black racer, bats		raarp@wildlife.nh.gov
fallen trees across or in river	especially important if they are big and block passage		town conservation commission
septic system failure	septic odors, (muck on lawn)	Frequent Questions on Septic Systems US EPA	town code enforcement office or health officer

ATV trails that cross or enter a stream	look for tire prints and probably river bank erosion	Riding in wetlands is illegal in NH; (RSA 485-A, RSA 482-A)	NHDES 1-603-271-3503
invasive vegetation	large patches of Japanese knotweed, Oriental bittersweet, etc.	Spotlight on NH Invasive Plants Extension (unh.edu)	town conservation commission
cloudiness, cyanobacteria	** Look for strange colors or cloudiness. ** Dip a stick in it. If it comes up with air bubbles, filaments or discrete plants, it is not cyanobacteria.	wmb-10.pdf (nh.gov)	NHDES Cyanobacteria Bloom Report Form (arcgis.com)
oil sheen	Dip a stick or paddle into the oil. If it breaks into blocks, it is not a problem. If it is petroleum, act fast.	c-er4-07.pdf (state.mn.us)	If you encounter a substantial amount of oil, First: Contact 911 Second: Call NHDES Spill Response Mon- Fri, 8:00 – 4:00 (603) 271-3899 weekend & evening, (603) 223-4381 (State Police Dispatch) For chemical or oil spills that impact surface water, call the National Response Center at (800) 424-8802 . emergency spill reporting email orcb.wmd@des.nh.gov , phone: (603) 271-3899

livestock	horses, cows, sheep, pigs in or next to river without fencing		town code enforcement officer, NHDES 1-603-271-3503
dead fish	two or more in a small area		NHDES 1-603-271-3503
blocked or perched culvert	perched culvert will be above the receiving stream, so that water drops down	wb-23.pdf (nh.gov)	town department of public works
foam	** Off-white or tan in color, possible fishy odor. Usually not a problem. ** If you suspect cyanobacteria might be mixed in, report it.	Ask Sam: What Makes That Weird Foam In Rivers? New Hampshire Public Radio (nhpr.org)	NHDES 1-603-271-3503
industrial buildings visible from river	If you see more building or parking lot than trees, report it.		info@LampreyRiver.org
alterations to natural river channel, alterations to protected shoreland	beaches, retaining walls, fresh clearing next to river, new sheds or patios,		town conservation commission, code enforcement officer, and planning board
cluster of litter	especially on shore, versus drift from river		town code enforcement officer
water pumps	Some are permitted, but not all.		NHDES 1-603-271-3503