

# Annual Report 2012



Together  
We Make a  
Difference



IPSWICH RIVER WATERSHED ASSOCIATION  
*The Voice of the River*



## Looking Ahead



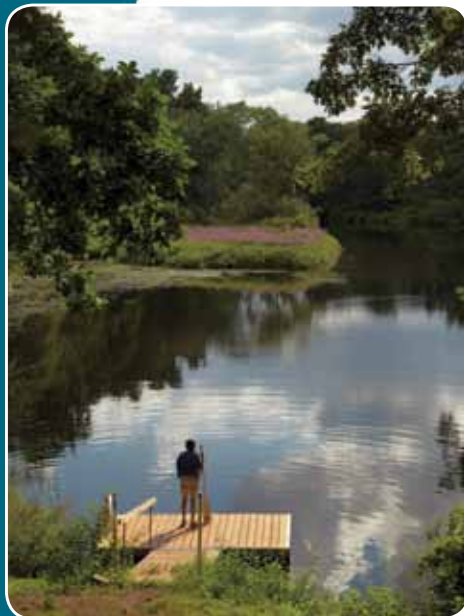
*"In a sense, the river made me who I am," says Executive Director Wayne Castonguay. "Let's get to work to protect our river, together!"*

Destiny. As you may have heard me say, it seems I was destined for this job. The majority of my childhood was spent outside in the waters and along the banks of Potter's Brook, Howlett Brook and Hood Pond in Ipswich and Topsfield. These wonderful experiences impacted me more than anything else in life and instilled in me a deep connection to the watershed we all care so much about. By age 12 I knew exactly what I wanted to do with my career and ever since have been intimately involved in conservation work within our treasured Ipswich River Watershed. In a sense, the river made me who I am.

From an outside perspective, IRWA has an unparalleled reputation for excellence and as a tireless advocate for the river. As I write this after only two weeks on the job, I am even more impressed by the strengths of this organization and the incredible passion, commitment and expertise of our staff, volunteers and supporters. Under Kerry Mackin's committed leadership, the staff, volunteers and Board have built an incredibly effective and impactful organization that we all can be proud of. Going forward, my priority will be to leverage this solid foundation to take our collective work to the next level. To me, this means most of all that we need to significantly increase the number of people who believe in our work and are actively engaged in our mission.

Although a priority of mine is to engage many more people in our work in order to have more impact, I am committed to maintaining our unparalleled legacy of advocating for the river. There simply is no other entity which can and will stand up for the river like IRWA. I am honored for the opportunity to work with all of you in the months and years ahead to continue and strengthen the incredible organization you've created. Let's get to work to protect our river, together!

## Leave a Legacy



The Ipswich River is a big part of what makes this a great place to live, work, visit and play. By naming the Ipswich River Watershed Association in your will, you can leave a legacy and keep it that way for years to come.

Naming IRWA in your will is not difficult, and you can designate any amount or remainder interest you wish. As you make or revise plans for your estate, please consider a bequest for clean water. For more information or to let us know your plans, please contact Development Director Trish Aldrich at [taldrich@ipswichriver.org](mailto:taldrich@ipswichriver.org) or 978.412.8200.

The Ipswich River was named one of the most endangered rivers in the nation in 2003. Together we'll keep it out of danger and have clean, safe water for the herring, turtles, silver maples, and humans here in our neck of the woods, fields and streams.

*A paddler connects with nature at Riverbend.  
Photo: M. Thayer*

**Front Cover:** Curtis Pond Dam, Middleton (top to bottom): Derelict dam blocks river; DER River Restoration Program Coordinator Beth Lambert watches history being made as first dam comes down in the Ipswich River Watershed; the river flows freely

**Back Cover** (clockwise): Boy with rope swing, M. Gourdeau; Winter watchdog prepares to retrieve stick, L. Coe; Two friends chat by riverside, J. Schneider; Red canoe, J. Schneider; Fall leaves, J. Schneider

## Mackin Thanks You for Making a Big Difference

As I close out my work for IRWA, I feel so grateful to you for your incredible support over these many years. Thank you so much!

Together, we have made progress in restoring the Ipswich River to health. Our biggest success is the decision by Reading to stop using its wells; thanks to the Town and our Reading Stream Team! Our advocacy, with the Charles River Watershed Association, Conservation Law Foundation and others, won court rulings forcing Mass-DEP to do a better job regulating water withdrawals. As a result, low-flows in the upper river are not as severe as in the past, and river health is improving. People are saving water; some communities have reduced demand by 20-25% since the 1990s! We are working more effectively than ever, in partnership with many other organizations and governmental agencies, to restore and protect the rivers of the North Shore.

There is still a lot to do, but I am confident that the team will be in good hands with IRWA's wonderful new leader. Wayne Castonguay's knowledge, skills, experience and lifelong love of the Ipswich River ideally suit him to lead IRWA forward. There is no one better for the job!

I want to say special thanks to my wonderful staff, past and present: Trish, Jim, Cynthia, Ryan, Brian, Carolyn, Josh, Jess, Emily, Peg, April, Frances, Martha, Mary Jane, and Daniele. Thanks to all our interns over many years. Huge thanks to all who have served on the Board of Directors and our unsung heroes, including Cam & Gay Steward, Noel Mann, Pike Messenger and Miriam Lasher. The late Dr. Bob Petranek, Jay Clapp, Robert Bonsignore, Analog Devices, EBSCO Publishing, New England Biolabs and private foundations have all helped transform IRWA into a much stronger organization. Thank you to all our members and donors: we would not be where we are without your help.

Thank you again for making such a big difference for the river, IRWA and for me personally.



*At the beginning of the estuarine section of a source to sea paddle, Kerry Mackin speaks up for her beloved river.  
Photo: J. Schneider*

## Your Gifts Raise \$40,000 to Honor Kerry Mackin

### Thank You to Our Lead Sponsors!



Over 200 people showed their appreciation for Kerry Mackin's dedication to the river at the Tune into the River benefit concert to celebrate her retirement and IRWA's 35th anniversary. You raised over \$40,000! Your donations and concert proceeds fund the Leave a Legacy Fund with income to support Tune into the River projects, including summer internships for students. You can still make a donation taking us one step closer to our \$60,000 goal and give deserving students the experience of a lifetime.

*Huge thanks to Institution for Savings, Ipswich Ale, Waterwise Salem and many others for their generous leadership support. See full list on page 7.*



## Dam Removal a Step Toward River Renewal



"If you're interested in rivers and river ecology, there's no better thing you can do for a river than remove a dam," says Tim Purinton, state director of Division of Ecological Restoration. For the first time, we can show pictures of a dam removal in our own watershed! The Curtis Pond Dam was removed in June as part of a river restoration project on Boston Brook in Middleton. Boston Brook is now flowing more naturally than it has in 80 years and migratory fish have already been spotted in areas that had been off limits to them since the dam was built.

The dam was built in the 1930s to power a sawmill but had not been used in decades and had fallen into disrepair. In 2009, the Town of Danvers (the dam owner) decided to remove the structure to restore free-flowing stream habitat and remove safety and maintenance concerns. The restored section of Boston Brook will benefit a variety of fish including river herring, sea lamprey and brook trout. The more natural conditions will also benefit native plants and wildlife living in and around the project area. IRWA will be monitoring the ecosystem response to dam removal over the next few years.

This project marks the culmination of a four-year effort by a dedicated group of partners. It also represents the first of what we hope will be many similar projects in the watershed. Our watershed has plenty of aging dams that no longer serve their intended purpose. Removing these no-longer-needed structures is one of the best opportunities to restore the river and sustain its resources for future generations.

This has been a long time coming, but we hope this project will provide momentum and help streamline future efforts in the region. We need all the interest we can get as we explore removing other dams. So please ask us about the projects, talk to your neighbors about them and consider continuing to support IRWA's river restoration efforts. For more about this and other projects visit: <http://ipswichriver.org/our-work/habitat-restoration/>



**Curtis Pond Dam, Middleton.**  
(Top) Excavator hammers at derelict dam blocking river.  
Photo: SumCo Eco-Contracting.  
(Bottom, eight weeks later) The river flows freely.

## Water for a Thirsty World



The state's Sustainable Water Management Initiative (SWMI or "Swimmie") promised to develop sound policy and management guidelines for managing our rivers. SWMI produced outstanding science, but the proposed policy and management measures are inadequate. The "safe yield" proposal does not honor MassDEP's commitment to include "the ecological health of river systems." The current proposal would also allow more damaging withdrawals before triggering mitigation. State agencies will draft regulations later in 2012. With your continued support, IRWA will keep working to strike a reasonable balance between the many competing demands for our limited water supply.

Kerry Mackin heads into Boston to deliver 200 citizen petitions in support of fair water use. She is a determined advocate for the river and true River Hero.

## Restoration Partnership Gains Steam

The Parker-Ipswich-Essex Rivers Restoration Partnership (PIE-r-squared) continues to make important progress. We have assembled a diverse partnership that will help IRWA and all PIE-r-squared members plan and carry out projects more efficiently. Over the past year, we have expanded participation and developed a restoration Action Agenda to guide our work. We have also begun building a PIE-r-squared website and developing methods for measuring long-term progress toward the partnership's goals of enough water, clean water and healthy ecosystems.

In the coming months we will transition from the planning phase to implementing projects. Even as PIE-r-squared continues to take shape, partners are already working on some exciting projects, aided by increased communication and collaboration. The partnership is about to launch a 2-year project expanding culvert surveys in the region to improve our knowledge of barriers to fish and wildlife. Trout Unlimited and the Town of Boxford (both members) are working together to redesign and replace a pair of culverts that block fish migration. These are just two examples of projects initiated or made easier as a result of PIE-r-squared.

We are ever closer to a comprehensive approach to protecting and restoring these important watersheds. Stay tuned for ways you can help as we increase our efforts to get the word out about PIE-r-squared over the next year. For more details visit: <http://pie-rivers.org>



Jim MacDougall (right) trains interns Laura, Katie and Jon to measure the dimensions and placement of a culvert to gauge whether it is a barrier for migrating fish and wildlife. There are over 1000 bridges and culverts in the PIE-r-squared region.

## Take Steps to Reduce Your Water Footprint

Saving water is probably one of the easiest ways to help your local environment. By saving water, you save money and energy, and help our rivers, too! The Ipswich River provides drinking water to 335,000 people and thousands of businesses in 14 communities in northeastern Massachusetts. Water withdrawals frequently dry up parts of the Ipswich and Parker Rivers, especially during the summer heat when water levels in our rivers are at an annual low and demand for water is at its peak.

Many people do not know how much water they use or thus could save every day. This past spring, IRWA unveiled a new website, [SaveWaterNorthShore.org](http://SaveWaterNorthShore.org), to help residents and businesses in northeastern Massachusetts understand their water use and how to save water. [SaveWaterNorthShore.org](http://SaveWaterNorthShore.org) provides people with simple tools to get started saving water, without changing their lifestyle.

We are also working to promote water conservation through the North Shore Greenscapes Coalition ([www.greenscapes.org](http://www.greenscapes.org)), where we work with 18 participating communities to educate citizens about water and chemical saving landscaping practices that have less impact on the environment.

Both of these water conservation education efforts raise awareness about the value and importance of water in our region. Saving water is easy: it just takes knowledge, planning and commitment. We can all conserve water in small ways that make a big difference.



The Soininen kids use rainwater to water their gardens. Rain barrels are an easy way to save water and help the Ipswich River. Learn more at [SaveWaterNorthShore.org](http://SaveWaterNorthShore.org). Photo: L. Soininen



# Supporters (July 2011 — June 2012)

Thanks to all our generous supporters —We couldn't do it without you!

We are grateful for each and every gift you make. We regret that we cannot list all donors here. If you prefer to change how your name is listed, please call the office or e-mail [taldrich@ipswichriver.org](mailto:taldrich@ipswichriver.org).

## River Stewards

This leadership group of donors each provide \$1,000 or more in support through membership, Annual Appeal or other gifts. Your support makes a world of difference!

Anonymous  
Christopher & Deborah Abbott  
Analog Devices, Inc  
April Bowling & Peter Phippen  
Loring Bradlee & Janet Stone  
Cell Signaling Technology  
Linda & Mark Coe  
Jessie B. Cox Charitable Trust  
Joan Cudhea  
Helen B. Danforth  
Denise King Landscape Designs  
Division of Ecological Restoration  
Nancy Eaton  
EnTrust Fund  
Sissy ffolliott  
Georgia & David Flood  
Michael & Phyllis Greene  
Charles & Natasha Grigg  
Tim & Joanie Ingraham  
Institution for Savings  
Miriam Lasher  
Peg Lawrence & Ben Morrill  
Kerry Mackin  
Barbie & Painey Metcalf  
New England Biolabs Foundation  
New England Biolabs Inc.  
Norcross Wildlife Foundation  
Orchard Foundation  
Joanne Patton  
Dick & Snooky Phippen  
Bob & Ann Pulver  
Roux Associates  
Miranda Russell  
Chris & Joe Sandulli  
Sheehan Family Foundation  
Binkley & Paula Shorts  
Trina Smith  
Stevens Foundation  
Mr. & Mrs. Campbell Steward  
Gil & Sally Steward  
Teradyne, Inc.  
The Two Commandments Foundation  
Wenham Lake Watershed Association  
Fred & Susie Winthrop  
Michael Wood

## Special Gifts and Grants

### Program Support

Anonymous  
Analog Devices, Inc  
Ayco Charitable Foundation  
Blandford Fund  
Cell Signaling Technology  
Jessie B. Cox Charitable Trust Fund at  
The Boston Foundation  
Joan Prichard Cudhea Fund,  
Fidelity Charitable Gift Fund  
Division of Ecological Restoration  
EnTrust Fund  
GE Foundation  
Greenscapes North Shore  
Whitney & Tizzy Hatch  
Thomas & Patricia Hughes Family Fund,  
Fidelity Charitable Gift Fund  
Hurdle Hill Foundation  
Kenwood Foundation  
Brinck Lowery & Susie Banta Lowery  
Barbara Putnam Metcalf & Robert Treat  
Paine Metcalf Fund, The Boston  
Foundation  
Muddy Pond Trust Fund, The Boston  
Foundation  
New England Biolabs Foundation  
New England Biolabs Inc.  
Norcross Wildlife Foundation  
Orchard Foundation  
Joanna Phippen  
Roux Associates  
Edward & Susie Rowland Charitable  
Fund, Fidelity Charitable Gift Fund  
Allison Ryder & David Jones  
Sheehan Family Foundation  
Springate Fund



Public interest watchdog Robert Bonsignore delivers \$150,000 from an anti-trust settlement to help fund the Parker, Ipswich and Essex River Restoration Partnership for three years. Photo: M. Lasher



We remain forever grateful to Dr. Bob Petranek for giving IRWA a beautiful home on the Ipswich River. He passed on this year, but his legacy lives on. Photo: 2007 Grand Opening

Mary & Jim Steggall Charitable Fund,  
Fidelity Charitable Gift Fund  
Nathaniel & Elizabeth P. Stevens  
Foundation  
Campbell & Grace V. Steward Fund,  
Fidelity Charitable Gift Fund  
Gilbert L. and Sally J. Steward Family  
Fund, Fidelity Charitable Gift Fund  
Peter Twining Family Foundation,  
Fidelity Charitable Gift Fund  
The Two Commandments Foundation  
US Smokeless Tobacco Settlement  
Wenham Lake Watershed Association

### Riverbend

John W. Peirce Fund, Essex County  
Community Foundation

### RiverWatch

New England Biolabs

## Business Support

### \$10,000 and up

Analog Devices, Inc  
Cell Signaling Technology  
Institution for Savings

### \$5,000 and up

New England Biolabs Inc.

### \$1,000 and up

Denise King Landscape Designs  
Roux Associates  
Teradyne, Inc.

### \$100 and up

Allsopp Design And Construction  
Biodiversity Consulting  
Corliss Brothers Nursery  
DeRosa Environmental Consulting  
Georgia Flood Design  
Ipswich Shellfish Fish Market  
Jacqueline's Gourmet Cookies  
Mercury Brewing Co.  
Mill River Winery  
Newbury Tool & Die  
Pfizer  
Tedford's  
Weston & Sampson Engineers  
Zumi's

### Up to \$100

Avalon Realty  
Benjamin Nutter Associates, Architects  
Cricket Press  
D.F. Clark, Inc  
GoodSearch  
H. L. Graham Associates, Inc  
HP Employee Charitable Giving Program  
IBM Corporation  
Microsoft Matching Gifts Program  
Millennium  
Varian Semiconductor Equipment



The popular Route 97 canoe launch in Topsfield will be restored thanks to Cell Signaling Technology. We will stabilize the slope with large stones, rebuild the river bank, eliminate sediment constantly washing into the river and improve canoe access for years to come.

## Tune Into the River Special Gifts

Special donations and River Concert proceeds fund the Leave a Legacy Fund, with income to support Tune into the River projects, including summer internships for students.

Trish & Dave Aldrich  
Tony & Gail Annis  
Donald & Ursula Bade  
Kathleen Baskin  
Sue Bass  
Ed & Sheila Becker  
Ben Nutter  
Julia Blatt  
Robert Bonsignore  
April Bowling & Peter Phippen  
Loring Bradlee & Janet Stone  
Marie Brescia  
BTA/BOLT  
John & Susan Buck  
Donald & Martha Campbell  
Jay Clapp  
Linda & Mark Coe  
Russell Cohen  
Susanna & Moose Colloredo-Mansfeld  
George Comiskey  
Joan Maxwell Cook  
Cricket Press  
Peter Cudhea  
Murry & Mary Cunningham  
David & Mary Dearborn  
Ed Dick  
Chris & Tim Driscoll  
Eileen & Hunt Durey  
William & Christine Dwyer  
Alan Feldman & Carol Seitchik  
Sissy ffolliott  
George & Phyllis Fischer  
Marion Frost  
Angela Getchell  
Judy & Robert Gore  
Bob & Kathy Gravino  
Michael & Phyllis Greene  
Nancy Hammett  
Jess & Cale Hendricks  
Art Howe  
Lily Rice Hsia  
Cynthia & Franz Ingelfinger  
Institution for Savings  
Jacqueline's Gourmet Cookies  
Brian & Betsy Kelder  
E. K. Khalsa  
Joan & John Kimball  
Beth Lambert & Rob Vincent

Dan Heiter, Bill York and other New England Biolabs volunteers lay an apron of permeable pavers to increase parking and reduce polluted runoff.

Miriam Lasher  
Catherine & John Lastavica  
Emily Levin  
John & Tracy Lutz  
James & Christina MacDougall  
Jonathan & Laurie Matson  
Mercury Brewing Co  
Barbie & Painey Metcalf  
Donna Martin & Rick Rousseau  
Peter & Alicia Moore  
New England Biolabs Foundation  
John Nove  
Ryan O'Donnell  
Barbara Ostberg  
Samuel & Lisa Otis  
Joanne Patton  
Karen Pelto  
Dick & Snooky Phippen  
Nathaniel & Holly Pulsifer  
Robert & Ann Pulver  
Ed Rauscher  
Pamela Resor  
Reid & Iva Rideout  
Miranda Russell  
Chris & Joe Sandulli  
Michael Searles  
Binkley & Paula Shorts  
Trina Smith  
David & Muriel Standley  
Bradley & Martha Stevenson  
Mr. & Mrs. Campbell Steward  
Suzanne Sullivan  
Teradyne, Inc.  
Sally Thomson  
A. David & Helen Tory  
Margaret Van Deusen  
Maria VanDusen  
Stephen & Margie Vernon  
Ed & Eva Walker  
William & Mary Wasserman  
Chub & Nicole Whitten  
Hope Wigglesworth  
Dave & Mary Williams  
Fred & Susie Winthrop  
Michael Wood





Donated Goods & Services

Katy and Dave Aldrich  
Alpha Analytical, Inc.  
Jim Berry  
Cathy Carney-Feldman  
Linda Coe  
Cricket Press  
Denise King Landscape Designs  
Ron Donahue  
DownRiver Ice Cream  
Essex County Greenbelt Assoc  
Georgia Flood Design  
Katrina Hart  
Franz Ingelfinger  
Inter-Fluve, Inc.  
John LeJeune & Mary Donovan  
Ken and Amy MacNulty  
Natalie Medici  
Mercury Brewing Company  
Meridian Associates  
Mill River Winery  
Steve Morris  
New England Biolabs Inc.  
John Nove  
Rowing For All  
Miranda Russell  
Trout Unlimited, NorEast Chapter  
Zumi's

Leave a Legacy

The Ipswich River Legacy Fund recognizes those who have provided for the Ipswich River through their will or other planned gift.

Jay Clapp  
Kerry Mackin  
Dr. Bob Petranek  
John W. Peirce Fund  
Mr. Campbell Steward  
Joe Valenzuela



Graphic design volunteer Linda Coe pats Luna at the Canoe Dock Opening. She is staff pick for the 2012 Above and Beyond Award. Photo: F. Ingelfinger

Tributes

We are honored to protect the Ipswich River in tribute to these members of the river community.

*In memory of Dick Ostberg*  
Karin Ostberg Montlack & Marc Montlack  
*In memory of Dr. Bob Petranek*  
Trish & Dave Aldrich  
Thomas Clasby  
Joan Cummiskey  
Miriam Lasher  
Kerry Mackin  
Peter & Alicia Moore  
Mary Page  
Nancy Rulli  
Mr. & Mrs. Campbell Steward  
Suzanne Sullivan  
*In memory of Richard Hogan*  
Teresa Johnson  
*In memory of Shadow*  
Chub & Nicole Whitten  
*In memory of Steve Landwehr*  
Kerry Mackin

Volunteers (July 2011 — June 2012)

You really make a difference!

Volunteers are vital to the strength and vibrancy of Ipswich River Watershed Association. You are the caretakers of the mission and the catalyst for IRWA to grow and sustain its river legacy for future generations.

Katie Achilles  
Dave Aldrich  
Katy Aldrich  
Bruce Amazeen  
Farzad Atif  
John Bacon  
Donnan Barnes  
Jeff Becker  
Will Bernard  
Jim Berry  
Nan Blue  
Matt Bonventre  
Loring Bradlee  
Gideon Bresley  
Katharine Brown  
Elizabeth Cameron  
Wayne Castonguay  
Chris Cataldo  
Cheryl Clapp  
Linda Coe  
Shannon Colter  
Butch Conary  
Dylan Corning  
Tina & Chris Cummings  
Amy Curley  
Sharon Cushing  
Diana Davis  
Mike & Sue DeAmario  
Katharine Deuel  
Eric Devlin  
Yashika Dewani  
Dixon Family  
Ron Donahue  
Judy Donovan  
Zoe Dorau  
Renee Dunn  
Jack Elsey  
Sissy ffolliott  
William Finch  
Ben Flemer  
Georgia Clark Flood  
Joan Flynn  
Susan Foster  
Kai Freyleve  
M. Frieberger  
Paul & Susan Fritz  
Joanna Galoski  
Erica Giovanniello  
Girl Scout Troop 60196  
Gayle Gleichauf  
Connie Gourdeau  
Sharon Grimes  
William Hansen  
Jon Hart  
Karen Hartel  
Daniel & Sally Heiter  
Mary Hill  
Kate & Brian Hone  
Kim Honetschlager  
Art Howe  
Sylvia Howe  
Alydth Innis  
Richard Ireland  
Norm Isler  
Ingrid Johnson  
Laura Josephson  
Kane Family  
John Kastrinos  
Tina Kieran  
Denise King  
Paige Knudsen  
Bob Koenig  
John Koza  
Alex Kraus  
Mary Landry  
Ann Larson  
Miriam Lasher  
Ryan Law  
John LeJeune  
Paul L'Herrou  
Hannah Lopez  
Mark Lovejoy  
Wayne Mackey  
Kerry Mackin  
Renee Malioneck  
Judy Mansfield  
Roger Martell  
Fran Masse  
Bill McDavitt  
Margaret McDermott

Mike McGarty  
Larry McTiernan  
Ben Mendelson  
David & Nancy Merrill  
Pike Messenger  
Jack Monaghan  
Nat Moody  
Caitie Moore  
Peter Moore  
Steve Morris  
Greg Murrer  
Beth Myers  
Tim Nawrocki  
Deborah Nelson  
Mike Nelson  
Nick Nelson  
Pamela Newport  
Connor O'Brien  
Beth O'Connor  
Robert O'Donnell  
Ryan O'Donnell  
Sean O'Keefe  
Mike O'Neill  
Thomas O'Regan  
Barbara Ostberg  
Sally Pawlowski  
Peter Phippen  
Peter Pinciario  
Annie & Bob Pulver  
Bill Reed

Dana Reid  
Anne Reynolds  
Rick Rogers  
Ruth Ryan  
Lauren Rybiki  
Carol Sandberg  
Joe Sandulli  
Peggy Saquet  
Josh Sazin  
Judy Schneider  
Karl Seibert  
Rue Sherwood  
Tanya Smith  
Gina Snyder  
Walter Soule  
Carol Staiti  
Ava Steenstrup  
Jeremy Stelline  
Tom Sternberg  
Martha Stevenson  
Janet Stone  
Lee Story  
Aaron Stratton  
Suzanne Sullivan  
Katie Szymaszek  
Brian Tinger  
Joe Tragert  
TU NorEast Chapter  
Ugone Family  
Maria VanDusen

Irene vanSchyndel  
Dave Williams  
Lindsey Williams  
Michael Wolfe  
Nancy Wolfe  
Cheryl Yemma  
Pat Zalewski



Interns Katie Achilles, Laura Josephson and Jon Hart head out to measure road crossings to determine which culverts and bridges block fish and wildlife passage.

Volunteers Make a Difference for Water Quality Monitoring



Mike DeAmario tests for dissolved oxygen, Peabody St, Middleton.

The water monitoring programs at IRWA have enjoyed continued success over the past year. Volunteer participation remains high. The high quality and variety of monitoring programs are only possible with your help.

The RiverWatch Program, now in its sixteenth year, involves volunteer monitors collecting valuable data to help understand trends in water quality. We continue to observe dissolved oxygen levels falling below Mass. water quality standards in the summer months and especially in the upper watershed. We also sample macroinvertebrates (bugs) in the river to measure water and habitat quality. This work shows how important it is to maintain adequate flows in the river to protect and sustain a healthy community of fish and other aquatic organisms. Please see our website for the 2011 RiverWatch Monitoring Report

The herring count just finished its fourteenth year. In 2012, 49 volunteers completed a total of 328 ten-minute counts from April 1 to June 2. Collectively, counters

observed 55 herring using the fish ladder to spawn. Lindsey Williams performed the most counts at 142. Ben Flemer was second with 76 counts, followed by Bruce Amazeen with 56. Kerry Mackin observed the most fish at one time with 7. The total run size was calculated to be 756 herring. The Mass. Division of Marine Fisheries provided the analysis software and staff at NOAA helped to analyze past data. We greatly appreciate the efforts of Kate Banks Hone to manage the annual count and encourage people to get involved in 2013.

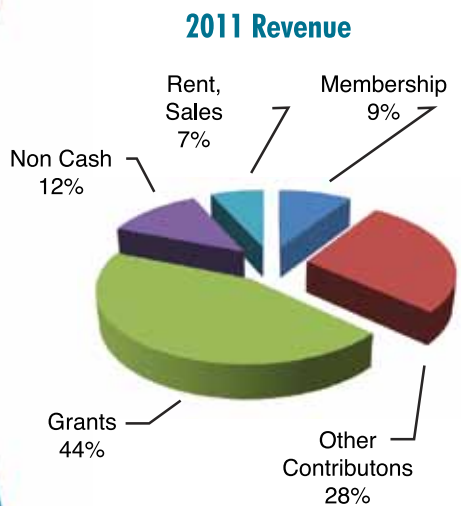
The work of the volunteers shows how many people working together can make a difference for the river. Your presence on the river is an example of how each of us can do our part by monitoring, saving water, talking to our friends and neighbors or enjoying this resource we all share.



River Clean Up volunteers Melissa and Bill make a difference at the 22nd annual Ipswich River Clean Up in North Reading. Photo: G. Snyder



Financial Report Summary for year ending December 31, 2011



REVENUE	TOTAL
Membership	30,198
Other Contributions	89,462
Grants	143,897
Non-cash Contributions	39,777
Programs, Rent, Sales, Investments	22,121
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<b>325,455</b>

EXPENSES	TOTAL
Program Services	250,673
Support Services	17,185
Fundraising	64,617
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>332,475</b>

**INCREASE (DECREASE) IN NET ASSETS (7,020)**  
Includes \$33,176 depreciation expense

BALANCE SHEET

ASSETS	TOTAL
Current Assets	414,262
Net Property and Equipment	1,357,115
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>1,771,377</b>

LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	TOTAL
Liabilities	21,502
Net Assets or Fund Balances	1,749,875
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS</b>	<b>1,771,377</b>

IRWA's complete financial report is available upon request.



On a guided trip, IRWA members explore the river near Ipswich River Wildlife Sanctuary in Topsfield. Join us on the river. Photo: J. Schneider

Your Local Heroes Make a Difference

Mass River Alliance

Under Julia Blatt's leadership, the Mass Rivers Alliance has become an effective voice for river protection in Massachusetts. She is instrumental in keeping the environmental community focused on protecting natural flows, reducing polluted runoff and conserving fish and wildlife.

Pike Messenger and Fran Masse

Pike and Fran have worked together for many years, protecting the river and bringing many others along to enjoy it with them. They are regular RiverWatch monitors and active members of the Middleton Stream Team, lead many hikes and canoe trips, and have made many friends for the river along the way. In addition, Pike served on IRWA Board of Directors, writes the weekly Water Closet that appears on IRWA's blog and in area newspapers, and just published a book, The Water Closet: Ipswich River Watershed and Beyond.

Mary Landry

Many thanks to Mary for her unwavering good cheer and help with the River Concert. Mary did whatever needed doing including securing donations, recruiting great volunteer help, securing corporate donations, picking up beer and soda, and putting the FUN into fundraising.

Linda Coe: Above and Beyond Award

For not only designing our annual report and quarterly newsletters (as she has for many years), but also stepping up this year to design the water bottles, invitations, posters and programs for the River Concert and being a complete pleasure throughout, Linda is staff pick for the 2012 Above and Beyond Award.

Summer Interns

We had four outstanding summer interns this year. Jon Hart, Laura Josephson and Katie Achilles are Environmental Engineering undergraduates. They worked on surveying road stream crossings as part of a regional project to score such structures for their degree of impairment to wildlife passage and habitat connectivity. They also produced an excellent video demonstrating our water monitoring procedure. Yashika Dewani is an Environmental Science graduate student. She worked on analysis for dissolved oxygen data and helped to develop an interactive map for our website. All four interns helped sort macroinvertebrate specimens, did gardening work and other tasks around the office. We greatly appreciate all they did.



Fran Masse (left) and Pike Messenger have worked together for many years, protecting the river and bringing many others along to enjoy it with them. Photo: J. Schneider

Ipswich River Watershed

The Ipswich River Watershed Association is the voice of the Ipswich River. It restores the river to health and ensures enough clean water for all.

Staff

- Kerry Mackin  
Executive Director
- Wayne Castonguay  
Executive Director (Incoming)
- Trish Aldrich, Development
- Carolyn Favazza, Bookkeeper
- Cynthia Ingelfinger, Outreach
- Brian Kelder, Restoration
- Jim MacDougall, Naturalist
- Ryan O'Donnell, Programs

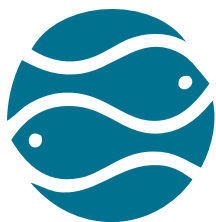
Board of Directors

- Peter Phippen, President
- Beth Lambert, Vice President
- Christine Sandulli, Vice President
- Campbell Steward, Treasurer
- Dave Williams, Secretary
- Hunt Durey
- Arthur Howe III
- Miriam Lasher
- R. T. Paine Metcalf
- Bob Pulver
- Suzanne Sullivan
- Maria Van Dusen
- Mary Whitney

IRWA staff gather at the river. Ryan, Trish, Jim, Cynthia, Kerry and Brian.







# IPSWICH RIVER WATERSHED ASSOCIATION

*The Voice of the River*

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The Ipswich River is a big part of what makes this a great place to live, work and visit. Together, we'll keep it that way.

