



The Paddle-a-thon
2022 Committee

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Daniel Heiter
Topsfield

David Kneidler
Middleton

Kathy Lindquist
Topsfield

Brian Tinger
South Hamilton

<<Envelope Name>>
<<Address>>
<< Town>>,<< State>> << Postal Code>>

Dear <<First Name>>,

Welcome! We're thrilled to have you on our team, helping us ensure the future health of the Ipswich River.

The Ipswich River Watershed Association (IRWA), founded in 1977, is a group of residents, scientists, businesses, and community leaders concerned about the health of the Ipswich River and its watershed. We aim to protect nature and make sure there is enough clean, safe, reliable water for people, fish, and wildlife.

Dating back to the first Paddle-a-thon (PAT) in 2016, Paddle-a-thon has always been a volunteer-driven fundraising initiative to raise awareness and connect people to the river. In that first year, we raised approximately \$25,000. In 2021, PAT raised over \$100,000 and engaged more than 130 participants. This year, the PAT Committee has set a goal of raising \$100,000 and engaging over 150 participants (called "Paddle Raisers")!

Over the past two years, Paddle-a-thon has shifted from a day-long party in June with paddling and other activities to a series of individual and team-driven events and activities in April, May, and June, culminating in a celebration party, this year on June 18th. In 2021, over 35 individuals and teams engaged in various activities on and near the river, including paddling, hiking, cycling, etc., to raise critical funds for the river. Over 130 business sponsors joined the effort.

We hope you will join us at our party on June 18th at the Topsfield Fair Grounds. We've planned a Social Paddle from 9 am to noon and a canoe race and party from noon to 3 pm. The party will feature music by Orville Giddings, beer from Ipswich Ale Company's "Tapmobile" (beer truck), tacos from Baja Taco Truck, and a raffle for a 15'10" Tom Hill "Champlain" lapstrake canoe, donated by White Rose Canoe in Newbury.

We encourage you to include your family and friends in the fun and get the word out in your town, schools, and workplace about your efforts to support the Ipswich River and its watershed.

Thank you!

Amy MacNulty
Paddle-a-thon 2022 Co-chair
Lynnfield

Lauren Fitzgerald
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Topsfield

ipswichriver.org/pat2022

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