

## Connecticut River Joint Commissions Partnership Program 2003 Awards

Project Summary	Applicants	Awards	Percent
<b>Total</b>	74	25	34%
<b>Funding</b>	\$309,733	\$85,000	27%

### *Water Quality*

#### **Cold River Water Quality Characterization**

**Grant awarded: \$5,000**

*Project location: Alstead, Acworth, Walpole, Langdon, Lempster, Charlestown, Marlow, Unity, NH*

*Submitted by: Cold River Local Advisory Committee*

Funds will support the purchase of a submersible multi-parameter probe that will enable CRLAC to conduct more efficient and accurate data collection and water quality monitoring at a greater number of sites in the Cold River watershed. Data will be shared with landowners, agencies and organizations who have a stake in the region's water quality.

#### **Leach Creek Restoration**

**Grant awarded: \$5,000**

*Project location: Canaan, VT*

*Submitted by: Vermont Leadership Center*

As part of an effort to protect water quality and restore wildlife habitat along Leach Creek, a tributary of the Connecticut River in Canaan, VT, this project will stabilize a 400' section of eroded streambank, restore an 800' riparian buffer zone by planting native trees, and monitor water quality on a private parcel of farmland. Partnership funds will help pay for a youth crew from the Northeast Kingdom Conservation Service Corps as well as saplings, duckbill anchors, and cables.

#### **Millers Run Habitat Improvement**

**Grant awarded: \$4,500**

*Project location: Sheffield, Wheelock, Sutton, Lyndon, VT*

*Submitted by: Caledonia County Natural Resources Conservation District*

Funds from the Partnership Program will enable the NRCD to conduct a complete assessment of the effectiveness of bioengineering techniques that have been used over a ten year period along an 8-mile stretch of river in the Millers Run watershed. Findings will be shared with landowners, agencies, and organizations.

#### **Black River Buffers and Impervious Surfaces**

**Grant awarded: \$4,000**

*Project location: Springfield, Weathersfield, Ludlow, Cavendish, VT*

*Submitted by: Southern Windsor County Regional Planning Commission*

Funds will allow the SWCRPC and Black River watershed Action Team to develop a map and inventory of impervious surfaces within 100 feet of the Black River in four key watershed towns. Data collected from the groundtruthing work will enable the SWCRPC to make recommendations for areas along the river that would benefit from mitigation.

#### **Keeping Stormwater Where it Falls: A Conference**

**Grant awarded: \$2,000**

*Project location: Bi-state Upper Valley Region*

*Submitted by: Upper Valley Lake Sunapee Regional Planning Commission*

Funds will be used to convene a two-day, hands-on conference on low-impact development and storm water management techniques to maintain water quality and encourage ground water recharge in the Upper Valley.

### *Future Land Use*

#### **Woodstock Wetland Identification, Mapping & Natural Communities Analysis**

**Grant awarded: \$3,000**

*Project location: Woodstock, VT*

*Submitted by: Woodstock Conservation Commission*

The Woodstock Conservation Commission will inventory and map small, isolated wetlands in the town. The work will contribute to the Commission's larger effort to analyze the area's natural communities and wetlands in order to make recommendations for protection and to inform local landowners about ecologically sensitive areas.

## ***Agriculture***

### **VT/NH Milk Marketing Study Group Workshop**

**Grant awarded: \$4,500**

*Project location: Connecticut River Valley region of VT and NH*

*Submitted by: UNH Cooperative Extension*

In an ongoing effort to educate farmers in Vermont and New Hampshire about milk marketing issues and changing trends in the dairy industry, the VT/NH Milk Marketing Study Group (facilitated by UNH Cooperative Extension) will convene another information session and meeting for regional farmers in July, 2003. The keynote speaker will be Dr. George Brinkman, Professor of Agriculture at the University of Guelph, Ontario, who will address issues such as agriculture and trade policy, global marketing, rural development and farm viability, and agricultural policies.

### **Community Guide to Buying Locally Grown Foods**

**Grant awarded: \$2,000**

*Project location: Walpole - Bath, NH ; Westminster - Ryegate, VT*

*Submitted by: Vital Communities of the Upper Valley*

Funds from the Partnership Program will contribute toward the production of a guidebook that will introduce consumers to a wide variety of Connecticut River Valley farms and agricultural producers. The guidebook will support local farmers by developing consumer knowledge and interest in purchasing locally grown foods.

## ***Education***

### **Copper Mining Documentary**

**Grant awarded: \$5,000**

*Project location: Strafford, VT*

*Submitted by: Strafford Historical Society*

The Strafford Historical Society will produce four documentary films on the history and environmental impacts of Vermont's copper mining industry. The documentaries – an hour-long film and three shorter versions for classroom and tourist use – will present the industry's economic, cultural and environmental impacts, the story of the cleanup process, and local communities' involvement in seeking solutions to the industry's pollution of the Connecticut River and its tributaries.

### **Complimentary River Projects for a Better Future**

**Grant awarded: \$3,000**

*Project location: South Royalton, VT school property along the White River*

*Submitted by: South Royalton Public School*

Funds from the Partnership Program will help support the creation of a new public access trail to the White River that will include an environmentally-friendly observation deck as well as natural history kiosks. Initiated by South Royalton students and educators, the project will also involve community members and will serve as an educational and recreational resource for local citizens and visitors alike.

### **Best Practices in the Care and Repair of Barns II (workshop)**

**Grant awarded: \$2,500**

*Project location: Connecticut River Valley, location to be determined (Haverhill likely)*

*Submitted by: The Preservation Education Institute, Historic Windsor, Inc.*

As part of an ongoing effort to educate owners and professional tradespeople about barn repair and restoration, Historic Windsor, Inc. will convene a two-session workshop in September, 2003. The homeowners' session will address condition assessments, setting priorities, finding available resources, and working with banks and funding sources. The professionals' session will present case studies on best practices in barn stabilization, repair techniques, safety and cost estimation.

### **Orford Conservation Festival**

**Grant awarded: \$900**

*Project location: Orford, NH*

*Submitted by: Orford Conservation Commission*

In an effort to educate local residents and the broader public about land protection and related resource conservation issues, the Orford Conservation Commission will hold a one-day event during the summer, 2003. The festival will be free and will include exhibits, materials and educational activities on topics such as water quality protection, benefits of open space, techniques of conservation easements, historic preservation, and recreational opportunities on preserved lands. Partnership funds will support logistical needs and publication of several newsletters about the event.

## ***Recreation***

### **Assessing Public Access Opportunities and Challenges**

**Grant awarded: \$5,000**

*Project location: Bradford, VT; Haverhill and Bath, NH*

*Submitted by: Upper Valley Land Trust*

The Upper Valley Land Trust will evaluate public access opportunities and challenges on seven parcels of conserved land in Bradford, VT and Haverhill and Bath, NH in order to balance access and recreational interests with protection of sensitive natural areas and farm owners' operating concerns.

### **North Stratford Canoe Campsite**

**Grant awarded: \$5,000**

*Project location: North Stratford, NH*

*Submitted by: Northern Forest Canoe Trail*

As part of its effort to reestablish a long-distance recreational water trail across the Northern Forest region of New York, Vermont, New Hampshire and Maine, the Northern Forest Canoe Trail will use Partnership funds to construct a campsite on the Connecticut River in North Stratford, NH. The site will become the first authorized campsite in the area, which NFCT hopes will help halt problems of illegal camping and trespassing that have plagued private landowners for years.

### **Windsor Waterfront Revitalization**

**Grant awarded: \$4,000**

*Project location: Windsor, VT*

*Submitted by: Windsor Improvement Corporation*

Partnership funds will support research on the opportunities for low-impact recreational businesses in Windsor's downtown area. The study will include a market assessment of river-based recreational and retail businesses, natural resource and cultural heritage inventories, and an assessment of recreational activities along the river and around the town of Windsor.

### **Connecticut Headwaters Map and Guide**

**Grant awarded: \$3,000**

*Project location: Northern Coos County, NH*

*Submitted by: Appalachian Mountain Club*

Funds from the Partnership Program will contribute to the AMC's publication of an expanded map and guide to the Headwaters region of the Connecticut River. As part of an effort by the AMC to solidify a working group of businesses and community leaders, the map and guide will identify recreational opportunities and public access points along the river, promote responsible recreation and stewardship by visitors to the area, identify local businesses and resources and promote their products and services, and educate visitors about the region's natural history and cultural heritage.

### **Nash Stream Forest Campsite/Moldering Latrine Installations**

**Grant awarded: \$2,000**

*Project location: Stark and Stratford, NH*

*Submitted by: The Cohos Trail Association*

As part of an effort to suppress unorganized and illegal camping in the 39,000-acre Nash Stream Forest in the Upper Ammonoosuc River basin, the Cohos Trail Association will use Partnership funds to develop an authorized public camping site and to construct two environmentally-friendly moldering latrines that encourage the composting of human wastes and reduce potential for groundwater contamination.

## ***Fisheries & Wildlife Habitat***

### **Ottawauechee Land Acquisition**

**Grant awarded: \$4,000**

*Project location: Hartford, VT*

*Submitted by: Town of Hartford, VT*

In partnership with Trout Unlimited, Inc., the Town of Hartford is working to protect a 6.5 acre parcel of land along the Ottawauechee River from additional commercial development. Partnership Program funds will enable the Town to purchase the land and ensure preservation of both the land and river views, as well as provide public access to the river.

### **Cold River Habitat Improvement and Restoration**

**Grant awarded: \$3,000**

*Project location: Walpole, NH*

*Submitted by: New Hampshire Coldwater Fisheries Coalition, Inc.*

This project will restore and enhance 1,500 linear feet of impaired fish habitat along a section of the Cold River. Partnership Program funding will support aspects of in-stream restoration including placement of boulders to provide fish holding areas, excavation of pools to create a bar, reconfiguration of an existing diversion dam, and removal of a gravel trolley.

## ***Scenic Byway & Historic Preservation***

### **Bellows Falls Waypoint Interpretive Center Rotating Exhibits**

**Grant awarded: \$4,000**

*Project location: Rockingham, VT*

*Submitted by: Town of Rockingham*

In an effort to create links among Scenic Byway Waypoint Centers throughout the Connecticut River Byway, and as a part of the new Bellow Falls Waypoint Center, the Town of Rockingham will design and create a rotating exhibit or exhibits that will feature a river time line for the region and present information about the region's historic, natural and cultural resources.

### **Bikeways on the Connecticut River Byway**

**Grant awarded: \$4,000**

*Project location: Windham region, VT*

*Submitted by: Windham Regional Commission*

As the first step in a long-term effort to enhance non-motorized transportation opportunities throughout the Connecticut River Byway, this project will create a system of scenic and informative bicycle "theme rides" in Windham County, VT and Cheshire County, NH. The project will produce a map of bicycle routes and brochures for two self-guided bicycle rides.

### **Connecticut River Birding Trail Guide**

**Grant awarded: \$4,000**

*Project location: Newbury, VT and Haverhill, NH – Canadian border*

*Submitted by: Connecticut River Birding Trail*

As part of an effort to extend the existing Springfield, VT – Haverhill, NH birding trail into the Upper Connecticut River Valley, CRBT will use Partnership Program funds to design and print an educational, nature-oriented map and guide. In addition to detailed information on birds and their habitat in the region, the guide will provide information on natural, scenic and recreational assets as well as education about respectful use of private land and natural areas.

### **Restoration of Windows for Alumni Hall**

**Grant awarded: \$4,000**

*Project location: Haverhill, NH*

*Submitted by: Haverhill Heritage, Inc.*

As part of the restoration of Alumni Hall, the 1846 Grafton County Court House, the Town of Haverhill will use Partnership Program funds to restore the building's original windows. As the focal point of Haverhill's National Register Historic District along Route 10, Alumni Hall will serve as a visitors' interpretive center for the Connecticut River Byway.

### **Brunswick Town House Restoration**

**Grant awarded: \$900**

*Project location: Brunswick, VT*

*Submitted by: Town of Brunswick*

Funds from the Partnership Program will help the town to begin restoring a c. 1840 schoolhouse that is a key local historic landmark. Initial activities may include removing an addition built in the 1950s that housed a chemical toilet and town files, replacing an original sill, and performing other small repairs to restore the building to its original lines.

### **Valley Quest Map Book**

**Grant awarded: \$700**

*Project location: Caledonia, Orange, Windsor, Windham counties, VT; Grafton, Sullivan, Cheshire counties, NH*

*Submitted by: Vital Communities of the Upper Valley*

Partnership funds will help support the publication of a second Valley Quest Map Book. Valley Quest is a unique series of educational treasure hunts created by Vital Communities to educate students, families, individuals and community groups throughout the Upper Valley about their natural, cultural and historic "treasures." The first Valley Quest Map Book, which was distributed to town and school libraries in 69 towns, was highly successful, selling out in less than 15 months.