
◆ The Watershed News ◆

Volume VIII, Issue I

Winter 2006

A Quarterly Publication for the Ossipee Watershed Published by the Green Mountain Conservation Group

Celebrate the History and Mystery of Mount Washington at the 8th Annual Meeting

Message from the Executive Director

On Saturday, January 21, the Green Mountain Conservation Group will celebrate its 8th annual meeting at Runnells Hall in Chocorua from 6 to 9 p.m. The evening will commence with a look at the year in review, a water quality presentation, and a financial report. A potluck dinner will follow with an awards ceremony and election of officers, and a silent auction with everything from ski passes to local art will be held throughout the evening.

Featured speaker Bryan Yeaton, host of the Mt. Washington Observatory's "Weather Notebook", will give a presentation on Mount Washington's infamous weather. "The World's Worst Weather" will be fun and informative with a combination of science and folklore to provide insight into the area's most famous landmark.

Bryan is a native of Mount Washington Valley having grown up in North Conway, New Hampshire. His extensive teaching background includes: working with youth in remote settings for the Appalachian Mountain Club, The Student Conservation Association, and The Biking Expedition. Most recently, Bryan has taught for SOLO, in Conway, N.H., specializing in medicine for backcountry trip leaders and Search and Rescue personnel.

During the Annual Meeting, GMCG staff and board members will present a synopsis of the group's conservation and educational projects in 2005. There will also be an opportunity to discuss ideas and concerns members may have regarding future projects.

In 2005, GMCG continued monitoring water quality in the Ossipee Watershed with generous support and cooperation from the University of New Hampshire,

Saco River Corridor Commission, N.H. Department of Environmental Services, six watershed towns, and local volunteers and summer camps. The program expanded to include a longer sampling season, new parameters and sites and deep water sampling.

2005 also focused on natural resource based planning. GMCG contracted with environmental planner, Steve Whitman who worked with each of the watershed towns and their planning boards on small natural resource projects. Planning is crucial for growth and conservation of unique and important natural resources. Looking ahead to 2006, GMCG will continue to work with towns and fund assistance for planning boards to work together on natural resource projects.

2005 marked two major successes for the organization. In June, the Trout Pond project was completed and 2600 acres was deeded to the Town of Freedom as a Town Forest. This completed a four year partnership with The Friends of Trout Pond and the Trust for Public Land. The land will be managed in perpetuity as a working town forest and will be open to public.

GMCG also established a new permanent position of Program Director and hired Tara Schroeder. The creation of this position will help GMCG better meet its mission. The Program Director is responsible for the educational programs, the Watershed News, community outreach and the entire water quality monitoring program, now in its 5th year.

The Annual Meeting is open to the public. Please bring a favorite dish to the potluck supper. A suggested donation of "8" is encourage to celebrate GMCG's 8th Birthday! (\$8, \$80, \$800, \$8000, \$80,000, 8 acres, etc!)

BY BLAIR FOLTS

2005 has been a thought provoking year in terms of natural disasters across the globe. The tragic devastation from the Tsunami ushered in the New Year followed by earthquakes, rains, flooding and disastrous hurricanes. These natural disasters were complicated by political unrest, wars, chemical spills and have left us full of questions and concerns about our individual role on the planet.

New England, too, was not spared from intense rains and flooding that caused much loss across New Hampshire. Looking at these natural disasters, we have cause to reflect on several issues.

1. Natural resource based planning can make a difference. Where do we build our cities and homes and where do we leave land as buffers or farmland or water protection zones?
2. We all need clean safe drinking water. In order to protect this resource, we need to protect the land around that source. How do we plan for this as a community and as a global population?
3. There are global changes occurring and what is our individual role in helping to limit any detrimental change? What tiny things can we do as individuals to make a difference?

Living in the Ossipee Watershed we are fortunate to have many important natural and historic resources that provide us with a quality of life not enjoyed everywhere. How can we work together to conserve what we have and yet continue to grow as a community?

GMCG is a community organization. Please renew your membership today and join us on January 21 to celebrate our 8th Annual Meeting. Let's work together to plan for how we can conserve our important resources. Happy New Year!

The Watershed News

The Watershed News is a quarterly publication of the Green Mountain Conservation Group, a non-profit, 501(c) 3, charitable organization established in 1997 and dedicated to the preservation of the natural resources in the Ossipee Watershed. The towns of Effingham, Freedom, Madison, Ossipee, Sandwich and Tamworth make up the boundaries of the Ossipee Watershed. This watershed includes one of the largest and deepest stratified drift aquifers in New Hampshire. It covers 47 square miles and receives drainage from a 330 square mile area. It is a critically important resource for existing and future community water supplies.

GMCG's purpose is twofold:

1. To provide an organizational structure for a coalition of citizens and local officials interested in identifying sensitive areas within the Watershed in need of protection;
2. To offer public educational events about conservation issues and possible solutions regarding the preservation of unique natural resources.

Through research, education, advocacy and land conservation we strive to promote an awareness and appreciation of our watershed's natural resources and encourage a commitment to protect them.

Board of Directors

Duane Dale, President
David Little, Vice President
Beth Earle, Treasurer
Noreen Downs, Secretary
Claes Thelemarck, Education Coordinator

Town Representatives

Effingham, Emelyn Albert
Freedom, Steve Fortin
Madison, Dan Stepanauskus
Ossipee, Warren Walker
Sandwich, Peter Pohl
Tamworth, C. Scott Aspinall
Maine, Dennis Finn

Staff

Executive Director, Blair Folts
Program Director, Tara Schroeder

Special Places Center Ossipee Main Street:

“We made history before, we can do it again!”

Editor's Note: Special Places is a regular feature of the Watershed News, highlighting an historical or cultural resource within the Ossipee Watershed. GMCG continues to endorse the Land and Community Heritage Investment Program (LCHIP,) a public-private partnership committed to conservation of New Hampshire's natural, cultural and historical resources. For more information, on LCHIP call 224-4113, or email www.lchip.org.

BY ALLISON LODGE

It is not an easy task to restore a town center, but the Center Ossipee Main Street Program aims to do just that, one step at a time, with technical assistance and expert guidance from the New Hampshire Main Street Organization. “Our goal is for Center Ossipee Main Street to once again serve as the heart of the community,” says Pat Jones, President of the volunteer Board of Directors that is responsible for organization of the Center Ossipee Main Street Program.

Resulting from the 2004 town voter support for the application, Center Ossipee was named a NH Main Street Community in January of 2005. Since becoming part of the New Hampshire Main Street ‘family,’ the Ossipee revitalization efforts have primarily focused on recruiting and training over 30 volunteers that plan and develop projects for downtown revitalization. Another task that these amazing 30 volunteers take on is to raise funds from townspeople and businesses that allow the Center Ossipee Main Street Program to put these projects and plans into action. Every activity and task is geared towards one of our main goals, and that is to not only strengthen the already existing Main Street businesses, but to also attract complementary ones to the pleasant, historic downtown of the future!

Our part-time paid director, Allison Lodge, coordinates volunteer improvement projects, and is the Ossipee liaison with the NH Main Street Program, which is located

in Concord, NH. Her office hours are Monday from 10-1, and Wednesday from 11-2, in the new Main Street office at 10 Moultonville Road. It was through various activities, that the Center Ossipee Main Street Program was able to build community awareness. The award-winning Old Home Week parade float featured an antique snowmobile like the world's first one built in Ossipee in the 1920s. The program also was able to raise a notable amount of money from 96 rubber duck sponsors when we hosted our First Annual Rubber Duck Race, on the scenic Beech River on Veteran's Day. Other supportive activities were the summer Dunk Tank, assisting with the Fall Turkey Shoot, and also assisting with a Santa food drive at the Indian Mound Shopping Plaza.

Our plans for early 2006 include the Ossipee Economics Fair on March 25, 2006 at the Town Hall. The activity is designed to allow residents and business owners a chance to speak with experts and learn about the various resources that are available to help renew, build, or expand. The Main Street Program volunteers will also promote our goals at the Snowmobile Rally in early February.

Revitalizing Center Ossipee as the community hub that it once was, and will be again, will take time and patience. Each visible and non-visible step boosts community improvement and pride, while simultaneously attracting new enthusiasts who will carry on improvements. You can support the Center Ossipee Main Street Program by joining one of four active committees (Organization, Design, Economic Restructuring, and Promotion). Contact Allison Lodge at (603) 539-7200 for more information, or e-mail director@ossipeemainstreet.org Get more information on the New Hampshire Main Street Program at: www.nhmainstreet.org

Watershed Birder **Changing Patterns of Feeder Birds in the Watershed**

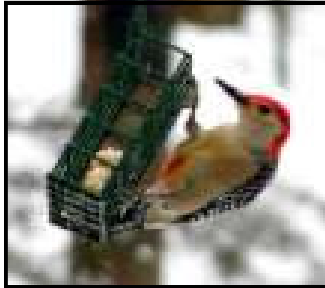
BY SUSAN LEE

Over the past thirty years I have kept track of the birds in my yard throughout the year. Not able to feed all year because of persistent local bears, I do keep lists of winter visitors and residents and have participated in the Cornell Lab of Ornithology's Project Feeder Watch for many years. In reviewing my notes I have found that there seem to be changes in the patterns of birds coming to my feeders.

Some familiar birds always arrive to enjoy the seed and suet put out for them and to brighten the long cold winter. Many of these are year round residents, nesting in the watershed in spring and raising their young through the summer. These resident birds include Black-capped Chickadees, Red-breasted and White-breasted nuthatches, Hairy and Downy Woodpeckers, Blue Jays and American Goldfinches. The number of each of these species may vary from week to week or even year to year, (did everyone have an incredible number of chickadees this fall?) but for the most part these birds have continued to be seen in the watershed in about the same numbers over the past thirty years.

Unfortunately, some old friends appear less often or seem to have disappeared from the Watershed area completely. When I built my house in the late 1970s, Eastern Towhees (then called Rufous-sided Towhees) were regularly found scratching in the undergrowth in my yard. Now, they are gone, not only from my yard, but from most of their former haunts in the Watershed. Similarly, Whip-poor-wills and Woodcocks, once common visitors, are now rarely seen in the Watershed except in certain locations. Purple Martin colonies through the state have suffered losses in the past 15 years.

Other birds seem to be seen less frequently, whether due to climate change or habitat loss, I'm not sure. The delightful summer sounds of the Veery, Hermit Thrush, Woodthrush and Ovenbird are heard much less often throughout the Watershed. Over the past ten years or so the number of Northern Mockingbirds seems to have declined, as has the number of Purple Finches, the New Hampshire state bird, and Evening Grosbeaks seen at winter feeders. It is possible that these last two hardy birds are simply staying farther north and that their numbers have not decreased at all.



Red-bellied Woodpecker sightings in Madison this fall could mean many things...

On the positive side, some bird species that previously were not found regularly in the Watershed, or did not winter here, are now regularly seen at area feeders. Is this due to a general climate warming, or better habitat, or an increase in the number of people feeding the birds? The Tufted titmouse has become a regular winter visitor and throughout the fall there was a Red-bellied Woodpecker here in Madison. This species has recently made a major push north from its former northerly range in Massachusetts.

As this column is being written, Watershed birders are in the middle of the Christmas Bird Count (CBC) season. These day long counting events take place in almost every region of the Watershed and can be as involved as hiking through snow drifts in the

Sandwich wilderness area, or as relaxed as counting birds through the window from the comfort of an easy chair. The data from these annual counts help to verify or dispute apparent changes in bird populations and patterns of distribution. CBC activities are great fun and wonderful learning experiences. Contact the Audubon Society of New Hampshire for the date and location of a count near you.

Susan Lee is an avid birder and longtime resident of the Ossipee Watershed. Share bird sightings or comments with her by email: leegull1@earthlink.net.

Watershed Musings

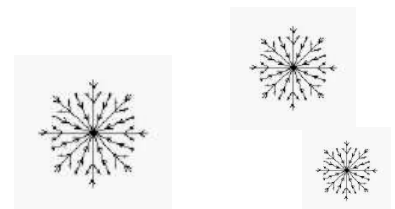
Shadow Line

Shadow divides the green
and pliable grasses
unfolding to the sun
from shoots from sister roots,
standing white, stiff
unbending and cold.

Today, the sun will rise
enough to warm each and every blade.
Soon, in dormancy all growth will cease
beneath a foot of snow.

Change occurs in season,
in time,
and by the force of nature's
gentle strength.

- kmr 12-1-05



Conservation Conversations

Editor's Note: *Conservation Conversations is intended to provide a forum for the conservation commissions in the six towns of the Ossipee Watershed to share news of their activities and an opportunity to find creative solutions regarding watershed issues.*

Think Locally; Act Watershed.

Effingham

Commission members attended the annual meeting of The NH Association of Conservation Commissions to learn more about the Shore Line Protection Act and wetland delineation. Members also attended the 'Forest Laws Workshop' for information on Silviculture. A progress report on the Wetland Inventory project was presented to forty people by Dr. Rick Van de Poll of Ecosystems Management followed by Jeff Lougee of the Nature Conservancy. This two-year project is funded by the State of N.H. Moose Plate Grant project. A brochure about the project is available throughout the town.

Freedom

The conservation commission and the Freedom Forest Advisory Board have reached several goals in the past few months. In November the conservation commission advertised for bids for three forest related projects – a forester for the coming year, a surveyor to establish and mark boundaries of the forest, and a carpenter to build the kiosks funded by the Mooseplate Grant awarded in 2005. B.H. Keith Associates was awarded the forestry position, Doug Burnell the survey work, and Peter Earle the kiosk building job. In December, the commission met with Nancy Johnson of Lakes Region Planning Commission to work on identifying areas or sites in town which are important natural resources, including agricultural lands and scenic vistas. This information will be incorporated into a revised Master Plan for the town.

Madison

The commission is preparing two warrant articles for the town's annual meeting. The first would raise the 'change of use' tax from a 50% to a 100% contribution to the land conservation program. The second would establish a conservation land capital fund placing \$20,000 in the fund the first year followed by \$40,000 each year for

the next 4 years. Town property reports continued to be updated and the commission reviewed its 2005 goals and established new goals for 2006. A plaque was placed at the Cascades recognizing the commission's founding members from the early 1970s. New members are needed to replace retiring members and vacant alternate positions.

Ossipee

Warren Walker has been named interim chairman of the commission through March. The Forestry Subcommittee will implement the Forest Stewardship Plan for Ossineke's 4 largest parcels: Sumner Brook, Town Forest, Milikin/Boulder Hill and a parcel in Tamworth on Depot Rd. Since these parcels were logged in the last decade, emphasis will be on pruning, thinning, cutting openings, etc. in preparation for future harvests. Lots will be identified by signs and in some cases recreation trails will be developed. Approval has been obtained from the Selectmen and Budget Committee for inclusion of a line item on water quality monitoring as a regular part of the commission's annual budget, subject to final approval at town meeting. Studies continue to identify and fund protection of important areas for preservation.

Tamworth

Commissioners recently completed monitoring responsibilities for easements held by the town. A Wetlands and Subsurface Committee formed and meets regularly to review wetlands and septic system applications, facilitating recommendations to the planning board especially on failed septic systems. A seven-member Conservation Lands Review Committee was also set up and will be chaired by former Commissioner Chris Conrod. This committee will inventory conservation lands in Tamworth and develop a system of values to identify other natural resources in Tamworth that are worthy of protection. Community feedback is welcomed at www.c.narnia.net.

Sandwich

The Sandwich Conservation Commission is working on remediation of Red Hill Pond access and is looking for donations for this project. For more information, please contact Chip Kimball at kimball@lr.net.

Town Wetland Ordinance Upheld in Court

For three years, GMCG and other conservation organizations have been following a proposal to build a race track on the north slope of Mt. Whittier in Tamworth.

In late November, CMI signed an agreement with Focus: Tamworth to settle the appeal of CMI's 401 Water Quality certificate. CMI agreed to change its proposed mobile fuel distribution system to a stationary system, and change their design to incorporate better spill control, and more elaborate drainage and runoff control structures. But CMI would not agree to a total ban on the sale of fuels containing MtBE (methyl tertiary-butyl ether), despite the state law scheduled to take affect Jan 1, 2007.

On December 5th Rockingham Superior Court found that CMI

must apply for and obtain a Special Use Permit from the Tamworth Planning Board under the town's wetlands ordinance, before constructing their proposed racetrack. CMI had claimed the State and Federal permits they have were sufficient. But the judge ruled "It is the simplicity of the [ordinance] — its plain language of intent to 'prevent the development of structures...on naturally occurring wetlands' and 'protect water supplies and existing aquifers' — that persuades the court that the ordinance could prove, once applied to this project, to be far more stringent than state or federal wetlands law."

See <http://www.focustamworth.org> for more details.

Watershed Water Quality Monitoring

Notes from Upstream Conductivity Measurements Proving Useful

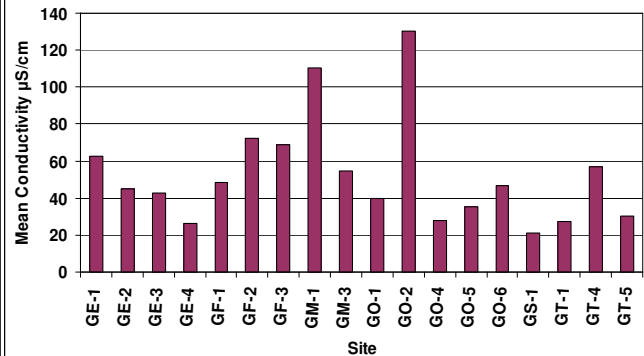
BY TARA SCHROEDER

The Ossipee Watershed RIVERS program continues through the winter for the second year with sampling at six sites, one in each of the watershed towns. Although not all of the chemical parameters have been analyzed, there are a few patterns that are apparent from the data.

This was the first year that conductivity readings were collected for the sites since the purchase of a multi-parameter meter. Conductivity is a measure of the ability of water to pass an electrical current. Conductivity in water is affected by the presence of inorganic dissolved solids such as chloride, nitrate, sulfate, phosphate, sodium, magnesium, calcium, iron and aluminum. Specific conductivity levels were elevated above 100 uS/cm at some sites, indicating the possibility of an impairing input. Feedback from municipal officials and bracketing of sites has indicated that leaching of road salt on major roadways may be the cause for these higher readings.

According to the NH Department of Environmental Services, conductivity levels are increasing at a statistically significant rate in the state's freshwater bodies, largely due to road salting activities. Excessive levels of salts in waterways can have detrimental impacts to drinking water and aquatic life. Higher levels of chloride can be toxic to certain forms of aquatic life, and plant species can be impacted by much lower concentrations.

Conductivity Levels at RIVERS Sites in 2005



This graph compares conductivity levels at RIVERS sites in the watershed. Future tracking of data can determine whether or not levels are changing and isolate potential sources of contamination.

Although levels are not nearly as high as in southern N.H. where salt runoff has become a significant problem, it is important to keep a n eye on areas where there appears to be higher levels of salts.

To learn more about how your town can implement best management practices such as using de-icing alternatives, minimal impact salting and salt storage practices and proper snow disposal strategies, visit: <http://www.des.state.nh.us/factsheets>.

Notes from Downstream Volunteers Test Through Wettest Fall on Record

BY LYNN PARKER

Now that the meters have all been snugly packed away for a long winter's nap, we begin to look forward to a peaceful winter filled hopefully with lots of snow and chilly nights. Not so fast! There are thousands of data entries to analyze, conclusions to be made, a sixth season to plan for, and most importantly volunteers to thank.

As many of you may have heard, this fall has been the wettest one on record. Our volunteers can surely attest to that. Many mornings our dedicated team of 25 volunteers headed out armed with raincoats and galoshes to gather the data we have come to rely on. We want to express our sincere appreciation for their dedication to this program. We have said this before, but it is so true, that without them this program wouldn't exist.

The Saco River Corridor Commission's volunteers

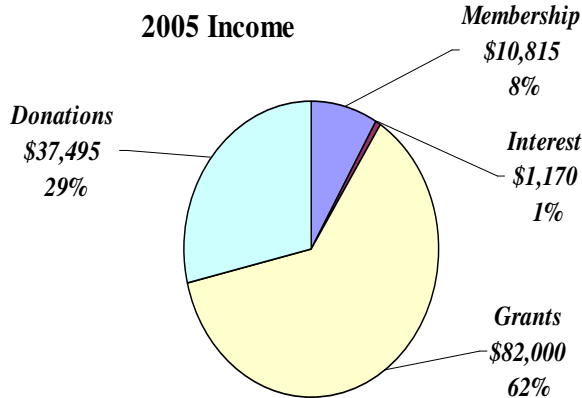
completed fourteen weeks of testing this year from April to October at 27 different testing spots located throughout twenty towns. Our parameters include pH, dissolved oxygen, temperature, turbidity, *Escherichia coli*, total phosphorus, orthophosphate, total kjeldahl nitrogen, and alkalinity which is new to the program this year.

As always, we encourage all of you to visit our website located at www.srcc-maine.org for complete data results of our entire program. If you have questions regarding data results or volunteer opportunities please contact Dennis Finn or Lynn Gorham at the Commission Offices located in Cornish, Maine. Telephone 207-625-8123.

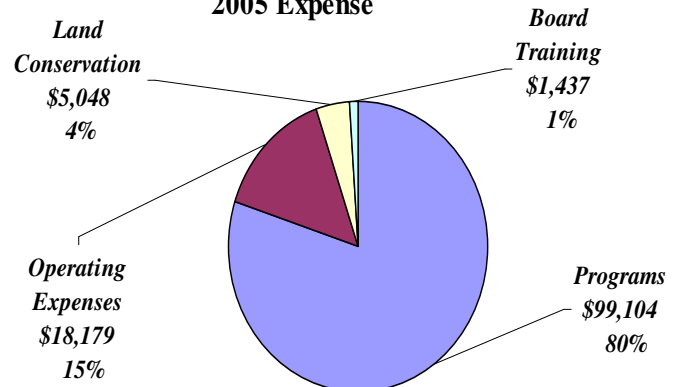
Lynn Parker is assistant director at the Saco River Corridor Commission in Cornish, Maine. SRCC is made up of 20 towns from Fryeburg to Saco, Maine. GMCG has been partnering with SRCC since 2001.

2005 Annual Report

2005 Income



2005 Expense



“GMCG is grateful for member support that accounts for 8% of our budget. We hope that in 2006 we can increase membership support to 12%. Please renew your membership and invite your friends and family to join GMCG.” ~Elizabeth Earle, Treasurer

Thank you to our sponsors for 2005, including our dues paying members.

- * Water Quality Monitoring Volunteers
- * the children’s camps on Ossipee Lake
- * Ossipee Watershed Coalition volunteers
- * The Friends of Trout Pond
- * The Dan Hole Pond Watershed Trust
- * The Trust for Public Land
- * The Chocorua Lake Association
- * Saco River Corridor Commission
- * The Society for the Protection of New Hampshire Forests
- * New Hampshire Department of Resources and Economic Development
- * New Hampshire Heritage Inventory
- * Maine and New Hampshire Chapters of The Nature Conservancy
- * Audubon Society of New Hampshire
- * University of New Hampshire Cooperative Extension
- * Camp Calumet
- * Watershed News contributors
- * New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services
- * New England Grassroots Environment Fund
- * New Hampshire Charitable Foundation
- * Lakes Region Charitable Foundation
- * The Adelard & Valeda Lea Roy Foundation
- * Kodak Greenways
- * International Paper
- * Samuel Hunt Foundation
- * Timberland
- * private family foundations
- * our 600 dues-paying members

Happy 10th Birthday NEGEF!

The New England Grassroots Environment Fund is celebrating its 10th birthday April 1st, 2006. Since its beginnings, NEGEF has had the pleasure of helping over 800 groups tackle critical community problems.

NEGEF was the first organization to fund GMCG in January 1998.

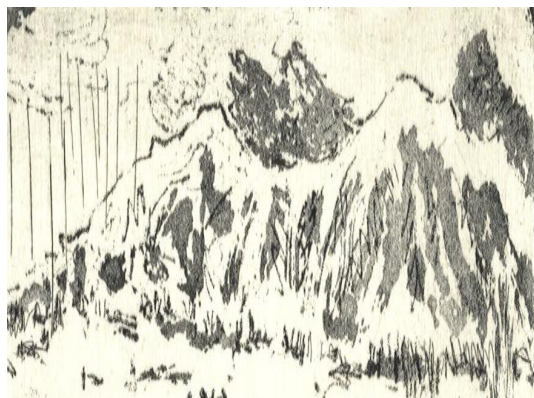
“Looking back over the past decade, we are very proud of the multitude of changes your work has catalyzed. Many communities no longer make decisions because ‘that is the way it has always been done.’” ~Cheryl King Fischer, Executive Director



**New England Grassroots
Environment Fund**

www.grassrootsfund.org

Winter Calendar



Saturday, January 21st: GMCG's 8th Annual Meeting & Special Presentation: "The World's Worst Weather"

Take a look at the year in review, help plan for future work in the watershed, and enjoy a delicious potluck supper with friends. A presentation of community awards and election of officers will follow dinner. A silent auction with everything from ski passes to local artwork to benefit GMCG education and research programs will be held throughout the evening. Guest speaker Brian Yeaton, weather guru and host of the Mount Washington Observatory's Weather Notebook, will give a presentation on Mount Washington's notorious weather and current global climatological events. This fun and informative presentation will combine science and folklore to provide insight into the area's most famous landmark and weather patterns on a larger scale. Everyone is welcome! 6:00-9:00pm at Runnells Hall in Chocorua. Call 539-2859 for more information.

Saturday, February 18th (snow date February 25th): Annual Winter Mammal Tracking Workshop: "Prints and Patterns: Snow Stories for Winter Naturalists"

Dr. Rick van de Poll of Ecosystem Management Consultants and Dave Anderson of the Forest Society will co-lead this program. An indoor presentation in the morning includes the ecology of winter mammals, tracking skills and an exhibit of pelts, skulls and scats. The afternoon field trip to a beaver pond and Jackman Ridge includes track identification and discussion of the winter habits and habitats of resident wildlife. 10:00am-3:00pm at Camp Calumet, Freedom, NH. Meet at Camp Calumet Conference Center at 10:00am, and please bring snowshoes. Families welcome, dress appropriately for the weather and bring a small backpack with plenty of water. No dogs please. Registration: \$14.00 for SPNHF or GMCG members, \$19.00 for non-members, includes delicious buffet lunch prepared by Calumet. \$5.00 members or \$10.00 non-members if you decide to bring your own lunch. *This event is co-sponsored by the Society for the Protection of New Hampshire Forests and GMCG. Call 539-2859 to register for this event.*



Saturday, March 25th: Ossipee Economics Fair

This event is hosted by the Center Ossipee Main Street Program and is designed to allow residents and business owners a chance to speak with experts and learn about the various resources that are available to help renew, build, or expand their businesses. The fair will be held at the Ossipee Town Hall, time TBA. You can support the Center Ossipee Main Street Program by joining one of four active committees (Organization, Design, Economic Restructuring, and Promotion). Contact Allison Lodge at (603) 539-7200 for more information, or email: director@ossipeemainstreet.org.

Saturday, April 22nd: Groundwater Protection Conference

Come celebrate Earth Day and learn more about your town's groundwater resources and how you can preserve them! The conference will feature speakers from the Environmental Protection Agency, New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services, the Saco River Corridor Commission, and guests from other towns in New Hampshire and Maine who will share their expertise and advice. Topics to be covered include: local ordinances that contribute to source water protection; a hydrologic profile of the Ossipee Aquifer; the legalities of water extraction and local control; other planning measures to consider. Time & Place TBA.

Saturday, May 6th: Valley Pride Day

Help clean up your watershed and keep trash out of our beautiful lakes and rivers! GMCG will assist in coordinating efforts to clean up areas of the Ossipee Watershed that are in need of attention. If you would like to help with this annual valley-wide event by: volunteering to collect trash in your town; lending your truck for trash pick-ups and drop-offs; or helping to sponsor the event, please call 539-1859. Check-in is between 8-8:30am at a central location TBA. Trash pick-up is from 8:30-11:30 followed by a party with a BBQ, games, prizes and give-aways from 12-2pm. Sponsors receive mention in Magic 104 radio ads, press releases, talk shows, interviews, posters and flyers in over 25 communities throughout areas of Maine and New Hampshire, banners, ads, mailers, t-shirts for volunteers, and other promotional pieces. Please call for details if your business would like to become a sponsor.

Friday, May 5th –9th: River Network's 7th Annual National River Rally

River Network, a non-profit organization dedicated to helping people understand, protect and restore rivers and their watersheds, is holding its 7th Annual National River Rally event at the Mount Washington Resort this spring. This event brings together hundreds of river and watershed organizations from across the nation each year for professional and personal development, education, networking and celebration. This conference will include river steward trainings, educational workshops and presentations. For more information, visit: www.rivernetwork.org/rally.

Nonprofit Organization
U.S. Postage Paid
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The Watershed News

**GMCG's Annual
Meeting
January 21st at 6:00pm
Featuring
Bryan Yeaton
and a presentation on
"The World's Worst
Weather"**

**Deadline for Spring
Newsletter is March 10th**

EVERY PERSON CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE AND EACH PERSON SHOULD TRY.

Wish List for 2006

LCD Projector

YSI 556 Multiparameter Meter

SPSS Software

*Macroinvertebrate Sampling
Containers*

*Macroinvertebrate Sampling
Nets*

Staff Gauges

Flow Meter

GIS Software

Map Filing Cabinet

Laptop Computer

GPS Unit

Desk

Laser Printer