



# Musconetcong River News

Spring 2011

Published quarterly by The Musconetcong Watershed Association

Asbury, New Jersey

## The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's "Highest Recognition" Among Awards Received By MWA This Spring

The Musconetcong Watershed Association (MWA) was chosen to receive the 2011 U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Environmental Quality Award. The Award was presented on April 29th at a ceremony at the EPA office located in Manhattan by EPA Regional Administrator Judith Enck and Congresswoman Nydia Velazquez.

MWA was honored for being "at the forefront of removing obsolete dams that impede water flow, degrade water quality, and block fish passage, and [having] been instrumental in the removal of two such dams. Furthermore, [the] River Resource Center is the first U.S. Green Building Council Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design (LEED) Platinum certified building in Warren County."

**RECOGNITION** *Continued on page 2*



*Photo Credit: Robin Holland*

*At the EPA Award Ceremony, from left, Congresswoman Nydia Velazquez, MWA Trustees Bill Harclerode and Kim Hood, MWA River Watcher Coordinator Nancy Lawler, MWA Trustee Cinnie MacGonagle, MWA Executive Director Beth Styler Barry, MWA President Bill Leavens and EPA Regional Administrator Judith Enck.*

## The Passing of the Torch

*By Bill Leavens*

I have had the extraordinary good fortune to preside over your Association for the better part of a decade. We are in good financial condition (Lord willing and the creek don't rise). We are doing a superb job in fulfilling our mission. We have a dedicated, competent staff and a

committed board who all work closely together.

A look at the 'brag wall' by the front door of the River Resource Center will show recognition and awards that have been heaped on us from many different corners. Collectively, we have been making a real difference in how people understand the watershed and how it should be properly managed to protect its fragile resources.

Some truly amazing things have happened on my watch. I use that

phrase because in so many of our adventures, my role has been to merely witness the tremendous skill and dedication of the staff, Board, members and friends we have collected over the years. The list of those who have contributed time, thought, money, sweat, spirit, grace and humor would fill this page.

Beth Styler Barry is an extraordinary person. Her day to day (and year to year) management of the Association

**TORCH** *Continued on page 2*

## RECOGNITION

*Continued from page 1*

Environmental Quality Award winners can be individual citizens, environmental educators, press, businesses, non-profit organizations, environmental or community groups or federal, state or local agencies. According to the EPA "the award winners span a wide range of environmental achievements, but each proves exemplary determination and success." "These honorees work tirelessly to protect the environment and to ensure that all of us can look forward to a cleaner, healthier world," said EPA Regional Administrator Judith Enck. "We can all be proud of what they have accomplished and the example they set."

On Wednesday, April 20th the Musconetcong Watershed Association

received the Dr. Ruth Patrick "Excellence in Education Award" from the Water Resources Association of the Delaware River Basin (WRA). The annual award was given to the group for "innovative environmental and watershed education programs dedicated to protecting and improving the quality of the Musconetcong River watershed including its natural and cultural resources." The WRA was established in 1959 by representatives from industry, public and private utilities and other organizations that had wide-ranging interests in water resources

and sought to ensure public participation in the management of the Delaware River and its tributaries.

In March the MWA, along with our partner Trout Unlimited Musconetcong Home Rivers Initiative Program, was honored by the South Branch Watershed Association with its "Environmental Achievement Award" for 2011. The organizations were chosen for the award for their cooperative programs which address dam removal, riparian restoration, fish passage and education and outreach. ☺

## TORCH

*Continued from page 1*

is a principal force behind our success. I also have to give a great deal of credit to former Executive Director John Brunner who defined our educational mission and got us all properly organized to fulfill it.

The role of the President ranges from janitorial to ceremonial with a bit of executive oversight thrown in. It boils down to doing whatever has to be done to ensure that the proper tools are in place for the staff so that they can do

their job and permit their work to proceed smoothly. I have a kindred soul in Bill Harclerode who fully understands the MWA mission and has the personality and commitment to lead this organization. We will be well served by his dedication, energy and wisdom.

I was fortunate to preside while Musconetcong Watershed Association got into orbit. I expect that Bill will take us to the moon. It's going to be a heck of a ride. Keep watching this space. Even better, get involved, work with us and do what you love. ☺

# MUSCONETCONG WATERSHED ASSOCIATION

PO Box 113, 10 Maple Ave.  
Asbury, NJ 08802  
**908-537-7060**

[www.musconetcong.org](http://www.musconetcong.org)

### *Trustee Officers*

*President, Bill Harclerode*

*Vice President, Cenny MacGonagle*

*Secretary, Bill Leavens*

*Treasurer, Jody Price*

### *Trustees*

*Peter Banta C.J. Koop*

*Thomas Gonzales Richard Plumpton*

*Chuck Gullage Ron Saxon*

*Erik Henriksen Stuart Shafran*

### *Staff*

*Executive Director*

*Beth Styler Barry*

*Administrative Assistant*

*Adrienne Kaczynski*

*Finance Manager*

*Kim Hood*

*WQM Coordinator*

*Nancy Lawler*

**Printing: Good Impressions, Washington, NJ**



*The winner of the 2011 MWA Kayak Raffle was Dottie Maxwell of Port Murray. The Murrays, who are MWA members, brought the kayak out for its maiden voyage on the Delaware River over the Memorial Day weekend.*

# And then there was sun...

## The 11th Annual Run for the River takes place with the sun shining!

On May 1st as the fog lifted and the many volunteers hustled to man their posts, the 11th Annual MWA Run for the River once again took shape. The Run for the River is held each year in Asbury and is currently the Musconetcong Watershed Association's largest fundraiser. On one of this year's few sunny spring mornings, we hosted over 200 participants and spectators. The event itself grows larger each year and needs many hours of dedicated volunteer service. As always we are overwhelmed by the response of our staff, trustees, members and friends that help us pull it off. To all of you, "Thank You".

This fundraiser could never take place without the donations of many supporting parties. The MWA would first like to recognize and thank our sponsors. The donations from these businesses and organizations help fund our programs and projects.

### Gold Sponsors

Hawk Pointe Golf Community  
Princeton Hydro, LLC

### Basic Sponsors

Fox Lumber  
Hackettstown MUA  
Borealis Compounds Inc.  
Rockefeller Group Dev. Corp.  
Covanta  
Sanico  
Rick Allen Auto Repair  
Paddler's Cove  
Smith Brothers Sanitation  
E&LP Associates, Inc.  
M&E Engineers, Inc.  
Pollack Brothers  
Tilcon  
MS Health Software Corp.  
Hunterdon Orthopedic Institute  
PNC Bank  
Our community sponsorship  
"Friends of the River" families

A drawing for all participants took place after the last runner/walker crossed the finish line. The prizes were a variety of items and services donated by local, and some not so local, supporters. On behalf of the MWA and run participants, we would like to thank our generous donors.

Four Paws Playground  
Greens and Beans  
Lawrence Pharmacy  
Citgo Manhattan Grill and Deli  
Studio 57  
Riverside Health & Fitness  
Rossi Chevrolet  
Hunterdon Health & Wellness  
Koppe's General Store  
Harding's Willowbrook Farms  
Fliegauf Jewelers  
M&M Mars  
Gibson's Gym  
Applebee's  
Countryside Studios



Photo by Giuseppe Naccarato

*Husband and wife runners Adam Duckworth and Maria Naccarato of Lebanon each earned medals. The two, along with sons Jonah and Sebastian, were among about 200 participants in the annual event.*

Refreshments for runners and walkers included cold water, fresh cut oranges and bagels. Donations were made by the following:

ShopRite of Greenwich  
ShopRite of Mansfield  
ShopRite of Washington  
Weis of Mansfield  
MWA trustees and staff

Lastly a "Thank You" to all our participants, for what would a run/walk be without our runners and walkers! It was our pleasure to make this event possible and we look forward to doing it all again next year. ☺



2011 Overall Winners Chris Martalus 23:37 and Janet Tolley 28:31

# MWA Clean Up a Success Despite Cold, Wet Weather

Approximately 300 volunteers put on gloves and got down to work from the headwaters of the Musconetcong River in Lake Hopatcong to its confluence with the Delaware in Pohatcong Township. “We worried that the weather forecast would hurt the turnout, but the volunteers just bundled up and got to work” says Musconetcong Watershed Association staff member and Clean Up organizer Adrienne Kaczynski. The MWA could never pull this off without the countless number of new and returning volunteers each year. Along with thanking our tireless volunteers, many thanks go out to those who coordinated several additional locations in our northern watershed. By no means is this an easy task but we are humbled by the number of people willing to take it on.

We are grateful to the haulers that removed the trash from collection points throughout the watershed. This year trash hauling was done by Hunterdon County Solid Waste, Warren County Road Department, Byram Township Department of Public Works, NJ State Park Service and perennial good samaritan Raritan Valley Disposal. Tire collection which is always a tricky situation when it comes to recycling, was coordinated by Warren County Mosquito Control with Morris County and Hunterdon County Mosquito Control picking up in their respective counties.



*Cadette Troop 94252 collected several bags of garbage and recyclables along the banks of the Musconetcong River in Bethlehem Township.*

## Mohawk Canoe Club Pitches in for the Musky

Members of the Mohawk Canoe Club participated in a floating clean up in conjunction with the Musconetcong Watershed Association’s Annual Spring Clean Up. Each year in April paddlers from the club participate in the event, however, this year dangerously high and fast water prevented an April outing. On Sunday May 8th twelve club members in ten canoes removed trash from the Musconetcong River and river banks in Hackettstown, Mansfield, Lebanon and Washington Township, Morris County. “We are happy to help out, we consider the Musky our home river” said Vice Commodore Bruce Wyman.

Between both days of clean up there were 190 bags of garbage and 66 bags of recyclables removed from the Musky’s 41 miles of river and river-bank areas, along with 69 tires collected and recycled. ♻️



*Chris Meyers of Holland Township holds up a sheet of metal he removed from the stream bed in the Musconetcong River.*



*Mohawk Canoe Club member Jack Bush uses his paddle to remove plastic tangled in branches along the river.*

**CLEAN & BEAUTIFUL**

Not only is the Annual Clean Up an outstanding environmental effort, as the event itself grows so does public awareness of the MWA as an organization and of its mission. We look forward to growth in both.

# **SAVE THESE DATES!**

## **River Talks – 7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.**

Join us for one talk or the entire series as we discuss the following topics of concern for the Musconetcong River and its River Valley. All talks will be held at the MWA River Resource Center located at 10 Maple Avenue Asbury 08802. Email [adrienne@musconetcong.org](mailto:adrienne@musconetcong.org) or call (908) 537-7060 for information or to register.

## **Tuesday, June 14 - Lake Hopatcong Water Level Management Plan**

**Tuesday, June 28 - Conformance to the Highlands Regional Master Plan:** What it means for the Musconetcong Watershed.

**Tuesday, July 19 - An Up-Close Look At Dam Removal On The Musconetcong River Part I:** Why Dam Removal is a Key Part of River Restoration Efforts.

**Tuesday, July 26 - An Up-Close Look At Dam Removal On The Musconetcong River Part II:** The Dam Removal Process from Preparation to Restoration.

**Tuesday, August 9 - Water Quality in the Musconetcong: Successes and Challenges**

## **Meet the River Program – 10:00 a.m. - Noon**

This summer the **Meet the River** program will be held at several locations listed below. This program allows children to come down to the river's edge and splash around in the water. We'll turn over some rocks and maybe we'll be lucky enough to catch a frog! Call (908) 537-7060 or e-mail [adrienne@musconetcong.org](mailto:adrienne@musconetcong.org) for details. MWA members free, Non-members will be charged a \$3 donation per child (\$8 limit per family.)

**Saturday, July 16 – Point Mountain Preserve:** Point Mountain Road, Port Murray, NJ 07865

**Wednesday, July 20 –Point Mountain Preserve:** Point Mountain Road, Port Murray, NJ 07865

**Saturday, July 30 – Asbury:** NJ DEP Fishing Access, 253 Bloomsbury Road, Asbury, NJ 08802

**Wednesday, August 3 – Asbury:** NJ DEP Fishing Access, 253 Bloomsbury Road, Asbury, NJ 08802

**Saturday, August 6 – Byram:** Riverside Park, River Road (off of Route 604) in Byram Township

## **Camp Fire Cooking Series – 7:00pm - 9:00pm**

Join Environmental educator Megan Bubalis for our series exploring fire pit cooking. Each session will include food preparation along with cooking instruction. Sessions 1 and 2 are open to children ages 7+. Session 3 is open to all family members. This presentation will be held at the MWA River Resource Center located at 10 Maple Avenue Asbury 08802. Cost for each session is \$15 or \$12 if you register for sessions 1 and 2 in the series. All supplies included. Email [adrienne@musconetcong.org](mailto:adrienne@musconetcong.org) or call (908) 537-7060 for information or to register.

**Friday, July 29 - Session 1- Cooking in a foil packet**

**Friday, August 5 – Session 2 – Cooking on a stick**

**Friday, August 12 – Family Cooking** (Children must be accompanied by an adult)

**Sunday, October 2 – 9th Annual MWA Wine Tasting Event – 1:00pm - 4:00pm**

Join us for a relaxing fall afternoon in the Pavilion at Warren County Rod and Gun Club located in Asbury, New Jersey. Email [adrienne@musconetcong.org](mailto:adrienne@musconetcong.org) or call (908) 537-7060 for more information.

**Note:** If you are not receiving e-mail reminders for these events it means that we do not have a current e-mail address. If you'd like to receive reminders and occasional "Musky News Briefs" please contact [beth@musconetcong.org](mailto:beth@musconetcong.org).

- ◆ U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's "Highest Recognition"
- ◆ Passing the Torch
- ◆ 11th Annual Run for the River
- ◆ River Clean Up
- ◆ Save These Dates

What's Inside:

Musconetcong River News



Asbury, NJ 08802  
PO Box 113



## The Musconetcong Watershed Association

The Musconetcong River Valley is rich in scenery, history, natural resources, and recreational opportunities. The river rises up in Lake Hopatcong - New Jersey's largest spring-fed lake - and is shadowed by 1,000-foot Highland ridges and slices through a deep, limestone river valley, flowing swiftly to the Delaware River. Along the way the "Musky" passes by state and county parks, bustling towns, vital industries, historic villages, and some of the most productive farmland in the state.

The Musconetcong Watershed Association (MWA) is a non-profit organization formed in 1991 to protect and enhance the Musconetcong River and its related resources through advocacy and environmental education programs, scientific research and river restoration projects. The MWA scope spans the 158 square-mile Musconetcong River Watershed, and includes portions of four counties, and all or portions of 25 municipalities. The Musconetcong River became part of the National Wild and Scenic River System in 2006.

MWA members are part of a network of individuals, families and organizations who care about the Musconetcong River and its watershed. They are kept informed about issues concerning the river and its related resources by receiving quarterly issues of the *Musconetcong River News*.

## MWA Membership Application

Please enroll me as a member of the Musconetcong Watershed Association in which I will receive membership benefits and publications. I have enclosed a check payable to **MWA** for the membership category listed below:

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$20 Student         | <input type="checkbox"/> \$100 Sustainer |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$30 Family          | <input type="checkbox"/> \$250 Steward   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$50 Supporter       | <input type="checkbox"/> \$500 Champion  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$1,000+ Life Member |  |

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

*Mail to:*

**Musconetcong Watershed Association**  
PO Box 113, Asbury, NJ 08802