



# Musconetcong River News

Summer 2008

Published quarterly by The Musconetcong Watershed Association

Asbury, New Jersey

## Local Students Receive Hands-On River Education

The MWA's watershed education program is an exciting, hands-on outreach program, designed for local schools, which introduces students to stream ecology through classroom



*MWA staffer Adrienne Kaczynski helps North Warren Middle School students to identify samples that they collected on their field trip.*

discussion and a field trip to the Musconetcong River or other local stream. In the classroom kids learn where the river begins and where it ends. Students learn about the source of the fresh water that we need to live. Which watershed do you live in? All graduates of the MWA's watershed education program can answer that question.

In a 3-day classroom presentation, students learn that when it rains in our watershed water either soaks into the ground or drains into the Musconetcong over land, in tributaries, over roads and through storm drains. The water that doesn't run

off the land soaks down through the ground and makes its way back to aquifers and supplies our drinking water. Because all water either washes over the land or drains through the land it is very important what sort of activity takes place on land. Kids learn that to be responsible watershed residents, we need to be careful with lawn chemicals and septic care at home, with fertilizers and pesticides when we farm and with chemicals that businesses and industry might use or produce.

In preparation for the field trip to the Musconetcong or other nearby stream, the program teaches kids how to test to make sure the river is healthy. Students test for pH, temperature, nitrate, dissolved oxygen

and—everyone's favorite—we check to make sure that we have a healthy aquatic insect (macroinvertebrate) population. These creatures make up the bulk of the food source for animals that live in the stream; many will undergo a metamorphosis and become flying insects which act as food for the birds that live in nearby forests and meadows. Their presence and abundance is essential to the health of the stream's ecosystem.

Bringing kids, teachers and parents into the stream for the field trip after the classwork is always a wonderful experience. Kids and adults have the opportunity to get into the stream and explore this interesting and delicate habitat. We often hear that participants in the program will never think of the river in the same way again. And that, in a nutshell, is our goal. To find out how you can bring the MWA Education Program to your school call the Musconetcong Watershed Association at (908) 537-7060.

*The 8th Annual MWA Run for the River was another success. Tracy Flaherty and her son Tommy, age 3, crossed the finish line together. See Page 3 for details.*



# July Groundbreaking for the River Resource Center

The MWA's Building Committee, led by MWA Trustee Kim Hood, has been meeting regularly to work on scheduling and budget issues in advance of an early July groundbreaking. Cliff Tanzler of Critical Path Project Management LLC, the River Resource Center project manager, sent bids out to contractors in June and is now in the process of choosing contractors. MWA expects that work will begin soon and that the project will be completed by late fall 2008. Please watch for e-mail and newsletter updates as the very long-awaited River Resource Center is built.

The River Resource Center is being built according to U.S. Green Building Council Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Green Building Rating System. LEED is a national rating system for developing high-performance, sustainable buildings. That use state-of-the-art strategies in five areas: sustainable site development, water savings, energy efficiency, materials and resources selection, and indoor environmental quality.



*Mike Cronomiz, right, a LEED certified architect working with Re:Vision Architecture of Philadelphia, is on the MWA Building Team. Mike was the guest speaker for this year's MWA Annual Meeting. Eric Henricksen, MWA Trustee speaks with Mike about the River Resource Center's "green" features.*

## MUSCONETCONG WATERSHED ASSOCIATION

**908-537-7060**

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

### *Trustee Officers*

*President, Bill Leavens*

*Vice President, Mike Sedita*

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*Treasurer, Peter Banta*

### *Trustees*

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*Henry Meltzer*

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*Stuart Shafran*

### *Staff*

*Executive Director*

*Beth Styler Barry*

*Administrative Assistant*

*Adrienne Kaczynski*

*Printing: Good Impressions, Washington, NJ*

## MWA Members **WANTED!**

If you are not an MWA member please show your support for our work by joining today. If you are a member but haven't yet paid your 2008 dues please do—**we need your support!** You can clip and send the membership application on the back of this newsletter or join online at [www.musconetcong.org](http://www.musconetcong.org).

## Special Edition of the Musconetcong River News to be Mailed in August

There is so much happening with our dam removal activities that MWA will dedicate an entire newsletter to the subject. Look for this Special Edition to arrive later this summer. In the Special Edition, we will update members on specifics of each project; the Gruendyke Dam removal which is underway, the pending Seber Dam removal which will follow in short order and the feasibility study for Finesville Dam. The issue will discuss the long-term benefits to the Musconetcong River and its ecosystem that come from removing dams and how these benefits outweigh the short-term disruptions of the removal process.

# 2008 Run for the River Raises over \$5,000!

Runners and Walkers enjoyed beautiful weather, good company and lots of prizes. We thank everyone who came out to run and to those who came out to join the growing number of walkers. We thank the volunteers who made this another very successful year including so many MWA Trustees and members!

## 2008 Gold Level Sponsors

Smith Sanitation  
Borealis Compounds LLC  
Water for the World  
Hawk Pointe Golf Club  
Princeton Hydro, LLC

## 2008 Sponsors

Covanta Energy  
Hackettstown MUA  
Heritage Conservancy  
Rockefeller Development Group  
Arts off Main  
Comcast  
Engineering & Land Planning  
Assoc., Inc.  
Karrville Shirt Company  
Tilcon  
Paddlers Cove  
Alloy Welding Co., Inc.  
Fox Lumber  
PNC Bank  
Mars Snackfood US  
Rick Allen's Auto Repair  
Brian Plushanski Construction  
Maser Consulting

## Friends of the River

Supported by the following families:

Kaczynski • Barry • Banta •  
Wasser • Henley • Asbury United  
Methodist Church • Garcia •  
"Supe" • Murray • MacGonagle

## Supported by

Taylor Rental



*See how happy walking in the Run for the River can make you? Walkers Nancy Jacobsen and Denise Cicerelle, both of Franklin Township, joined this year's record number of walkers.*



*Bonnie Linton, overall female winner receives her award from MWA President Bill Leavens. Bonnie's time was 24.08.37.*



*Over 200 people participated in the 2008 MWA Run for the River. After the run, participants and spectators gather for awards ceremony and drawing.*



*Overall male winner Eric Hawk receives award from MWA President Bill Leavens. Eric finished the race in 23.51.49.*

## Drawing Gifts were Donated by:

- Studio 57 Hair Salon of Washington - Gift Basket
- Applebees - Dinner for Two
- Gibson's Gym - 1 Month Membership w/ hat
- Greens and Beans - Gift Basket
- Lawrence Pharmacy - \$25 Gift Certificates
- Four Paws Dog Daycare - 4 1-day Gift Certificates
- Mars Snackfood US - assorted candy boxes
- Everybody's Health Club - 1 month membership
- MWA Trustee Peter Banta - Basket of Goodies
- Greens and Beans Bloomsbury - Gift Basket
- Bloomsbury General Store - 10 Gift Certificates
- Pepperidge Farm - Cookie Selections (7 winners)
- Gibson's Gym - 1 month membership with hat
- Manhattan Grill and Deli (Bloomsbury Citgo) - Set of two meal coupons (5 winners)
- Fliegauf Jewelers - \$30 Gift Certificate

# Sunshine Fuels Volunteer Clean Up Effort

Mother Nature certainly smiled upon the 16th Annual MWA Clean Up which took place on the morning of Saturday, April 19, 2008. On a perfect spring day, volunteers cleaned up in all four counties of the watershed, Warren, Hunterdon, Sussex and Morris. The 205 participants collected 276 bags of trash and numerous large items including furniture and tires! Thanks to help from a record number of Trout Unlimited volunteers we were able to nearly

30 miles of the watershed! MWA Trustees, MWA members, Warren County Community College students, Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts, local residents, students from Saint Phillips Academy of Newark, Hampton and Bloomsbury Environmental Commissions and more all donned work gloves and got down to the dirty business of cleaning stream banks and roadsides.



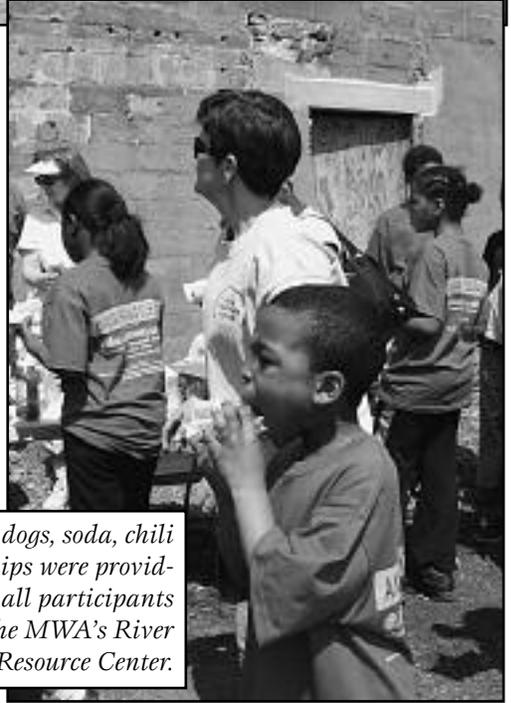
*The Cenci family participated in the 16th Annual MWA Spring Clean Up. They were part of a group of Cub Scouts from Pack 61 of Stewartville, NJ*



*This group of Girls Scouts helped clean up in the Bloomsbury area. Volunteers cleaned up a record 25 miles of stream banks and roadsides in 2008.*



*A large number of New Jersey Trout Unlimited members from several chapters throughout the state allowed us to reach beyond our usual areas for Clean Up.*



*Hot dogs, soda, chili and chips were provided for all participants at the MWA's River Resource Center.*



*A BIG thanks to students from Saint Philips Academy in Newark, New Jersey made a one-hour journey to help MWA clean up in the Hampton/ Franklin area. Special thanks to Franklin farmer Joel Schnetzer for providing an informative visit to his farm for the students after the Clean Up.*

# SAVE THESE DATES!

## **Saturday, July 19th, 2008 • 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. • Meet the River**

Come out and get your feet wet! Join us at Point Mountain Preserve, Port Murray Road, Mansfield as we introduce you to the Musconetcong River. This program will allow 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! You'll need to wear water shoes, old sneakers or sandals with a strap on back. No bare feet and no flip-flops please! Parents must be present but do not need to get their feet wet—there will be plenty of volunteers on hand. We will not be swimming, just getting our feet wet. Call (908) 537-7060 or e-mail [beth@musconetcong.org](mailto:beth@musconetcong.org) for details. MWA members free. Non-members will be charged a \$2 donation per child (\$5 limit per family.)

## **Wednesday, July 23rd, 2008 • 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. • Meet the River**

Please see the program description and location under the July 19th, 2008 entry above.

## **Saturday, July 26th, 2008 • 9:30 a.m. -12:00 p.m. • Hike at Point Mountain**

Join us as we explore the 700-acre Point Mountain Reservation. Members are free, nonmembers \$2, \$5 maximum per family. All are welcome, novice and expert alike. Call (908) 537-7060 or e-mail [beth@musconetcong.org](mailto:beth@musconetcong.org) for details, directions or to register.

## **Saturday, August 2nd, 2008 • 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. • Meet the River**

Come out to the N.J. DEP Fishing Access at 253 Bloomsbury Road in Asbury and get your feet wet! We'd like to introduce you to the Musconetcong River. This program will allow 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! You'll need to wear water shoes, old sneakers or sandals with a strap on back. No bare feet and no flip flops please! Parents must be present but do not need to get their feet wet—there will be plenty of volunteers on hand. We will not be swimming, just getting our feet wet. Call (908) 537-7060 or e-mail [beth@musconetcong.org](mailto:beth@musconetcong.org) for details. MWA members free. Nonmembers will be charged a \$2 donation per child (\$5 limit per family.)

## **Wednesday, August 6th, 2008 • 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. • Meet the River**

Please see the program description and location under the August 2nd entry above.

## **Saturday, August 9th, 2008 • 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. • Meet the River**

Explore this new location for this event at Riverside Park, Byram Township located on River Road, just off of Route 604. See "Meet the River" program description above.

## **Sunday, September 28, 2008 • 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. • 6th Annual MWA Wine Tasting**

Enjoy an excellent selection of domestic and imported wines at this outdoor event held at the Musky Trout Hatchery at 279 Asbury-Bloomsbury Road (Route 632) in Asbury. Wine expertise is provided by Perryville Wine and Spirits, live music by Jambone, delicious finger foods prepared by Milford Market, and fall foliage and river views are provided by Mother Nature. Tickets are \$25.00 and can be purchased online or at the door. Please contact [beth@musconetcong.org](mailto:beth@musconetcong.org) or call (908) 537-7060. Nonalcoholic beverages will also be available. Rain or shine, we'll be under a pavilion.

**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).

- ◆ Save These Dates
  - ◆ Sunshine Fuels Volunteer Clean Up Effort
  - ◆ 2008 Run for the River Raises over \$5,000!
  - ◆ July Groundbreaking for the River Resource Center
  - ◆ Local Students Receive Hands-On River Education
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## 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 shadowed by 1,000 foot Highland ridges, it 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 and 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.

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 Steward  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$30 Family    | <input type="checkbox"/> \$500 Champion |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$50 Supporter | <input type="checkbox"/> \$1,000 + Life |

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

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

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

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

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

*Mail to:*

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