

**CONTOOCCOOK AND NORTH BRANCH RIVERS LOCAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
(CNBRLAC)**



Below, please find a brief summary of the accomplishments of the Contoocook and North Branch Rivers Local Advisory Committee (CNBRLAC) in 2008 to protect the river that runs through fourteen towns.

RECEIVED TWO AWARDS

This year our committee received an award from EPA for our volunteer efforts, as well as one from the State of New Hampshire! Michelle Hamm, our Chair collected these on our behalf.

MONITORING AND CLEAN-UP ALONG THE RIVER

This year we increased the number of sites monitored, especially in Henniker and Hopkinton. Special thanks go to Jill Winton of Deering for her help in getting several volunteers to help us. We hope to do more on invasive plants this coming year.

We have noted an increase of foam in the river, possibly due to car washing, phosphate fertilizer, or leaf decomposition, depending on the time of year.

EDUCATIONAL AND PUBLICITY ABOUT THE RIVER

We still have a power-point program on the history of the river, a large display board, a video of the river set to Vivaldi's Four Season music, and a scrapbook of pictures and historical articles about the river available for display at community functions. If you would like the display or a program presented in your town or at a regional organization, contact our secretary, Marian Baker at 478-5650. We plan to complete brochures, update our website, and conduct a survey of riverfront owners and others interested in the river late this spring.

SIGNS ALONG THE RIVER

So far we have bought and erected colorful Protected River signs in Bennington, Henniker, Peterborough, and Contoocook. Look for them! We were the grateful recipients of donations made in the memory of Marshall Harvey, who spent his childhood years on the river in Hillsboro. This money was used to enable our town of Hillsboro to purchase several sets of signs to erect where highways cross the river in our town.

WILDLIFE IN THE RIVER

Each month we get reports of wildlife seen along the river; eagles, herons, mergansers, migratory waterfowl, otters, and snow buntings. Do let your town representatives know of interesting sightings in your town.

ADVISING TOWNS ON BUILDING IN THE RIVER CORRIDOR

We continue to advise towns concerning the shoreland protection act, best management practices for the development of land along the river, and dredge and fill permits.

NEW MEMBERS

We have several new members on our committee, but are looking for new ones from Rindge, Jaffrey, Greenfield, Antrim, Stoddard, and Hopkinton. Our monthly meetings are held the third Monday of each month, usually at Monadnock Paper Mill in Bennington. They are open to the public.

For more information please contact either Marian Baker at 478-5650 or Phil Harvey at 464-3678.

Serving the towns of: Antrim, Bennington, Boscawen, Concord, Contoocook, Deering, Greenfield, Hancock, Henniker, Hillsborough, Hopkinton, Jaffrey, Penacook, Peterborough, Stoddard, and Rindge