



Currents From Source to Sea August 2010

The Last Green Valley's Watershed Newsletter



Welcome to the second edition of *Currents from Source to Sea*, a periodic e-newsletter designed to keep you up-to-date on paddles and river events, water trail development, issues of concern, and success stories throughout the watershed. If you'd like to submit something for the next edition, please send your information to Lois@tlgv.org.

Upcoming Paddles & Events in the Watershed

Paddle Killingly

Paddlers are getting together for an informal series of paddles in Killingly on Wednesday evenings. These paddles are for anyone who is interested in learning a bit about Killingly, water access in Killingly, and what Killingly has to offer paddlers of all ages and skill levels. The majority of these paddles are on lakes, ponds, or very slow moving waters. **Disclaimer:** Please note that the summer 2010 paddles are informal and unsponsored events and are at your own risk. All participants must have and wear a Personal Flotation Device (PFD). For more information, check the Paddle Killingly website:

<http://paddlekillingly.webs.com/>.



Water Subcommittee Meeting

Please join The Last Green Valley for a special presentation about Massachusetts' water resources on Wednesday, August 11, 2010, at 9



What is a water trail?
It is the combination of a waterway with paddle routes and segments that are clearly described in maps and guides, with efforts to expand shoreline access, and stewardship projects to reduce erosion and protect water quality – the very resources paddlers come here to enjoy.

am at the Dudley Municipal Complex on West Main Street, Dudley, MA. The Last Green Valley will be hosting Linda Hutchins, a hydrologist with the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation, Office of Water Resources.

Ms. Hutchins will present an overview of the Massachusetts Sustainable Waters Initiative and updates on ongoing research in stream flow and habitats in Massachusetts. All are welcome to attend but please reply for planning purposes to Jean Pillo, jean.pillo@conservect.org.

Ms. Hutchins' work includes participating in hydrologic monitoring and scientific research with the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) Cooperative Program in Massachusetts; serving as a member of the Massachusetts Emergency Management Team during droughts and floods; and she is also a staff member to the Massachusetts Water Resources Commission. She has been providing technical support to the Massachusetts Sustainable Water Management Initiative under the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs, and to the Massachusetts Water Management Act Advisory Committee with the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection.

AMC Five Mile River Paddle

Jean Trapani from the Appalachian Mountain Club will be leading a leisurely flatwater paddle on a beautiful segment of the Five Mile River on August 14, meeting at 9 am at 99 Commerce Ave., Danielson. Registration is required. Please contact Jean Trapani, Flatwater@ct-amc.org for more details and to register.

Ride the Shetucket River

The Sprague Rec Commission is sponsoring a ride on the Shetucket River from Scotland Dam to Baltic on August 14, 2010 from 10:30 am to 1:30 pm. Tubes, kayaks, and canoes are welcome. There will be a free shuttle from Baltic to Scotland Dam, and a planned water release courtesy of First Light Power Generation. Participants must have PFDs. Food and music available. DJ at River Park from 11 am to 6 pm. For up-to-date weather and water level information go to: www.ctsprague.org.

Water Trails Steering Committee

The Last Green Valley Water Trails Steering Committee has been meeting quarterly on water trails development projects. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 21, 2010 at 7:00 pm in TLGV's Danielson Office.

Stop the Spread of Aquatic Invasives!

An increasing number of damaging aquatic species are invading the waters of Connecticut. The CT DEP has put together a website at www.ct.gov/dep/cwp/view.asp?A=269&Q=322690 that includes tips for anglers and boaters to help prevent the spread of aquatic nuisance species and includes photos of some common offenders such as zebra



mussels, landlocked alewives, and water chestnut. The website also summarizes the legal requirements (Public Acts 03-136 and 04-203) that every paddler in Connecticut should know. Violators can be fined up to \$100 per plant!

- Boaters must inspect their vessel for vegetation and properly remove and dispose of any vegetation before transporting the vessel. You can be fined up to \$100 and may have to appear in court for failure to comply.
- The importation, transportation, sale, purchase, possession, cultivation or distribution of a number of invasive plants including the following aquatic plants is currently prohibited:
 - Curly leaved pondweed (*Potamogeton crispus*)
 - Eurasian water milfoil (*Myriophyllum spicatum*)
 - Water chestnut (*Trapa natans*)
 - Hydrilla (*Hydrilla verticillata*)
 - Fanwort (*Cabomba caroliniana*)
 - Variable water milfoil (*Myriophyllum heterophyllum*)
 - Egeria (*Egeria densa*)
 - Common reed (*Phragmites australis*)
 - Purple loosestrife (*Lythrum salicaria*)
 - Parrotfeather (*Myriophyllum aquaticum*)
 - American water lotus (*Nelumbo lutea*)
 - Giant salvinia (*Salvinia molesta*)
 - Water lettuce (*Pistia stratiotes*)
 - Onerow yellowcress (*Rorippa microphylla*)
 - Pond water-starwort (*Callitriche stagnalis*)
 - Brittle water-nymph (*Najas minor*)
 - Yellow floating heart (*Nymphoides peltata*)
 - Yellow iris (*Iris pseudacorus*)
 - Watercress (*Rorippa nasturium-aquaticum*)*
 - *except for watercress without reproductive structures sold for human consumption.

A "Stop Aquatic Hitchhikers" Guide has been developed by the Amos Lake Association as part of its public awareness project to protect the water quality of Amos Lake in Preston, CT. The brochure is available on The Last Green Valley's website:

www.tlgv.org/preserve/watershedprojects/waterquality.html.

The Last Green Valley has also obtained multiple copies of "Common Roadside Invasives – A Field Guide to Costly Aquatic Weeds" that was produced by the U.S. Dept. of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration. The guide is laminated and suitable for taking out on the water. If you would like a copy, please call at Lois at 860-774-3300 or email Lois@tlgv.org.

See you on the water!



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