



## Connecticut River Joint Commissions Partnership Program 2005 Awards

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<i>Project Summary</i>	<i>Applicants</i>	<i>Awards</i>
<b>Total</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>26 (51%)</b>
<b>Funding</b>	<b>\$236,791</b>	<b>\$85,000 (36%)</b>

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### *Water Quality*

**Ammonoosuc Water Quality**

Grant awarded: \$4,400

*Submitted by:* Town of Littleton

*Project location:* Littleton, Bethlehem, Carroll, Lisbon, Landaff, Bath, & Haverhill, NH

This grant will establish a Volunteer Water Quality Monitoring Program for the Ammonoosuc River as part of a comprehensive Ammonoosuc River Corridor Study.

**Dummerston Covered Bridge Erosion Control**

Grant awarded: \$4,000

*Submitted by:* Dummerston Conservation Commission

*Project location:* Dummerston, VT

This project will reconstruct a highly eroded river access trail next to the town's historic covered bridge. The stream bank will be restored and landscaped to reduce sediment-laden storm water runoff into the West River.

**Stream Geomorphic Assessment at Ball Mountain Brook**

Grant awarded: \$4,000

*Submitted by:* West River Watershed Alliance

*Project location:* Stratton & Jamaica, VT

The project will enable informed management decisions by local planners concerning stream restoration and identify likely erosion-prone areas in the Ball Mountain Brook watershed.

**Peacham and Barnet Water Quality Study**

Grant awarded: \$3,000

*Submitted by:* Peacham Conservation Commission

*Project location:* Peacham & Barnet, VT

The community participants will collect and analyze baseline water quality data from East Peacham Brook and parts of the Stevens River in order to identify threats. This will establish and fortify a partnership between Barnet and Peacham with respect to river resources in this area.

**Riverbank Restoration on Magalloway Road**

Grant awarded: \$2,000

*Submitted by:* Pittsburg Ridge Runners Snowmobile Club

*Project location:* Pittsburg, NH

The Pittsburg Ridge Runners, in cooperation with the Department of Resources and Economic Development, will restore the riparian buffer and riverbank at the Magalloway Road crossing of the Connecticut River.

**Blood Brook *E.coli* Monitoring**

Grant awarded: \$1,500

*Submitted by:* Norwich Conservation Commission

*Project location:* Norwich, VT

This project continues monitoring of *E.coli* levels in the Blood Brook watershed utilizing a state grant for laboratory services.

**Black River Visual Assessment**

Grant awarded: \$1,000

*Submitted by:* Black River Watershed Action Team

*Project location:* Springfield, Weathersfield, Cavendish, & Ludlow, VT

The Visual Assessment is the first step toward improving water quality. Findings will be used to identify sites needing further study and to set priorities for future projects such as trash clean-up and buffer planting.

## ***Recreation***

### **Connecticut River Birding Trail, Lower VT/NH Section**

Grant awarded: \$5,000

*Submitted by:* George D. Aiken Resource Conservation and Development Council

*Project location:* Towns near the Connecticut River in southern NH & VT

The Connecticut River Birding Trail introduces people at any level of birding experience to some of the finest publicly accessible birding sites in the valley. This funding supports development of the map and guide to sites in southern NH and VT.

### **Clay Brook Trailhead Parking and Signage**

Grant awarded: \$3,000

*Submitted by:* Upper Valley Land Trust

*Project location:* Lyme, NH

This project will construct trailhead parking and signage at the Clay Brook Trail in Lyme, NH. The trail provides public access to conserved land surrounding this Connecticut River tributary.

### **Upper Valley Trails Directory Revision**

Grant awarded: \$2,000

*Submitted by:* Upper Valley Trails Alliance

*Project location:* Upper Valley towns in NH & VT

The Upper Valley Trails Alliance will update its directory of area trail organizations to indicate who publishes trail maps, maintains trails, organizes events, and is involved in trail-related conservation and outdoor recreation.

### **Passumpsic River Trail Maintenance & Erosion Control**

Grant awarded: \$1,800

*Submitted by:* Kingdom Trails Association

*Project location:* Burke, VT

This project's objective is erosion prevention and trail maintenance, including assessment and potential relocation, of trails running along the East and West branches of the Passumpsic River in Burke, VT.

### **Beecher Falls River Access**

Grant awarded: \$1,500

*Submitted by:* Grace United Methodist Church

*Project location:* Canaan, VT

This project will provide a new, low-maintenance access to the Connecticut River for canoes, kayaks, other cartop boats, and fishing.

## ***Land Protection & Management***

### **Riparian Meadows Preservation Feasibility Study**

Grant awarded: \$4,500

*Submitted by:* Upper Valley Land Trust

*Project location:* Charlestown, NH & Rockingham, VT

The Land Trust will explore, evaluate, and present land conservation options for securing permanent protection of large parcels of prime agricultural land associated with the Bellows Falls Dam as they are transferred from TransCanada Hydro Northeast to the Town of Rockingham.

### **Ashuelot Land Conservation Implementation**

Grant awarded: \$4,000

*Submitted by:* The Monadnock Conservancy

*Project location:* Monadnock Region, NH

The Land Conservation Plan for the Ashuelot River Watershed encourages land protection agreements that will benefit water quality, wildlife habitat, and recreation in the 25 towns of the watershed. This grant will support that work.

### **Slade Brook Management Plan**

Grant awarded: \$3,500

*Submitted by:* Hanover Conservation Council

*Project location:* Hanover, NH

The Council will develop a land management plan for 35 acres along Slade Brook, a tributary of the Connecticut River. The plan will include a habitat assessment and inventory of flora and fauna as well as water quality testing.

**Fall Mountain Protection Project**

Grant awarded: \$3,000

*Submitted by:* The Nature Conservancy of New Hampshire*Project location:* Walpole, Langdon, & Charlestown, NH

Funds will help the Conservancy complete the purchase of 950 acres on Fall Mountain and ensure the permanent protection of forest, wetlands, ponds, and important habitat for a wide array of wildlife and plant species, including the federally endangered Northeastern Bulrush.

## *Agriculture*

**Locally Grown Food Guide**

Grant awarded: \$4,000

*Submitted by:* Vital Communities of the Upper Valley / Valley Food and Farms*Project location:* Connecticut River Valley towns from Haverhill/Bradford south to Massachusetts

Funds will help print 20,000 copies of a second edition of the Locally Grown Guide and distribute them at 200 sites, expanding the area covered by the first edition. The publication makes it easy for consumers to find and learn about locally produced food.

## *Education*

**Manual for Landowners**

Grant awarded: \$4,000

*Submitted by:* Center for Woodlands Education*Project location:* Upper Valley towns in NH & VT

"Caring for Your Land in the Upper Valley" will provide information and inspiration to landowners who want to manage their property for multiple uses, including wildlife habitat, productive forestry, recreation, scenic features, and water quality protection.

**Boltonville Land Use Explorers Conservation Day Camp**

Grant awarded : \$3,500

*Submitted by:* White River Natural Resources Conservation District*Project location:* Newbury, VT

The B.L.U.E. camp, held at a dairy farm on the Wells River, will teach students about the human and environmental history of their community and the Wells River watershed, including the benefits and impacts of human land use and development.

## *Invasive Species*

**Rusty Crayfish Invasion**

Grant awarded: \$4,000

*Submitted by:* Vermont Institute of Natural Science*Project location:* White River Watershed, VT

This research project, which will involve and educate local students, will establish much-needed baseline data on this exotic species in the White River and provide a research model for other groups in the Connecticut River basin.

**Northeast Kingdom Invasive Species Initiative**

Grant awarded: \$3,000

*Submitted by:* Caledonia County Natural Resources Conservation District*Project location:* Caledonia, Essex and Orleans Counties, VT

This grant will support public education for the Northeast Kingdom Invasive Species Initiative, a collaborative partnership committed to coordinated action in combating terrestrial and aquatic invasive species.

**Aquatic Invasive Plants Outreach & Survey**

Grant awarded: \$1,800

*Submitted by:* Connecticut River Conservation District Coalition*Project location:* Connecticut River Valley, NH & VT

The Coalition will train citizens to identify invasive aquatic plants and to become active participants in preventing their spread in the Connecticut River. Workshops and field surveys will be held from Walpole to Pittsburg, NH.

## ***Visitor Education & Services for the Scenic Byway***

### **Windsor Waypoint Center Educational Exhibit**

Grant awarded: \$5,000

*Submitted by:* Windsor Improvement Corporation

*Project location:* Windsor, VT

This project will design and create a compelling educational display on the history of the Town of Windsor and its relationship to the Connecticut River.

### **Riverbank Dock Project**

Grant awarded: \$5,000

*Submitted by:* Old Fort No. 4 Associates

*Project location:* Charlestown, NH

The Fort at No. 4 will replace and improve its dock and maintain the riparian buffer and walking trail located at the edge of the Fort and the bank of the Connecticut River, to improve its accessibility as a Byway attraction.

### **Interpretive Panels for Quechee Gorge Visitor Center**

Grant awarded: \$4,500

*Submitted by:* Town of Hartford, VT

*Project location:* Quechee, VT

The Town of Hartford will design, fabricate and install nine interpretive panels at the newly constructed Quechee Gorge Visitor Center. Exhibits will describe the natural and cultural history of the area.

### **Valley Quest/Heritage Tourism**

Grant awarded: \$2,000

*Submitted by:* Vital Communities of the Upper Valley / Valley Quest

*Project location:* Upper Valley towns in NH & VT

This project aims to foster quality Heritage Tourism along the Connecticut River Scenic Byway. Funds will provide Valley Quest books to six inns along the Byway, orient staff to area Quest destinations, and encourage appreciation for the distinctive natural, cultural, and scenic assets of the region.