

## Celebrating over 30 years of river conservation and enjoyment!

### GRANT NEWS

HooRWA and the Rensselaer Land Trust have helped the Village of Valley Falls, NY obtain a grant from the EPA for \$200,000! This assessment grant will be used to look for hazardous materials on the former Thompson Mill site on the Hoosic River in the village. This is the first step towards the transformation of this derelict building site into a riverfront village park. Stay tuned!!



HooRWA also has a grant pending with the Massachusetts Recreational Trails Program for developing a trail along the Green River in Williamstown.

### VOLUNTEER DAYS!

**Saturday, August 12  
Hoosic River Ride  
Hoosac School, New York**

We need volunteers for this year's Hoosic River Ride. Whether at an aid station, serving at the check-in table, or helping riders at the finish, volunteers play a key role in our major event. Contact Steve McMahon at 413-458-2742 to sign up and help us with the ride!



**Friday, September 1  
Swale Clean up  
Williamstown**

HooRWA is partnering with teams of first year students at Williams College to clean up the site by the native species along the drainage swale at The Spruces. Come join in the fun and get to know some students! Meet: At The Spruces by 9 a.m. Leader: Chaplain's office; however, call Steve McMahon at 413-458-2742 or email [s.mcmahon@hoorwa.org](mailto:s.mcmahon@hoorwa.org) for p reregistration.

### PROJECTS

#### **Project Wild Trout**

Two Williams College students, Morgan Harris, Williams '19 and Angelica Saldena, Williams '20 are conducting a survey to determine which river and tributary reaches might maintain cold water characteristics in the face of climate change. Trout require temperatures of 70 degrees and below. The Hoosic is a cold water fishery meaning, by Fish and Wildlife standards, trout will reproduce. The students have agreed to report on their findings during the academic year.

#### **Green River Bacteria Study**

Sampling of the Green River in Williamstown continues through the summer. Our June sampling indicated high E. coli readings for one site along the Green but the overall average for the 8 sites show a clean river. Sampling will continue through October.





**Board of Directors**

Andy Kawczak, *President*  
Thom Gentle, *Vice-president*  
Wendy Hopkins, *Secretary*  
Harold Brotzman, *Treasurer*  
Gordon Batcheller  
John Case  
Sarah Gardner  
Nick Howe  
Tom Hyde  
Karin Landry  
Mark Merrell  
Elayne Murphy  
Jim Niedbalski  
Lauren Stevens

Steve McMahon, *Executive Director*

Hoosic River  
Watershed Association  
P.O. Box 667  
Williamstown, MA 01267  
413 458-2742  
office@hoorwa.org  
www.hoorwa.org

*HooRWA is dedicated to the restoration, conservation and enjoyment of the Hoosic River and its watershed, through education, research, and advocacy.*

**President's Post**

Summer is upon us! Vacations are on and we are enjoying the beautiful Berkshire and Taconic ranges that help define the Hoosic River Watershed. Clearly, we observe that individuals and families are regularly seeking the tranquility and comfort of the great-outdoors. We have it right here! Fortunately, our watershed, your watershed, has many opportunities to appreciate its qualities. For those who are ambitious, major trails such as the Appalachian Trail and Long Trail provide extended hiking opportunities. Many moderately length trails surround Mt. Greylock, western Williamstown, and Bennington areas. Even the Hoosac range has trails that are included in the watershed that offer beautiful vistas. Don't overlook the Robert Frost trail (there are several –consider the one in North Bennington) that begins near Lake Paran. If hiking is not your thing, consider a quick dip in the cool waters of Windsor Lake (North Adams) or Margret Lindley Park (Williamstown) or Lake Paran (North Bennington). These are all great places to go to enjoy family recreation! If bicycling is more to your liking, don't overlook the Ashuwillticook bicycle trail (Lanesboro to Adams). Want comradery and convenience for your biking trip, consider joining

*by Andy Kawczak*

HooRWA's Hoosic River (bike) ride on August 12th. It is one of our premier fund-raiser events and affords the bike riders great beauty and good food stops along the way! Whatever your interests - please extend yourself and enjoy the beautiful Hoosic River Watershed this season! You will be rewarded by the invigoration of your



**Welcome New 2017 Members!**

Donald and Bonnie Clark  
Heidi Lovette  
David and Candida Low  
Stanley and Paula Walczyk  
Jeff Young

**Riverworks 2017**

On May 20, nine visual artists and two performance artists participated in this year's Riverworks along the bank of the Hoosic River off Cole Field. For many years HooRWA has hosted this event, which encourages artists to respond to our river and watershed in sculpture, painting, installations, or through performance art. Once again, this event was supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council and the Williams College Center for Environmental Studies.

The theme of the show this year was "Taming the River/Letting the River Go." Ann Kremers addressed this theme with a thirty-foot paper river, also installed on the beach, inscribed with this poem:

*Have you not noticed/that as soon as the bridge is built/the dam erected,/the levee lifted to contain it,/the river begins/its slow,/inexorable and patient/wearing away?/We repair,/rebuild/ and improve with ever more advanced/technologies,/and the river/wears away./Until,/the time comes again/for the skies to open/and the river to lose patience./The water rises,/and rises./The bridges collapse./The dams burst./The levees fail./And then we are horrified./And yet,/we scramble to rebuild/the illusion that we/can tame the river.*



*Riverworks 2016*

## Summer and Fall Events

*From the Ridgetops to the River, join us and experience the visual and recreational pleasures of our beautiful 720 square mile Hoosic River watershed. Walks, talks, hikes, biking, fishing demonstrations all await you. Event participation (except for the Hoosic River Ride) is free for HooRWA members!*

**Saturday, July 22**  
**Henry David Thoreau Hike**  
**Mount Greylock—North Adams**

Hike the Bellows Pipe Trail on Mt. Greylock with Lauren Stevens and in conjunction with the Mass. Department of Conservation and Recreation. Participants should bring water and lunch. We'll pause along the way to read relevant passages from "A Week on the Concord and Merrimack Rivers." This year marks the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Thoreau's birth. Five or eleven miles; five miles if participants arrange transportation from the summit. Meet: Leave from the north gate (Notch Road) of the Mount Greylock Reservation at 10:00 a.m. Leader: Lauren Stevens; call 413-458-3154 or email [lstevens@berkshire.net](mailto:lstevens@berkshire.net) for preregistration.



**Saturday, July 29**  
**Hoosick Falls Greenway Ride.**

A family friendly bike ride on the Hoosick River Greenway. Meet: At the former water treatment plant in Hoosick Falls at 10:00 a.m. Some riding and some walking of bikes over the course of the Greenway. Leader: Elayne Murphy, email [emurphy@williams.edu](mailto:emurphy@williams.edu) for reregistration.

**Saturday, August 5**  
**Hoosic Ride Warm –up**  
**Hoosick, New York**

This is a 30-mile recreational bicycle ride on paved secondary roads. It is intended to excite the visual senses for the larger Hoosic River Ride event being held on August 12. Bring beverages and snacks with you. Meet: At the Hoosac School athletic facilities located in Hoosick Falls, NY (near the intersection of County Rte. 103 and NY Rte. 7) by 10:00 a.m. Leader: Tom Hyde; call 413-458-8534 or email him at [Thomas.hyde@yahoo.com](mailto:Thomas.hyde@yahoo.com) for preregistration.



**Saturday, August 12**  
**Hoosic River Ride**  
**Hoosac School, New York**

This event is HooRWA's premier fund-raising event that showcases the Hoosic River watershed. Biking on secondary roads and viewing pastures and streams epitomizes the

beauty of the Berkshires and Taconic's.

Bicycle mechanics, aid stations and picnic provided. Biking distances from 30 to 50 to 100 miles in length. Register at [bikereg.com/northeast](http://bikereg.com/northeast) events; otherwise at the event at least an hour before starting.

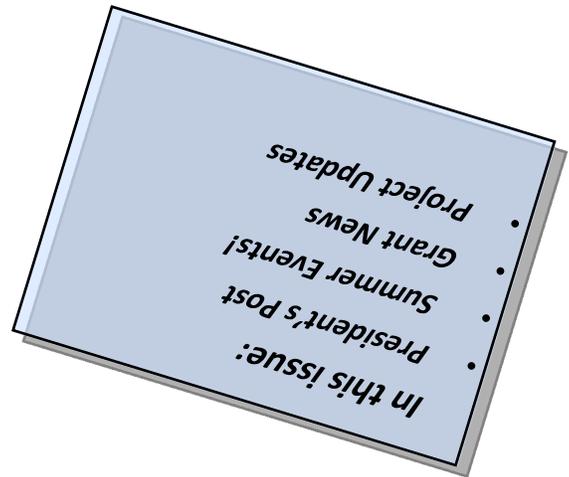
Meet: At the Hoosac School located in Hoosick Falls, NY (near the intersection of County Rte. 103 and NY Rte. 7) at/near 8:00 a.m. Leader: Elayne Murphy; Consult [HooRWA.org](http://HooRWA.org) or contact Steve McMahan at 413-458-2742, or email him at [s.mcmahan@hoorwa.org](mailto:s.mcmahan@hoorwa.org), for more event details.

**Saturday, September 16**  
**Canoeing - Lower Hoosic River**  
**Eagle Bridge, NY**

Bring your own boat and enjoy the wonders of the lower section of the Hoosic River as it heads toward the Hudson River. See flora and fauna that you do not always see in the upper reaches of the river. Bring beverages and snacks with you. Meet: Rensselaer Land Trust boat ramp on Rte. 67 in Eagle Bridge, NY. Leave: 10 a.m. Leader: Tom Hyde, call him at 413-458-8534 or email him at [Thomas.hyde@yahoo.com](mailto:Thomas.hyde@yahoo.com) for preregistration.

**Sunday, October 8**  
**Fall Foliage Bike Ride**  
**Pownal, VT**

Join us on this fall foliage recreational bicycle tour. The ride will be 40 miles, many of them along the Hoosic River. Bring beverages and snacks with you, we will pause periodically to regroup and refresh. Meet: At the former Mack Molding parking lot on Rt. 346 in Pownal (along the stretch between the Pownal post office and firehouse, and North Pownal: look for the tall black water tower ) at 9:45 am for a 10 am start. Leader: Lauren Stevens, however, call Steve McMahan at 413-458-2742 or email him at [s.mcmahan@hoorwa.org](mailto:s.mcmahan@hoorwa.org) for preregistration.



CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

Hoosic River Watershed Association  
P.O. Box 667  
Williamstown MA 01267

Nonprofit Org.  
US Postage  
PAID  
Permit # 262  
North Adams, MA  
01247



**On-line Registration closes  
August 8th for the Hoosic Riv-  
er Ride.**

**Go to [BikeReg.com/Northeast](http://BikeReg.com/Northeast)  
Events/Hoosic River Ride**

**Saturday, August 12, 2017 at the  
Hoosac School in Hoosick, NY  
Take the challenge and ride 30, 50,  
75 or 100 miles to benefit your  
watershed association!**



**DONOVAN O'CONNOR  
& DODIG, LLP**  
ATTORNEYS AND COUNSELORS AT LAW