

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

### GRANT NEWS

#### Valley Falls, NY

The conversion of the burned-out remains of the Thompson Mill moved closer to a village waterfront park in May. The contractor selection committee, on which HooRWA sits, held a kick-off meeting in Valley Falls, N.Y., with representatives of Weston & Sampson, an Albany-based engineering and design firm, to begin site assessment and park planning. The study is funded by a \$200,000 grant from the Environmental Protection Agency, written by Kristina Younger of the Rensselaer Land Trust who serves as the village's project manager. Rensselaer County is completing the tax taking of the 23-acre site with nearly a mile of frontage on the Hoosic River.

The selection committee believed Weston & Sampson was most comprehensive in understanding the needs of the village. The firm is now embarked on an initial site assessment, which for reasons of safety must be carried on without entering the shell of the condemned building. They will then develop a cleanup strategy and propose a park plan, in collaboration with the village.

### VOLUNTEER DAYS!

Saturday, July 14  
Green River Cleanup  
South Williamstown

Members of the South Williamstown Community Association will partner with HooRWA to wade the Green below a former town landfill to pick up pieces of trash that have eroded from the landfill. Wear waders or other footgear you don't mind getting wet. Sunshield may be advisable. Refreshments. Starting location to be determined. Preregister with HooRWA, [s.mcmahon@HooRWA.org](mailto:s.mcmahon@HooRWA.org) or 413-458-2742.

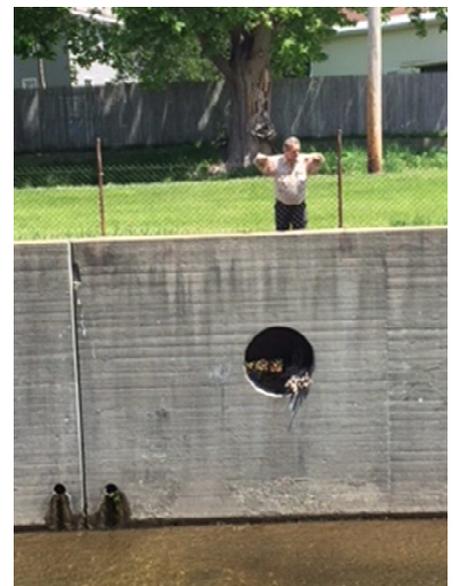
### RAFFLE TICKETS ON SALE!

HooRWA's annual raffle is underway and the \$5 tickets can be purchased at MountainOne bank in Williamstown or from Board members at special events. Prizes include a kayak, mountain bike, gift certificate or 3" shade tree. Thanks to local businesses including Berkshire Outfitters, The Spoke, Nature's Closet and El hannon nursery.



### CULVERT OUTFALL MAPPING IN ADAMS, MA

Several Board members worked with Exec. Director Steve McMahon to fulfill a grant from Mass. DEP to survey and assess stormwater outfalls in portions of the town. Administered by Berkshire Regional Planning and using a clever telephone application designed by Elia Delmolino of Berkshire Environmental Action Team, teams of two located, mapped, measured and assessed the flow from storm culverts leading to streams and rivers. Over 150 drains were assessed and over 60 volunteer hours were donated by the Board members.



*From the Ridgetops to the River, join us and experience*



Upcoming Summer Events

**Saturday, July 21 10 a.m.**  
Hike the Bellows Pipe Trail on Mt. Greylock with Lauren Stevens and a DCR Visitor Services guide. Participants should bring water and lunch. We pause along the way to read relevant passages from "A Week on the Concord and Merrimack Rivers." Six or seven miles; three 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 413-458-2742 for preregistration.

**Saturday, July 28 9 a.m.**  
Ring around Williamstown Hike  
A joint hike with the Williamstown Rural Lands Foundation  
Over East Mountain, via Chestnut Trail, Class of '98 Trail, and Appalachian Trail.  
Hikers meet at 9 am at Greylock School on Phelps Ave., in North Adams, and carpool to the trailhead on Chestnut St. A strenuous 3.6 miles. Bring water and snacks.

**Sunday, August 5 – Interpretive Bike Ride – Ashuwillticook Trail - Cheshire**  
This is a 10-mile recreational bicycle ride on paved Ashuwillticook Trail. In partnership with the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation. The ride is flat and family oriented. Bring beverages and snacks with you or buy lunch nearby. Meet: At Farnum's Crossing by 10:00 a.m. Leader: Lauren Stevens; call 413-458-2742 or email [s.mcmahon@hoorwa.org](mailto:s.mcmahon@hoorwa.org) for preregistration.

Hoosic River Ride

HooRWA will not be staging the Hoosic River Ride in 2018. The number of riders was diminishing while ride expenses were climbing. We thank all past riders and for your support and we are offering other events this year, such as the Ashuwillticook ride, to more closely tied to the river and its importance in our communities.

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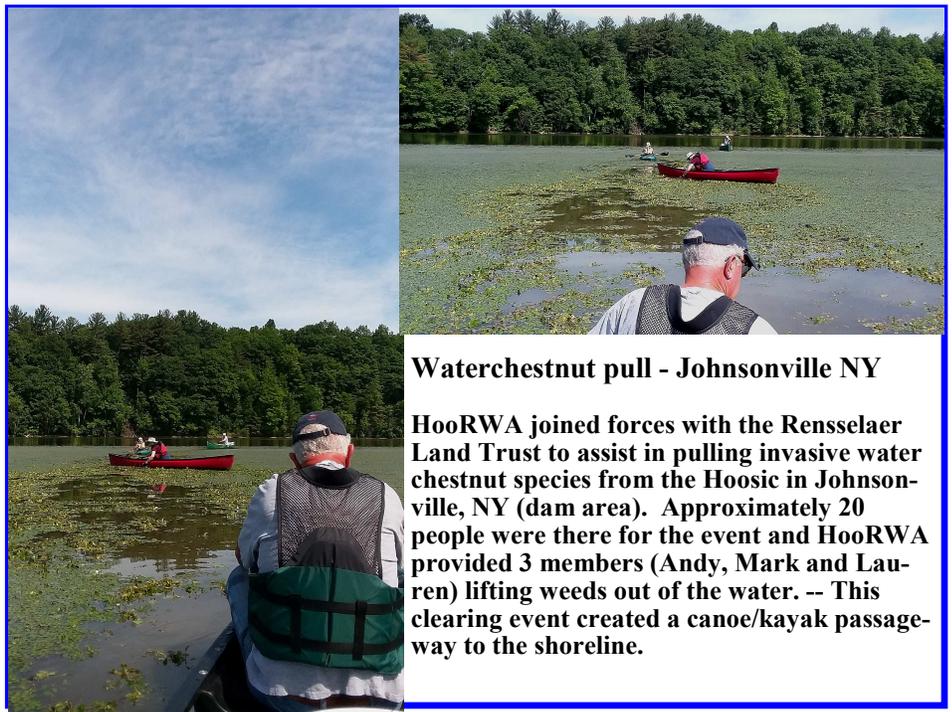
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*HooRWA is dedicated to the restoration, conservation and enjoyment of the Hoosic River and its watershed, through education, research, and advocacy.*

**Haiku on the Hoosic**



Over 200 haiku poems were submitted by students from local elementary schools as well as older, more seasoned poets. Coordinated by Board member John Case, this may event included writing sessions led by consultant Robert Moyer. Poems were tied to the bridge across the Hoosic River at the Tourists Trail in North Adams. This event was funded in part by a grant from the Massachusetts Cultural Council.



**Waterchestnut pull - Johnsonville NY**

HooRWA joined forces with the Rensselaer Land Trust to assist in pulling invasive water chestnut species from the Hoosic in Johnsonville, NY (dam area). Approximately 20 people were there for the event and HooRWA provided 3 members (Andy, Mark and Lauren) lifting weeds out of the water. -- This clearing event created a canoe/kayak passageway to the shoreline.