



FARMINGTON RIVER COORDINATING COMMITTEE
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FY 2003 Annual Report (October 1, 2002 - September 30, 2003)

FRCC Members:

Greetings from the Farmington River Coordinating Committee! I am pleased to present FRCC's FY 2003 Annual Report.

Barkhamsted

Jean Miller
Mario Santoro, alt.

The most exciting event of this last year was completing the West River Road Riverbank and Habitat Restoration project in partnership with the town of Barkhamsted, CT DEP, the Farmington River Anglers' Association and FRWA. The project culminated in two volunteer planting days. This 200-foot stabilization project leveraged \$10,000 of FRCC contribution with local and state resources valued at over \$80,000.

Canton

Diana Hiza
Chris Bailey, alt.

Colebrook

Tom Stanton
Harry White, alt.

Another valuable effort was meeting on a Saturday in September at Ski Sundown to update our organizational structure and make us more effective and efficient. As part of the effort, FRCC reviewed the Upper Farmington River Management Plan and refined priorities for the future based on its recommendations.

Hartland

Bror Lindau
Fred Jones, alt.

New Hartford

Pat Keener
Mark Lindquist, alt.

We also feel very fortunate to have moved into an office in Squire's Tavern on East River Road in Barkhamsted. The Barkhamsted Historical Society is restoring this lovely old building and has generously allowed us to share it with them. The historic resources of the river corridor were one of the many outstanding values that made the river eligible for Wild and Scenic status. If you have not been to the Tavern, please come for a quick tour. Our Director, Liz Lacy is there on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

CT DEP

David Leff
Sally Snyder, alt.

FRWA

David Sinish
Eric Hammerling,
alt.

We have installed information kiosks at the principle river access points. At this time we have completed the front panels of the display and the Education and Outreach subcommittee is working with Walt Landgraf to design the second side. I hope you have time to admire our handiwork.

MDC

Bud Sanders

New members have been added during the year. Bud Sanders (MDC), Chris Bailey (Canton Alt), Fred Jones (Hartland Alt), Mario Santoro (Barkhamsted Alt), and Sally Snyder (CT DEP Alt) - all are wonderful additions to FRCC.

NPS

Jamie Fosburgh
Kevin Case, alt.

FRCC lost a longtime advocate and charter member – who had represented the MDC for close to twenty years -- Randy Pease passed away during this past year. We will miss him. We plan to dedicate the kiosk at Church Pool in Pleasant Valley to him.

Please note that the Wild and Scenic designation for the West Branch of the Farmington River is now ten years old this August 26! We are planning a birthday party on Thursday August 26th. Save the date!

FRCC has been involved in a number of other projects which are listed in the report. We chose activities which will enhance the Farmington River and benefit the towns but suggestions are always welcome. All of our meetings are open to anyone who is interested. The meetings are generally scheduled for the fourth Thursday at 7:00pm at Squire's Tavern. Occasionally, the date changes so phoning ahead is suggested.

Enjoy the beautiful Farmington River!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Pat Keener". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Pat Keener, Chair and New Hartford Representative

Accomplishments FY 2003

The Farmington River Coordinating Committee was established by U.S. Congress to oversee and coordinate activities on the 14-mile federally designated Wild and Scenic section of the upper Farmington River. Each year the FRCC receives funding from Congress to fulfill its mandate. The Upper Farmington River Management Plan guides the actions of the Committee – and others who have an interest in stewardship of the river. The headings below represent the categories of the Upper Farmington River Management Plan – and the items are accomplishments of the FRCC during the past fiscal year (October 1 – September 30).

Resource Conservation

- ❖ Completed West River Road stabilization and restoration project with town of Barkhamsted and CT DEP.
- ❖ Completed two volunteer river bank planting days at West River Road site.
- ❖ Initiated plans for a 14-mile riverbank assessment.
- ❖ Continued work with communities to improve understanding of and implementation of the local riverfront protection overlay districts.
- ❖ Co-sponsored (with CT Farmland Trust) a regional land trust forum.

Education and Outreach

- ❖ Held Open House at new office space at Squires Tavern.
- ❖ Provided presentation of Farmington W&S River Economic Study results.
- ❖ The FRCC Small Grants Program provided funding for:
 - Grant writer for New Hartford's Downtown Riverwalk project.
 - Storm drain markers for Miles Groth's Eagle Scout badge project in Barkhamsted.
 - New Hartford Open Space brochure.
 - Northwest Conservation District Farmington River Business Education Program.
 - Farmington River Anglers Association's support to the Connecticut River Salmon Association's Classroom Project.
- ❖ Completed the new FRCC web site – www.farmingtonriver.org.
- ❖ Completed installation of nine informational kiosks along fourteen miles of river.
- ❖ Published and distributed new FRCC newsletter to over 300 riverfront land owners and town leaders.

- ❖ Provided an educational display at the Peoples State Forest 100th Anniversary Celebration and at the Riverton Fair.

Advocacy/Public Forum

- ❖ Provided comments on the following projects:
 - Proposed Habitat Enhancement at Boneyard pool (a popular fishing location in New Hartford).
 - Proposed Gravel pit in New Hartford on Farmington Turnpike.
- ❖ Met with Representatives Nancy Johnson and John Larson to provide an annual update on river management progress.

Administration

- ❖ Developed a new membership policy and integrated it into FRCC bylaws.
- ❖ Participated in the National River Rally in Stevenson, WA.
- ❖ Worked with FRWA to complete up-to-date riverfront landowners mailing list.
- ❖ Held an organizational planning retreat to review management plan accomplishments and improve organizational structure.
- ❖ Met with the other seven national Partnership Rivers to discuss strategy and tactic for successful river management.

Recreational Management

- ❖ Provided assistance to the town of New Hartford in planning for a downtown riverwalk.

**FY 2003 Annual Report
Overview of Major Expenditures***

Administrative:	\$434
Mapping:	\$1595
Membership Dues:	\$200
Organizational Development:	\$4115
Outreach Events:	\$503
Small Grants Program:	
- New Hartford Open Space Brochure	\$476
- Storm Drain Marking Project	\$950
- NW Cons. District - Business Educ. Program	\$2,000
- Farmington River Anglers Association	
Support to CT River Classroom Program	<u>\$560</u>
	\$3,986
Squires Tavern Restoration/Office:	\$10,412
Website and Newsletter:	\$1622

* FRCC receives funding from the U.S. Congress each year to fulfill its mandate. Some FRCC projects including the West River Road Streambank and Habitat Restoration utilized outside funds and volunteers.