

A publication of the Stony Brook-Millstone Watershed Association, central New Jersey's first environmental group.

WELLSPRING

Your water. Your environment. Your voice.

2009
ANNUAL
REPORT
INSIDE!



Farm Fresh Conservation

Anyone traveling down Wargo Road in Hopewell Township this time of year will encounter a bucolic site: rows of colorful vegetables and flowers along either side of the road, farm workers in the fields tending crops, a bustling farmstand and families with their children picking vegetables, flowers and herbs.

But this isn't just beautiful scenery. The Honey Brook Organic Farm on the Stony Brook-Millstone Watershed



Jim Waltman, Watershed Association Executive Director, and Jim Kinsel, of Honey Brook Organic Farm.

Reserve is a hands-on example of responsible land management and conservation.

Jim Kinsel has been successfully farming here on the Watershed Reserve for almost 20 years. Shares of his Honey Brook Organic Farm repeatedly sell out each growing season. Jim and his team's knowledge, dedication and hard work have resulted in a successful for-profit enterprise now providing fresh local organic produce for over 3,500 individuals.

The farm operates on the Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) economic model. Farm members pay up-front for a share in the coming season's bounty, and bounty there is! The farm's Web site sums up the CSA philosophy as "an attempt to address the many problems of modern agriculture by redefining the relationship between farmer, consumer and the natural biological systems which comprise a farm." The view along Wargo Road is testament to the fact that reconnecting people with their source of food and taking ownership with the farmer results in a special experience.

"We are proud to partner with the Honey Brook Organic Farm to show that farming can be done in an environ-

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FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Hot Air in Trenton

Almost inevitably, when the economy turns sour, grandstanding politicians with an axe to grind crank up their megaphones and start blaming their favorite scapegoat.

Quite often we are told that environmental laws

and regulations are the cause of our problems.

That tired old song is being heard again in Trenton these days. Stoked on by the state's aggressive builder's lobby, politicians are attempting to weaken a broad array of environmental legislation and regulations.

While I've occasionally groaned about NJ DEP myself (it can take months to get permits from the agency to implement a stream *restoration* project), the premise that the economy would magically recover if only developers could get permits faster to pave the state's dwindling forests, wetlands and farmland is absurd.

A particular focus of attention has been regulations adopted in 2008 to revise how the state manages its wastewater. Understanding that the construction of new sewer lines almost inevitably promotes intensive new development, NJ DEP adopted a rule two years ago that prohibits new sewer lines from being constructed in environmentally sensitive areas in the state.

The agency did not preclude development in environmentally sensitive areas. It merely concluded that intense, dense development that typically is supported by sewer lines is inappropriate in large blocks of sensitive land with endangered species habitat, wetlands or pristine streams. Unfortunately, the Christie Administration has suspended the regulation, opening up several hundred thousand acres of sensitive habitat to dense development.

With the national economy still reeling, home foreclosures still at near record rates

and office space occupancy rates still less than 80 percent, the idea that weakening regulation of new building permits in our green spaces will lift the state's economy is more than silly. It's disingenuous.

If developing our dwindling green spaces is the answer, the state's leaders are asking the wrong question. Let's face it, we are running out of trees to cut down, wetlands to fill, and farmland to pave. If our economy depends on developing these kinds of areas, the game is almost over.

What we need is incentives to shift the economy of the Garden State to a more sustainable path, one based on local production of food, energy and other essentials and re-development and revitalization of abandoned buildings and neighborhoods.



**Sneak Peek:
New Look Online!**

The Watershed Association will soon be launching a brand new Web site! Designed to give you the most up-to-date information, you will be able to register for programs and donate online, check out our latest video, read important news, visit a clear calendar of events and find out what we're doing in your hometown on our interactive map. Plus become a Fan on Facebook and follow us on Twitter! Be sure to check out our new look later in June at www.thewatershed.org.

STREAMWATCHING

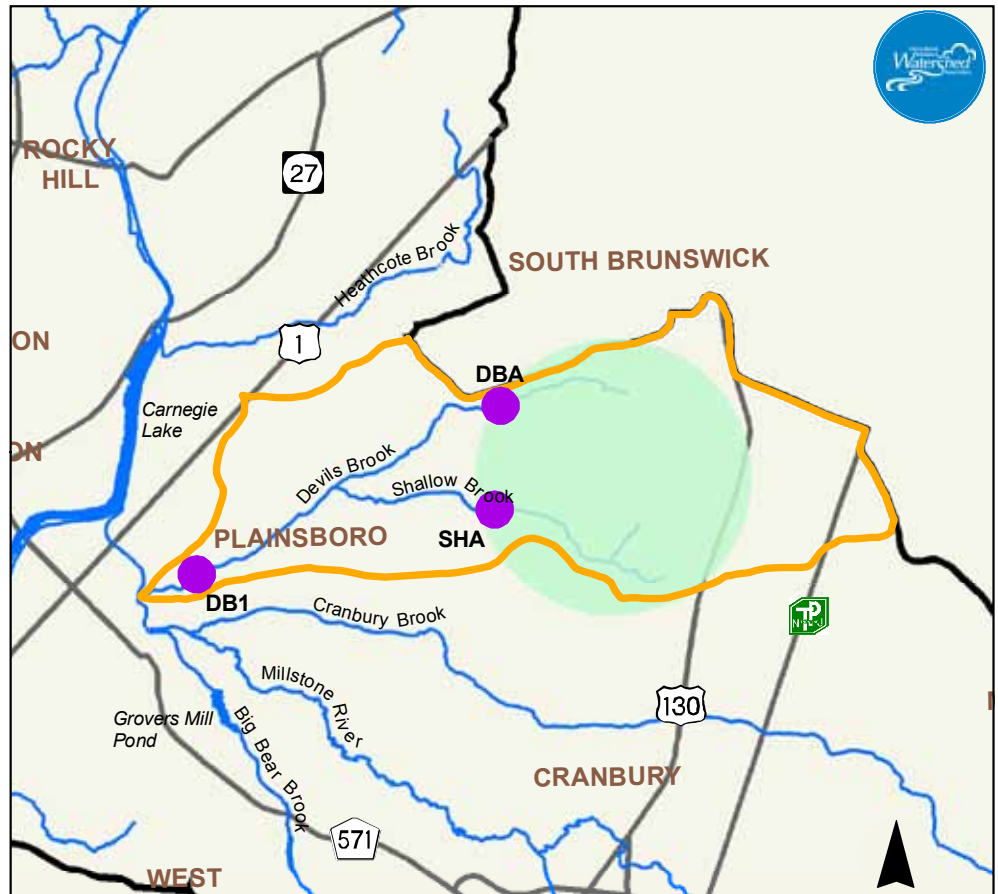
Focus on the Devil's Brook Subwatershed

In New Jersey, the word devil may conjure up images of late night ghost stories as a child hearing about the New Jersey Devil or the excitement of a hockey game while rooting for the New Jersey Devils. But residents of South Brunswick and Plainsboro may be familiar with a “devil” that meanders through their communities offering recreation and a home to wildlife—Devil’s Brook.

StreamWatch volunteers monitor Devil’s Brook in two locations and its tributary, Shallow Brook, in one location (see map). Overall, water quality results for nitrates, temperature and turbidity are good. Phosphate levels are good on Shallow Brook and one location on Devil’s Brook. However, as Devil’s Brook flows towards the Millstone River, phosphate levels start to increase, with 33 percent of the samples exceeding the action limit for phosphate. Dissolved oxygen levels are healthy for the most part, with an occasional instance where they are too low at the upstream site on Devil’s Brook and on Shallow Brook.

Levels for pH sometimes fall below the ideal range of 6.5 to 8.5. However, this may be attributable to the underlying geology rather than poor water quality.

With water quality results healthy in some cases and not in others, it is important to take measures to protect the Devil’s Brook and surrounding habitat. Recently, the Watershed Association partnered with New Jersey Audubon Society and the Raritan Piedmont Wildlife Habitat Partnership to produce a Forest and Riparian Conservation Plan. This plan identifies key forest and streamside habitats in need of preservation and restoration. The Devil’s Brook subwatershed contains one of the important forest areas identified for preservation (see map).



Moving forward, the Watershed Association will continue to work with the project partners to implement specific measures such as streambank restoration and reforestation projects to protect and restore key habitats and keep Devil’s Brook healthy.

Scorecard



RANKINGS Good ● Fair ● Poor ●

StreamWatch is made possible by generous support from the Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation and Janssen Pharmaceutica.

* Rankings based on data from NJ DEP Land Use/Land Cover flyover reports and Watershed Association data and scientific methodologies.

ANNIVERSARY

The Watershed Institute Turns 10

On May 13, watershed groups from throughout the state gathered at the Watershed Reserve to reflect upon 10 years of watershed work. The Watershed Association's Watershed Institute program was launched in May 2000 and we are excited to be celebrating its 10th anniversary.

The purpose of the Watershed Institute is to provide New Jersey's watershed groups with the knowledge, skills and resources they need to be strong and sustainable organizations protecting their local environments, and to foster a unified watershed movement to ensure clean water and healthy habitats throughout the state. The Institute accomplishes this by holding workshops and idea sharing meetings; encouraging group coordination on state policy issues; administering a grant program; providing one-on-one assistance to groups; and distributing relevant information through publications, a listserv and a website.

The Institute was founded in cooperation with five other New Jersey environmental organizations. The Association of New Jersey Environmental Commissions, Great Swamp Watershed Association, Passaic River Coalition, South Branch Watershed Association, and Upper Raritan Watershed Association, all worked with us to determine priorities for the Institute, while actively participating in Institute meetings and events.

Debbie Mans, the first Institute Program Coordinator, who is currently Baykeeper and Executive Director for the NY/NJ Baykeeper, attended the celebration. "It is really rewarding to see The Watershed Institute continue to thrive 10 years after its creation. The Institute has assisted dozens of New Jersey watershed organizations in fulfilling their missions of protecting our water and natural areas, and our communities are a better place because of all their work," stated Mans.

Over the course of the Institute's first 10 years, the program has held 36 workshops; awards 84 grants, worth over \$620,000; and provided one-on-one assistance to watershed groups more than 830 times.

Moving forward, the Institute is looking to continue its existing work, while also trying out a few new things. For example, there is interest from the groups in holding idea-sharing meetings on programs such as environmental education and habitat restoration. We are looking forward

to expanding the Institute's offerings and working with watershed groups statewide for the next ten years.



Jim Waltman, Executive Director of the Watershed Association emphasized "the Watershed Association has a long history, dating back to one of our first executive directors, of working closely with other New Jersey watershed groups. It is very exciting for us to be able to support New Jersey's watershed movement through the Institute."

Our thanks go to all of the watershed groups and to the Institute's funders: the Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation, New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, and William Penn Foundation.



Conservation Then ...

Dick Thorsell

Watershed Association Resource Director, 1963-1970

"As Resource Director my main effort was to make sure planners understood the importance of our natural resources. Before this time components like water, geology and soil were not at all considered important when designing a building or road. We challenged that and earned a national reputation and regional credibility for our efforts, which included stopping Interstate 95 from cutting through the Hopewell Valley and working to fulfill our region's open space needs. We developed a variety of techniques to help private landowners preserve their property and I personally worked with Muriel and Joseph Buttinger to preserve more than 300 acres for 'The Research Reserve'—the foundation for what is today the 860-acre Watershed Reserve."

LASTING LEGACY

J. Seward Johnson, Sr. Environmental Education Internship

Building on a remarkable 20-year history of support to the Watershed Association and our environmental education programs, the J. Seward Johnson, Sr. 1963 Charitable Trust recently awarded the Watershed Association with a generous \$250,000 grant to establish an endowment in support of the J. Seward Johnson, Sr. Environmental Education Internships.

“This wonderful gift will allow us to serve many more children and adults, and mentor generations of environmental educators,” said Jim Waltman, executive director. “We are delighted to have the opportunity to help ensure that Mr. Johnson’s legacy of environmental stewardship lives on.”

A Princeton resident, J. Seward Johnson, Sr. (1895–1983) was a principal heir to the Johnson and Johnson pharmaceutical fortune. Mr. Johnson established two Charitable Trusts to reflect his interests and commitment to his community—local, national and worldwide.

The J. Seward Johnson, Sr. Charitable Trusts provide grants to non-profit organizations in New Jersey and other parts



Former intern Allison Kohler instructing students.

of the nation. Support is given to programs in a variety of fields, including water and the environment.

Starting in 1990, the J. Seward Johnson, Sr. Charitable Trusts began a long and lasting tradition of support for the Watershed Association’s education programs. In 1993, the Watershed Association launched its “intern teaching program” (now known as the J. Seward Johnson, Sr. Environmental Education Internship program), offering two internship positions for college graduates nationwide. The interns join our dedicated education team for nine months and work alongside staff to develop and deliver educational programs for everyone from toddlers to adult learners.

A Legion of Environmental Educators



Interns Lisa Williams and Celia Dubin.

Through the J. Seward Johnson, Sr. Environmental Education Internships, the Watershed Association has unleashed a legion of trained environmental educators throughout the country and beyond.

This year our two J. Seward Johnson, Sr. Environmental Education Interns are Celia

Dubin from Bronx, NY and Lisa Williams from Atlantic Highlands, NJ.

Celia’s love of the natural world has taken her from working in her hometown park, Van Cortland Park, to more distant locales like Craters of the Moon in Idaho, Cibola National Wildlife Refuge in Arizona, and Stanislaus National Forest in California. She most recently completed a four-month internship at Glen Helen Outdoor Education Center in Ohio and hopes to build her knowledge of the

natural world and her teaching skills while here at the Watershed Association.

Lisa brings to the Watershed Association a strong desire to instill a love of nature in children. She grew up fond of bugs, reptiles and other small critters, developing a closeness to her environs. She graduated with a BA in English from The College of New Jersey and then ran the Americorps’ New Jersey Community Water Watch program at Brookdale College before she came here.

Past Education Interns at Work:

Rick Lear (1996)—Open Space Coordinator for Middlesex County, NJ

Eric Gehring (1999)—Education Director at the Arthur R. Marshall Foundation, Florida

Lisa Baugh (2003)—Senior Environmental Educator at Teatown Lake Reservation, NY

Denise Etienne (2006)—Senior Guide, Asa Wright Nature Centre in Trinidad and Tobago

STREAM CLEAN-UP RESULTS

One Piece of Trash at a Time



Bob and Judy Ruth help keep the Delaware & Raritan Canal in West Windsor clean during the 4th Annual Stream Clean-ups.

Over the weekends of April 24 and 25, and May 1 and 2, a total of 287 enthusiastic volunteers grabbed gloves and trash pickers and energetically cleared 8,437 pounds of “people pollution” from trails, parks and stream banks to help keep our water clean as part of the Watershed Association’s 4th Annual Stream Clean-up.

“As we found in our State of the Watershed Report, ‘people pollution’—trash, excess fertilizer, leaking septic and sewer systems— is having a negative impact on our water and environment,” said Leslie Brecknell, Community Advocacy Coordinator and Stream Clean-up leader. “Hundreds of thousands of people in Central Jersey rely on our streams and rivers for water to drink and use. Clearing trash helps streams and surrounding areas to work naturally to keep our water clean.”

This year the Watershed Association teamed up with 12 towns: Cranbury, East Windsor, Franklin, Hightstown, Hopewell Township, Lawrence, Millstone, Monroe, Plainsboro, Princeton, South Brunswick and West Windsor. Some of the most unusual items found included refrigerators, a bedspring and an old car. More commonly, volunteers encountered everyday items—hundreds of plastic soda and water bottles, aluminum cans and food wrappers.

“Our goal is that each year we hold our clean ups we actually collect less trash—ultimate success will mean we won’t need a stream clean-up,” Ms. Brecknell said.

Farm Fresh Conservation

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mentally responsible way,” said Jim Waltman, Watershed Association Executive Director.

More than 60 years ago, the Watershed Association’s founders understood the important connection between responsible farming practices and protection of water and soil resources. In our early years, much of our work involved promoting conservation practices to farmers and other landowners to reduce soil erosion and sedimentation of our streams.

When Dr. Muriel Buttinger donated her land in Hopewell to the organization, our leaders saw the newly created Reserve as an obvious place to put these principles into action. They also recognized the educational opportunities inherent in having a successful farming operation on site. In 1982, Dr. Buttinger purchased the adjacent Wargo Farm and donated the land to the Watershed Association to expand our Reserve with the specific intent to establish a model organic farm.

Watershed Association staff initially tended the organic farm, but our Board of Trustees eventually concluded that non-profit environmentalists were not best equipped to run a farm and that it made more sense to lease the farm land to an independent professional. Jim Kinsel fit the bill.

Over the years, Honey Brook has enacted a wide range of environmentally responsible land management principles by embracing organic practices and introducing conservation measures such as contouring, water diversion berms, drip irrigation, soil improvement through composting, green manuring and crop rotation, and the practice of leaving some rows of volunteer vegetation to support wild bees and other native pollinators. In addition, they have been vocal advocates for the political and social support structures necessary to promote responsible farming and land use.

The alignment of the philosophies of our two organizations has resulted in a partnership that has endured for the past 20 years and continues to mature to the benefit of both enterprises and the larger community. With more land than ever preserved in the Garden State, both for farming and as open space, this relationship offers encouragement and guidance to others.

ANNUAL MEETING

A Night of Debate and Honors

The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection “is broken,” according to Bob Martin, the new NJ DEP Commissioner under Governor Chris Christie, and its going to take a change in culture and more efficient regulatory processes to fix it.

In a speech to Watershed Association members, staff, trustees and volunteers at the Annual Meeting on April 26, Mr. Martin—a Hopewell Township resident and Watershed Association member—made the case for change at the NJ DEP and the importance of marrying environmental protection with economic growth.

“Today permits aren’t getting out the door and we have a backlog of more than 20,000 inspections,” he said. “No inspections mean more pollution and if the DEP seizes up, so does our state. ... You may have heard the governor



Volunteer Service Award

Hopewell Township resident James Gambino, recipient of our Volunteer Service Award, with Watershed Association Executive Director Jim Waltman.

“But we believe that the NJ DEP’s job is to protect the environment, not promote economic development.”

In addition, the Watershed Association honored environmental champions and welcomed new trustees: Elizabeth Bromley, of Lawrence Township, and Annarie Lyles of Princeton Township; and thanked outgoing trustees for their hard work and dedication, including Lori Citrone, Robert Hillas and Richard Levandowski. Read more about our award winners at www.thewatershed.org.

talk about economic growth. Building a pro-economic growth environment in our state doesn’t mean we can’t be pro-environment overall.”

Commissioner Martin’s speech elicited a mixed reaction. “Mr. Martin has been very open and direct about his goals so far, a very welcome approach,” said Jim Waltman, Watershed Association Executive Director.



Richard Rotter Award for Excellence in Environmental Education

Richard Rotter Award for Excellence in Environmental Education recipients Kathy Sanfillippo, Emily Moorman, Amy Pfeffer and Diane Lefenfeld, all fifth grade teachers at Johnson Park Elementary School in Princeton, stand with Education Director Jeff Hoagland and Executive Director Jim Waltman (Johnson Park grad, 1975). Fifth grade students Joanne Adebayo and Hunter Sporn are pictured in front.



Edmund “Ted” Stiles Award for Environmental Stewardship

Executive Director Jim Waltman stands with Michele Byers-Stiles, partner of the late Ted Stiles and Executive Director of the New Jersey Conservation Foundation, and David Grant, CEO of the Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation, recipient of the Edmund “Ted” Stiles Award for Environmental Stewardship.



CONSERVING WATER INDOORS:

- Install low-flow devices such as faucet aerators and showerheads.
- Wash dishes and laundry with full loads.
- Take shorter showers.
- When replacing appliances, look for WaterSense label products.
 - Collect water from de-humidifiers or from sink/tub (while you're waiting for the water to heat up) for watering plants.
 - Fix leaks promptly.

PLANTING TIPS FOR CONSERVING WATER:

- Plant native! These plants are better adapted to local climate conditions.
- Improve your soil! Adding compost and organic material can improve your soils ability to hold water.
- Group plants with like water needs.
- Plant in the right spot. Check if the plant likes sun or shade, and preferred soil type.
- Add a layer of mulch around your garden plants, trees, and shrubs.

CONSERVING WATER OUTDOORS:

- Install a hose nozzle on the garden hose.
- Use drip irrigation hoses instead of spray sprinklers.
- Collect water in a rain barrel.
 - Avoid watering on windy days.
- Water plants early in the morning instead of the middle of the day.
- Water when necessary, not on a set schedule.
- Water less frequently, but for a longer time.

Water Matters

As we found in our State of the Watershed Report (available for download at www.thewatershed.org) our everyday actions have the biggest impact on our environment. In this second of our four-part Water Matters series we explore five River-Friendly ways you can conserve water and protect the environment. Stay tuned for our next installments of River-Friendly ways to improve water quality and wildlife habitat.

ENCOURAGE OTHERS!

Share your River-Friendly experiences with friends, neighbors, and relatives and encourage them to be River-Friendly too! You can also ask your place of business, local golf club, or your child's school to join our River-Friendly Certification Program.

CONSERVING WATER ON LARGE CAMPUSES

Many businesses, golf courses, and schools already take action to conserve water on their properties. One way they can further benefit (saving water, money and time) is by creating Water Conservation or Irrigation Plans for their campuses.

Assessment of current conditions and use paired with record keeping can help make a campus even more water efficient. Learn more at www.watershed.org.

Our suite of River-Friendly Programs work cooperatively with private landowners in our region—residents, businesses, golf courses, and schools—to protect the local environment. Our goal is to improve everyday land use actions in four target areas: water conservation, water quality, wildlife habitat and community outreach.

Become a River-Friendly Resident!

Whether or not you live along a stream or other water body, you can be River-Friendly. It's simple. All you have to do is complete a survey, which represents your pledge to maintain your yard in an environmentally friendly way.

Contact Amy Weaver or visit www.thewatershed.org and complete your River-Friendly survey today.



RIVER-FRIENDLY HIGHLIGHTS

Through the River-Friendly Program we have seen reductions in outdoor water use by tracking and recording practices such as collecting rainwater, improving irrigation systems, hand watering and converting turf to naturalized wildlife habitat areas.

HOPEWELL VALLEY GOLF CLUB, HOPEWELL
53% REDUCTION

JANSSSEN PHARMACEUTIC, TITUSVILLE
60% REDUCTION

TPC AT JASNA POLANA, PRINCETON
53% REDUCTION



Celebrating Our Living Classroom

by Jeff Hoagland

Whether they know it or not, butterflies are among the chosen spokespeople for the environment at the Watershed Association. Though they fly on silent wings, they capture the attention and imagination of young and old alike, not just with their grace and beauty but with the sheer improbability of their flight. On cellophane wings, butterflies navigate through field and forest, over pond and stream, subject to the whims of the weather. They dodge predators with surprising agility, while searching for food, a mate, or a place to lay eggs. Though not apparent to all, they embody the vulnerability of our environment as a whole.

It was just 10 years ago that we completed the Kate Gorrie Butterfly House. Visited by hundreds of school children annually, the Butterfly House acts as a living classroom, delivering lessons on insects and metamorphosis, as well as habitats and adaptation. Summer campers learn about the interconnection between all beings while meeting the butterflies and the plants that they depend on. The Butterfly House is the centerpiece of our summer Butterfly Festival, where thousands of attendees meet the butterflies and hear their stories. Dedicated to the memory of Kate Gorrie, it provides eloquent testimony of the value and beauty of human spirit and of the importance of environmental stewardship.

The Butterfly House contains several habitats with a wide variety of native plants offering nectar at different times during the season. Arrowwood viburnum, a forest and ecotone shrub, offers nectar early in the season and shelter in its foliage throughout the entire butterfly season. Wetland species such as iris, swamp milkweed and cardinal flower provide color and nectar at different times during the season. My favorite, joe-pye-weed, a towering plant of wet soils is a virtual butterfly magnet. Meadow plants such as goldenrod and New York ironweed are also found here. Through the Butterfly House we encourage gardeners to consider the use of native plants in their garden.

The Butterfly House has been home to thousands and thousands of butterflies. Many of them are rather small like the spring and summer azures and the skippers. Though not as familiar as the monarch, the orange and black colored pearl crescent, with a wingspan of less than 1.5 inches, is perhaps the most abundant butterfly in the



northeast. Many of these common small butterflies escape detection by flying among the grasses and wildflowers of the meadow, rather than over them. Most have three generations per season.

It is the larger butterflies that steal our attention during the summertime. The swift flying great spangled fritillary is fun to watch but difficult to catch in

the wild. Black and orange with silver spots, it has a 3-inch wingspan. Their larvae, on the other hand, are almost invisible as they feed close to the ground on violet leaves. Slightly larger, the swallowtails are frequent visitors to backyards. Like most butterflies, black swallowtails are rather indiscriminant nectar feeders though they have specific host plants for their larvae. Check the parsley or dill in the Butterfly House or in your garden and you may find a treat!

Perhaps the best known butterfly in North America, the monarch seems to stir that sense of wonder in just about anybody. Like other butterflies, it undergoes a startling transformation from egg to larva to chrysalis to butterfly. The monarch is also known for its long distance migration—traveling from Mexico throughout North America and back, over four generations. The great grandchildren of those butterflies who hibernated in the Oyamel fir forests of Mexico return to the same forests in autumn!

Listen to the butterflies this summer, at home, on the Reserve or at the Butterfly House. Meet their children on the plants around you. Rediscover and share that sense of wonder that widens our eyes and fills our hearts with hope and gratitude. Ponder your place, and role, in your environment.

Events Calendar—Summer 2010

Family & Adult Programs

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Children's Programs

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FEE CODE:

M= Stony Brook-Millstone Watershed
Association current member

NM = Non-member

Registration is required for all programs, unless stated otherwise.

Space is limited. All programs meet at the Buttinger Nature Center, unless stated otherwise. Please call (609) 737-7592 to register. Payment is accepted by cash, check, VISA, MasterCard or Discover and can be dropped off at the Nature Center or mailed to:
Education Programs, 31 Titus Mill Road,
Pennington, NJ 08534.

Refund Policy

A full refund will be made if notice of cancellation is received at least 48 hours before a program. Call (609) 737-7592 to cancel. No refunds or credits will be given after that time. Watershed Association membership is not refundable.

Family & Adult Programs

JUNE 12

Kate Gorrie Butterfly House 2010 Opening

Saturday, 10 AM–2 PM, Families, \$5 donation per person suggested

Welcome the butterflies back to the Kate Gorrie Butterfly House. Naturalists will be on hand all day to lead tours and answer questions about native butterflies, host plants and butterfly lifecycles. Plan to also visit the animals and displays in the Buttinger Nature Center. All attendees will receive a 20 percent discount on Nature Shop purchases that day. Pre-registration is not required for this event. Weekly 'behind the scenes' butterfly house visits begin on June 21 and run every Monday through August 16. *This program is co-sponsored by the Washington Crossing Audubon Society.*

JUNE 26

Whatever Floats Your Boat

Saturday, 1:30–3 PM, Families and adults, \$5 donation per person suggested

Stream-lovers and geocachers are welcomed for some fun and adventure on the Watershed Reserve. We will examine the relationship between land and water, meeting a variety of creatures as we launch small boats down the Stony Brook. Watch for more details of this event-cache at www.geocaching.com or contact the Buttinger Nature Center.

JUNE 29

Exploring the Night: Firefly Parade

Tuesday, 8:30 PM, Families and Adults, Fee: \$8M/\$12NM

Enjoy "nature's fireworks" with Jeff Hoagland on the Watershed Reserve. Learn about the secret lives of the lightning bug, from glowworm to adult, and meet a variety of species, identifying them by their different flash patterns. This popular annual event always fills up—space is limited and pre-registration is required.

JULY 7

Exploring the Night: Bats at Dusk

Wednesday, 8 PM, Families (with children over 5 years old) and Adults, Fee: \$5M/\$8NM

Join nocturnal naturalist Jeff Hoagland for an evening investigation of the world of bats. This popular annual event always fills up—space is limited and pre-registration is required.

JULY 10

Insect Safari on the Reserve

Saturday, 9:30–11 AM, Families and Adults, Fee: \$5M/ \$8NM

Hike the Watershed Reserve with Jeff Hoagland, discovering the rich, hidden world of insects. We will finish our exploration with a guided tour of the Kate Gorrie Butterfly House and refreshing glass of cold lemonade.

JULY 10

Family Night Hike and Campfire

Saturday, 8–10 PM, Adults and Families (6 years and older); Fee per person: \$8M/\$12NM

Join us for a family-friendly night hike on the Reserve. Meet us at the Buttinger Nature Center, we will hike to the forest and end the evening with a campfire and toasted marshmallows. All children must be accompanied by an adult. Pre-registration is required.

JULY 17

Great Watershed Stream Exploration— Rock Brook

Saturday, 10–11:30 AM, Families and Adults, \$5 suggested donation per person

Join us at Bessie Grover Memorial Park in the Sourland Mountains for an exploration of life in and around the water. Expect to meet a variety of creatures including salamanders, frogs and aquatic insects. Wear old sneakers for wading. Nets are provided. Space is limited and pre-registration is necessary. *This program is co-sponsored by the Sourland Planning Council.*

JULY 31

X-Stream Family Day at the Stony Brook

Saturday, 9:30 AM–2 PM, Families (children 6 and older), Fee: \$20M/Adult, \$15M/child up to 12yrs; \$25NM/Adult, \$20NM/child up to 12yrs

A hot summer day and a cool stream for wading and exploring—perfect together! Join Jeff Hoagland on a hike to the Stony Brook, where you will be able to seine for fish, hunt for crayfish, flip rocks in search of aquatic insects, and be challenged to a rock-skipping contest! Our day at the stream will conclude with a campfire and a story or two! Pack your lunch, a water bottle and old sneakers for wading. All children must be accompanied by an adult. Pre-registration is required.

AUGUST 7

Butterflies in your Garden 101

Saturday, 10:30 AM–12 PM, Adults, Free

Join one of the Teacher-Naturalists to learn which plants to grow as nectar sources as well as host plants to attract these beautiful insects to your garden. We will tour the butterfly house, learn about our native New Jersey butterflies and try our hand at butterfly catching in the field with sweep nets. *This program is co-sponsored by the Washington Crossing Audubon Society.*

AUGUST 7

Family Night Hike and Campfire

Saturday, 8–10 PM, Adults and Families (6 years and older), Fee per person: \$8M/\$12NM

Join us for a family-friendly night hike on the Reserve. Meet us at the Buttinger Nature Center, we will hike to the forest and end the evening with a campfire and toasted marshmallows. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Pre-registration is required.



JUNE 21 THROUGH AUGUST 16

Butterfly House 'Behind the Scenes' Visit

Every Monday, 1–3 PM, Adults and Families, \$5 donation per person suggested

Look for one of our Teacher-Naturalists or volunteers working in the butterfly house. This is a perfect chance to take an informal tour of the house with us and learn about the native plants and butterflies that inhabit the structure. Remember to bring your camera and shoot away! Pre-registration for these weekly visits is not required. Your donations help support the operation and maintenance of the butterfly house—thank you!

Butterfly House Group Tours

Fee: \$100 for up to 20 people

Are you looking for a unique way to celebrate an anniversary...engagement...promotion...graduation? Consider booking a private tour of the Kate Gorrie Butterfly House with one of our Teacher-Naturalists. Learn more about the native plants and butterflies that inhabit the house, butterfly life cycles and how you can attract these 'flying flowers' to your backyard. Private tours available Monday through Friday and last approximately 45 minutes. Call the Buttinger Nature Center for more information.

Butterfly House Helpers (BHH)

Be a BFF to the Nature Center by becoming a BHH! Mondays—Thursdays, 4–5 PM, help out by weeding, watering, house maintenance, etc. This is a great opportunity for teenagers and retirees. Contact Allison Jackson, ajackson@thewatershed.org.

Save the Date!

The 35th annual Watershed FEST, "Water Works"

will be held on the Reserve on Saturday, October 2. The evening will feature silent and live auctions, music by Stringsville and catering by Emily's Café and Catering and a lively and engaging crowd. Ticket information will be available on our Web site beginning in June.

Help us have a successful 2010 FEST Silent Auction! We need: beautiful decorative furniture, silver, organic or green products, hand knitted items for kids, jewelry, garden tools, sculpture or planters and tickets for sporting events, plays or concerts. Please call (609) 737-3735 or email Nancy Apple at napple@thewatershed.org to make a donation!

AUGUST 12

Great Family Butterfly Hunt

Thursday, 11:30 AM–1:30 PM, Families and Adults, Free

Bring your entire family and join our Teacher-Naturalists for a butterfly safari. Learn which native New Jersey butterflies inhabit the butterfly house and help us stock the house for Butterfly Day. Please wear a hat and bring a water bottle.

AUGUST 14

10th Annual Butterfly Festival

Saturday, 10 AM–4 PM, Fee: \$5 per person, \$15 per carload

This community festival offers fun for the entire family! Enjoy naturalist-guided tours of the Kate Gorrie Memorial Butterfly House, nature hikes, live entertainment, local food, children's activities, and an array of demonstrations and exhibits about the environment and conservation.

SEPTEMBER 11

8th Annual Mercer County Insect Festival

Saturday, 1–4 PM, Families, Mercer Education Gardens

Insect safari, storytelling, costume parade, beneficial insect lab, hay rides and more. Look for our Watershed Association booth at the festival. For more information about the event visit <http://www.mgofmc.org>.

SEPTEMBER 25

National Public Lands Day

Saturday, 1–4 PM, Families (children 10 and older) and Adults, Free

NPLD is the nation's largest hands-on volunteer effort to improve and enhance public lands. Join us on this day as we take pride in caring for the gift of our Nature Reserve. We will examine the local ecology while removing some

encroaching invasive plant species. Call the Buttinger Nature Center to register and for more information.

SEPTEMBER 17

Exploring the Night: Creepy Spider Hunt

Friday, 7:30 PM, Families and Adults,

Fee per person: \$8M/ \$12NM

Join Education Director Jeff Hoagland on this walk exploring the secret lives of spiders. This popular annual event always fills up—space is limited and pre-registration is required.

Children's Programs

Looking for a natural summer camp experience? Visit www.thewatershed.org for complete information on weekly summer day camp and summer mini-camps in June, July and August!

JUNE 19

Boy Scout 'Insect Study' Merit Badge

Saturday, 9:30 AM–12:30 PM, Boy Scouts 11 years and older,

Fee: \$15 per scout

Join Education Director/BSA Merit Badge Counselor Jeff Hoagland for this half-day workshop, designed to help Boy Scouts earn the Insect Study merit badge. Out on the trails in field, forest, and streamside scouts will learn to observe and identify a wide variety of insects, discovering the secret lives of our smallest neighbors. Pre-registration required.



JULY 22

Butterfly Tea Party

Thursday, 10:30 AM–12 PM, Families, Fee: \$8M/ \$12NM

You are invited for tea with the butterflies of the Watershed Reserve. Come learn how and why butterflies too are drinking sweet "tea" from flowers. We will begin our tea by learning more about butterflies, and then try to catch them for a close up look at their beautiful, but fragile bodies. Venture into our backyard for iced tea, lemonade and butterfly sugar cookies.

JULY 26

Hobbits, Forts and Fairies

Monday, 10:30 AM–12 PM, children 5 years and older,
Fee: \$8M/\$12NM

Travel with us into the 'secret gardens' of the Reserve in search of magical residents of the woods! Join us in creating a fanciful fairy village far away from where the grown-ups tread.

AUGUST 11

Butterfly Tea Party

Wednesday, 10:30 AM–12 PM, Families, Fee: \$8M/ \$12NM

See July 22 for more details



Tiny Tot Walks

(Ages 18–36 months, child must be walking and accompanied by adult)

10–11 AM, Fee per child: \$7M/\$10NM

Join Pam Newitt on an outdoor adventure with your budding naturalist as she leads toddlers on explorations of the natural world.

JUNE 11

JULY 14

AUGUST 12

SEPTEMBER 13

Summer School-age Series

Tuesdays, 9:30 AM–12 PM

Children 6–9 years old; child should bring a snack and water bottle

Fee per session: \$15M/\$20NM or Fee per series: \$85M/\$120NM

Register for individual sessions or the entire series. Visit www.thewatershed.org for in-depth descriptions.

JULY 6 Magnificent Magnifying Adventures

JULY 13 Life in a Log

JULY 20 Come Fly with Me

JULY 2 Stony Brook Slog

AUGUST 3 Paper Making

AUGUST 10 Rock On!

Summer Preschool Series

Tuesdays, 10:30 AM–12 PM

Children 3–5 years old (parent must stay with child under 4yrs); child should bring a water bottle

Fee per session: \$10M/\$15NM or Fee per series: \$55M/\$90NM

Register for individual sessions or the entire series.

Visit www.thewatershed.org for in-depth descriptions.

JULY 6 Storytime Forest

JULY 13 Fun with Fungi

JULY 20 Butterfly Magic

JULY 27 Water Olympics

AUGUST 3 Lenape for Little Ones

AUGUST 10 Wildflower Sensations



Annual Report 2009

Your water. Your environment. Your voice.

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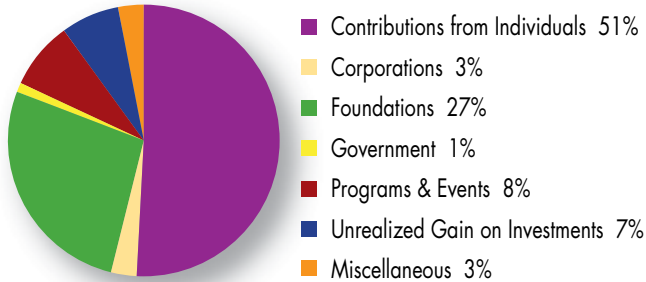
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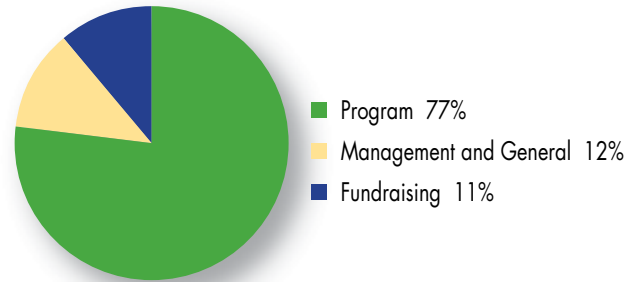
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Total Watershed Association Income \$3,652,553



Total Watershed Association Expenses \$1,772,673



Financial information presented here is from our 2009 audit, which includes gifts to our capital and endowment fund and unrealized gains on investments. In contrast, our internal financial accounting statements include only operating income and expenses, although they do include depreciation of our assets. Under our internal accounting rules, we show an operating deficit of \$75,920 for 2009.

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While we strive to be as accurate as possible we apologize for any errors or omissions and hope you will advise us so we can correct our records.

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✉ EMAIL: To contact staff by email, use the first letter of the person's first name, followed by the last name: for example, jwaltman@thewatershed.org

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For more information visit: www.thewatershed.org


Stony Brook-Millstone Watershed Association
31 Titus Mill Road, Pennington NJ 08534
Main office phone: (609) 737-3735 Fax: (609) 737-3075



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August 15, 2010 • 10 AM to 4 PM

Stony Brook-Millstone Watershed Association
31 Titus Mill Road, Hopewell Township

New for 2010—*Enviro Zones* for kids and families
Visit them and take the *Live Green Pledge*



- Butterfly House Tours**
- Nature Hikes**
- Hayrides**
- Butterfly Hat & Costume Parade**
- Waterslide**
- Green Vendors**
- Hybrid Vehicles**
- Live Entertainment**
- Local Food**

Parking at Bristol Myer Squibb via the
Delivery Entrance on Titus Mill Road.
Free shuttle bus to the Butterfly Festival.
Sorry No Pets Allowed
Entrance Fee: \$5 a person or \$15 a carload