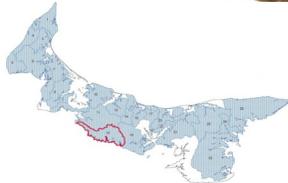


South Shore Watershed Association (SSWA)

Fall,
2013
Volume 2,
Issue 2

SSWA is online :
www.sswa.ca

Email:
sswa@sswa.ca



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AC-CT News

DREAM News

TRWC News

WRWG News

Thanks

Watershed Critters

Place Names in South Shore

Public Meeting

Talk with Morley Foy
+

DREAM AGM

*Date: Thursday,
Nov. 28, 7: 00 pm*

*Location: Crapaud
Community Hall*

2013-2014 SSWA Board of Directors:

Martha Howatt,
Augustine Cove

Peter Bower, West-
moreland

Dina Blot, Westmoreland

Barb Clement, Tryon
River

Harry Smith, DeSable

Emily Gorman, DeSable

Environmental Issues at Home

Many things we do can have a serious effect on watershed health, as we all know. For the last several years on PEI, much of the focus has been on reducing farm runoff into streams and estuaries, and limiting nitrate loading of groundwater from fertilizer application and manure storage. Great effort went into our now eleven year old provincial program to divert trash from landfills and incinerators. More recently, the media is reporting more calls to limit groundwater extraction so as to not deprive streams of their base flow. And then there is the age-old concern about the concentration of wastewater in the environment.

These last two focus attention less on agriculture and more on residential development and secondary industry to address issues, as single entities in rural settings or through municipalities.

It is a several thousand year old problem, to obtain and protect fresh water, and safely and effectively remove waste water before it causes illness. The problem has only magnified with the enormous range of chemicals and pharmaceuticals that end up in even the smallest waste facilities. Our forbears did not have to work out how to keep hormones, mood stabilizers, microbeads from body washes and molecule-sized nanoparticle silver in new sportswear out of fish nervous and immune systems or our own.

To help us better understand some of the issues and the current strategies for address, DREAM and SSWA extended an invitation to speak to Mr. Morley Foy, an engineer with the Province specializing in potable water and water treatment policy and technology. Please come to the talk and get answers, for example for the best functioning septic system and the safest, for you and the environment.

Assoc. Receives Funding for Education

SSWA Public Education Initiative has just received funding approval by the PEI Wildlife Conservation Fund. This will provide for various printed resources, some improvements to the Photo Contest and the Watershed Critters Youth Education Pilot Project.

The Critters group to date are cartoon illustrations of local animals directly drawn from the boundary lines of the four currently active watershed areas of SSWA and are to connect younger Islanders in various ways to our wonderful watersheds. The cartoon characters were unveiled at the SSWA Annual Meeting. The artwork is donated. You may expect to see a lot more of them as the educational program gets underway. More information will soon be posted on www.sswa.ca.

Trout interpretive signs, also funded by WCF, were placed at each of our prime fishing locations in our watersheds this year: Webster's Pond, Lord's Pond, Sherren's Pond and Linden Hill Pond.

It has **been an exceptionally informative year to date**, with great guest speakers, Fred Cheverie, Jackie Waddell and now Morley Foy. More field trips than ever occurred, beginning with a birding tour in Tryon by Ron Arvidson. SSWA Manager Kellie Lockhart held *several* tours, including by canoes and kayaks, for anyone who wanted to learn more about our watersheds and how our efforts help them. The April *Kiss A Fish* days with Englewood kids and the *Redd Towel* project and other smelt transfer can be seen at www.sswa.ca.

If you missed out, don't worry, as lots more will happen soon. Join in then.



Thank you, WCF

SSWA Watershed Critters

Introducing the critter collection: Augustine-“Traverse” Trout, Ms “T”(for Tryon) Plover, “Victoria” Westmoreland Fox, and “DeSable Duck”:



South Shore Place Names

If you have ever been curious about a pond or community or a road name in the South Shore, we have the page for you. Go to www.sswa.ca to read the article we have researched. You can use the links we listed to conduct your own research or see old Island maps and atlases, including full online access to the 1880 Meacham Atlas of PEI.

A Very big *Thank You* to our summer crew for your dedicated service : Olivia, Evan, Jocelyn, Brandon and Mike (with Kyle, volunteer, at left) Fingers crossed, we hope to see you all back next season!!!



DeSable River Enhancement & Activity Management (DREAM)

Projects chugged along. Jackie Waddell spoke engagingly on shore birds at our May meeting. Stream restoration continued from lower DeSable River, along with alder patch cutting and replanting to convert to shade-tolerant Acadian forest. Areas previously restored were checked by summer staff to ensure the work done in previous years is still effective. The Community Aquatic Monitoring Program (CAMP) was June to Aug., providing on-going research into health of DeSable estuary. DREAM held its Eric’s Volunteer Day, renaming it in the late Eric Reiber’s name and planting a nice Macphail red oak in his memory. Linden Hill Pond, re-cleaned in 2012 and kept up by both paid and unpaid effort, has received compliments of how nice the park looks and how apparent is the wildlife. Thanks to contributors for outstanding images you shared on DREAM’s Facebook page !

Westmoreland River Watershed Group (WRWG)



Reviewing the West branch

The SSWA summer students hacked through a jungle of alders on the east branch and finally broke through to the top end of Sherren’s Pond! Westmoreland members participated in the SSWA photo contest, served on the SSWA booth at the Crapaud Exhibition, and attended public meetings on pertinent topics (such as Jackie Waddell’s presentation on birds). The executive met monthly to plan activities, including a new “Water for Health” brochure slated for 2014, and a Wildlife Checklist to “map” flora and fauna in our area. We have also consulted with members of both Crapaud and Victoria municipal councils to build a good working relationship for our projects. Our corporate membership drive (Silver Fox \$100/year or Red Fox \$50/year) has brought several interested businesses on side and raised important funds for our work. For more information, contact Daphne Davey, 902-730-2052 or ddavey@eastlink.ca

Tryon River Watershed Cooperative (TRWC)



At the Tryon River Trail, staff helped with an innovative project, a dream of Jack Sorensen: QR codes are now added to signage for smart phone users to scan for info as they enjoy the trail. Over 50 QR code signs convey updatable info on native flora and local historic sites. Staff also maintained and planted more native species at the River Trail. The walking bridge is now replaced at Lord’s Pond. Invasive species controls were taken on knotweed in areas next to the Pond. Canoe and walking tours both commenced from the Pond. The southwest stream was restored from the Tryon Point Road to above Route 10. Staff sourced areas in which sediment is entering the river systems. Site 1 of the Estuary Project was checked for the silt caught by the newest tier of brush mats. Staff also checked areas of both river branches that were previously restored. The TRWC contact is Barb at 658-2095.

Augustine Cove-Cape Traverse Watershed Group (AC-CT)

There was intensive evaluation completed in Augustine Cove-Cape Traverse this season, so needed for watershed planning and setting priorities:1) all culverts were assessed for fish passage and damage; 2) sediment source mapping of streams was done during heavy rainfall events; 3) invasive species (Japanese knotweed, purple loosestrife and wild cucumber) locations were plotted. Control measures were taken on knotweed found in the southeast. Birdhouses installed were checked and readied and areas of stream cleared last year were also re-checked. A trail was cut at Augustine Cove by summer staff. Many native tree and shrubs were planted. Progress was made on the Webster’s Pond file, but sadly, an approval for 2013 was received too late, for this year anyway, to act upon.

I would like to: a) support watershed group work in my community by being a member of: (please circle *one* of the following): AC-CT, DREAM, TRWC, or WRWG. Each single annual membership fee is \$ 10.00 x ___ (✓) b) and /or make a donation to SSWA in the following amount \$ _____ , for a total amount of \$ _____

Please make your cheque payable to South Shore Watershed Association and mail it and information below to the address at right. SSWA is a registered charitable organization. Tax receipts for donation will be issued to the address you provide below with your cheque.

Name(s) _____ Phone No. _____

Mailing Address _____ P. Code _____

Please Mail to:
SSWA
PO Box 123
Crapaud, PE
C0A1J0

Thank You