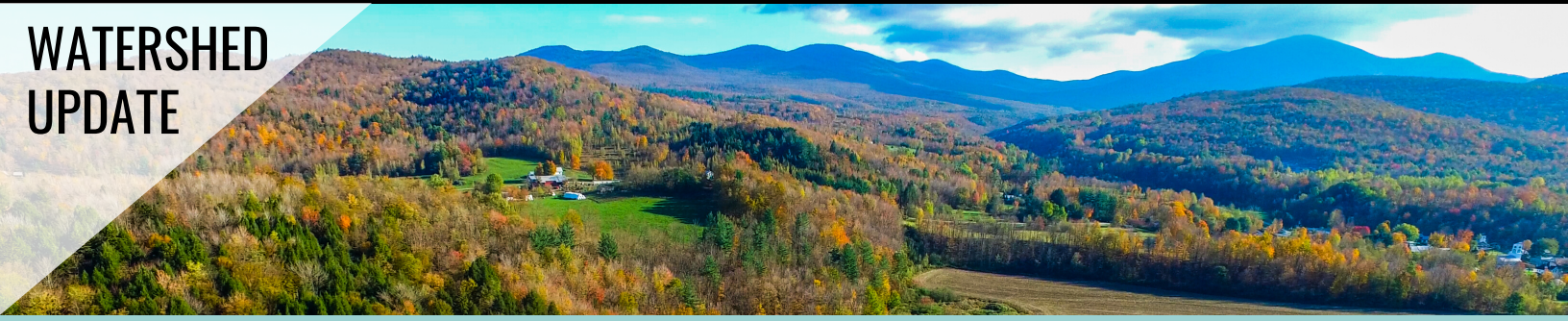


WATERSHED UPDATE



2020 Events

We look forward to seeing you in 2020!
Visit MRBAVT.com/current-events for more info

MARCH: We hope to see you on March 5th at our **Annual Water Quality Forum** in Enosburg.

SPRING: It's our **17th year** of water sampling this year - join us as a once-a-month volunteer sampler!

JULY: Join us in July for our **Annual River Clean-Up** - this year, we'll be in Westfield!

SUMMER: Watch for our 4th Annual **Bluegrass Against Blue-Green Algae Concert** this summer!

NOVEMBER: Join us for good fun and great company on November 5th at our **Benefit Concert**.

Inside this issue

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- 5 2019 By The Numbers

2019 HIGHLIGHTS

River Access Improvement Structures



Through a grant from the Champlain Valley National Heritage Partnership, and with the help of other partners, the MRBA was able to design and fund improvements at two river-front properties owned by the Village of North Troy and by the Troy School. A Vermont Youth Conservation Corps crew built and installed benches along the path leading to the river behind the Legion ballfield in North Troy, and built bridge structures to protect the riparian ecosystem at the school's Middleton Property on River Road.

ECO Americorps 2019 - 2020 Ranier Lucas



Ranier is serving as the MRBA Assistant Coordinator of 2019-2020 as a part of the ECO Americorps program with the VT Department of Environmental Conservation.

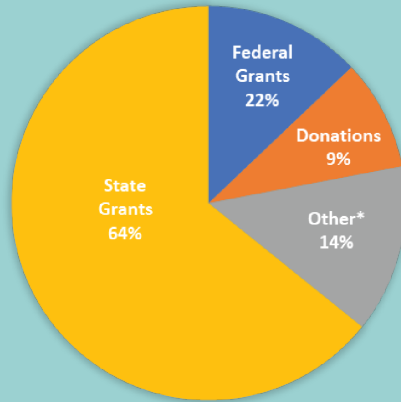
Originally from Binghamton, New York, Rainer grew up living at the confluence of the Susquehanna and Chenango Rivers, causing him to develop a strong passion for the environment and water quality.

Ranier began his college education at Broome Community College, pursuing an environmental degree. During this time he was able to take two travel Ecology courses: one in the Everglades and the other out west to learn in and about five National Parks. After spending three weeks in the Grand Tetons and Zion National Park, he decided to continue his education at the University of Buffalo, graduating with a degree in Environmental Geoscience in 2018.



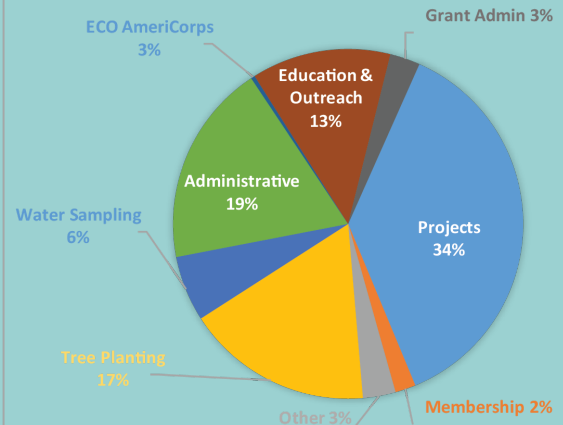
2019 FINANCIALS

2019 INCOME SOURCES



*Other = Foundation and other grants

2019 EXPENSES BY ACTIVITY



During 2019, the MRBA was able to work with partners and volunteers to plant nearly 2000 trees at three locations in the watershed, and to install structures (bridges and benches) at two locations along the Missisquoi, improving the experience of visitors while also protecting the ecosystem. We collected water samples at 24 sites, adding to the water quality information we've been gathering for over 15 years! The funding we receive from our donors helps implement projects like these, covering vital costs that are outside of grant funds; thanks for your support!

Join our supporters!

Donations can be made online at www.mrbavt.com, or mailed to:

Missisquoi River Basin Association
2839 VT Route 105
East Berkshire, VT 05447

THANK YOU TO OUR 2019 DONORS

JUDITH BLACKMER, ELEANOR BLISS, ARTHUR & JOY BLISS, CHRIS BOUTHILLETTE, SANDY BOWMAN, CAROLYN BRONZ, LARRY & SUSAN BRUCE, GUY & BEST CHOINIÈRE, DIANNE & GORDON CLEMENTS, JIM & LAURIE DECIUCIES, PENNY & ALLEN DEMAR, STEVE DICKENS, MELISSA DION & KEN CARTER

PEG & MICKY DOHENY, BRUCE & LYNN DOUGLAS, PAT & CAROL FARMER, DOUG & BARBARA FLACK, DATON FLEURY, GEORGE GODIN, PATRICIA GOYNE, COLIN & JOAN GRAY, KEN & BETTY HAGEDORN, CHERYL & WARD HENEVELD, CLINT HOLMES, RICHARD HUDAK & MARY FREY, MICHELE BESSETT & BOB IWASKIEWICZ, RITA & ALLAN KALSMITH, KATHRYN KURYLOSKI, JACK & ANNE LAZOR, WILLIAM C. LEIPOLD, WINSTON LEWIS & TIM CHAPIN, JOHN LITTLE, JIM MACKENZIE, PAUL MADDEN, MIKE MANAHAN, GERALD MORONG, CHRIS & BRENDAN O'SHEA, ALBERT PERRY, MARSHA PHILLIPS, ADRIAN RAINVILLE, MICHAEL ROACH, JASON ROBTOY, LEW & CLAUDIA ROSE, MARVIN & SUE RUSK, CYNTHIA SCOTT, WENDY SCOTT, JAYE SECOR, CHRIS SHAFFER, JAMES & JUDY SMITH, MELANIE & LARRY STEENECK, PHYLLIS TIFFANY, JIM & BARBARA WAKEFIELD, FRANK WIRTH, JOSH WORMAN, JAY PEAK RESORT,



THANKS, TOO, TO THESE BUSINESSES THAT SUPPORT US AS CORPORATE SPONSORS!



The Tyler Place Family Resort

2019 HIGHLIGHTS (cont.)

Tree Plantings

In 2019 the MRBA planted over 2,000 trees in the watershed, with support from the Vermont DEC and the Lake Champlain Basin Program, and our fantastic volunteers:

- 600 in North Troy and
- 925 in Troy with help from the VYCC
- 75 in Enosburg
- 455 in Montgomery with student help



Events

Thanks to everyone who supported us during our 2019 music events, Bluegrass Against Blue-Green Algae and our November Benefit Concert. We love pairing water quality information with great local music!



Bank Stabilization Workshops



Education and Outreach Programs

Lake Lessons:

The MRBA once again offered a station at the collaborative educational experience Lake Lessons - teaching over 500 new 4th- and 8th-grade watershed stewards about runoff and land-use impacts.



Dairy in the Classroom:

MRBA staff presented our rainfall simulator at three field trips for the Dairy in the Classroom program, adding a connection between land-use and water quality to students during their farm visit.



Dairy Days and Richford River Fest

We always enjoy showing off our educational tools and reaching new audiences at community events!



Bugworks

The MRBA has been offering free sessions of our aquatic insect investigation - Bugworks - to watershed schools since 2008. In 2019, we reached 14 audiences.



In-classroom programs

We offered in-class programming, such as our "What is a Watershed" program for 4 classes in our watershed in 2019. We are always happy to visit classrooms with our educational tools and our data!



Through a grant from the Vermont Community Foundation, the MRBA was able to offer three workshops about different bank stabilization techniques this fall:

Building Fascines, Installing Fascines, and Tree Planting. Thanks to our partners at the Franklin County Natural Resources Conservation District, the volunteers that came to learn and help, and to the Intervale Nursery for guidance and materials!





Missisquoi River Basin Association

Our goal is to restore and maintain the ecological integrity of the Missisquoi River system so that the uses and values desired by the community are supported by the river and quality of its water.

Dear Friend of the MRBA,

I hope you have enjoyed perusing our 2019 Annual Report. We are proud of our accomplishments over the last year, and so appreciative of your continued support. As you look over the many activities that we offered and supported in 2019, I hope you'll plan to join us in 2020. We will be hosting some fun events this year, and we've received funding that will allow us to work closely with our watershed landowners to plant trees, stabilize banks, and implement other actions to protect and improve the streams, rivers, lakes, and ponds within the Missisquoi basin.

Please consider assisting our efforts with a financial donation – your dollars are integral to our successes. While many of our projects receive funding through state and federal grants, many of our other activities – including the time we spend applying for those grants! – do not. Donations from supporters like you mean we can continue to offer free educational programs throughout the watershed, collect water samples to directly monitor the quality of our streams and rivers, meet with watershed landowners to assess property and discuss projects, and host gatherings that encourage folks to enjoy and protect our streams and rivers.

Please consider becoming or continuing as a Donating Member of the MRBA in 2020. For opportunities and more information about to assist as a Volunteer Member, or how to become a Board Member, visit our website: www.mrbavt.org.

Thank you,

Lindsey Wight, Coordinator
Missisquoi River Basin Association

- ❖ Donations are tax deductible; donors will receive recognition on our website and in our Annual Report.
- ❖ Corporate sponsor? We appreciate the businesses that support us! If you would like to be recognized as a corporate sponsor, visit our website to select from the corporate sponsorship perks!

.....
Donating Members:

Creek \$10
 Brook \$35
 Stream \$100
 River \$200
 Corporate ... \$ _____

**Clean water is
 important to me! I
 want to help protect
 and improve the
 Missisquoi
 watershed.**

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Donations via PayPal available at: www.mrbavt.com/donate

Special project – I want to support a special project specifically; please put my donation toward the following activity:
\$ _____

- Community outreach – Bluegrass Against Blue-Green Algae event
- Education programs in watershed schools
- Water sampling

Thank you!

Please make checks payable to:
 Missisquoi River Basin Association (MRBA)
 2839 VT Route 105, East Berkshire, VT 05447
 Tel: (802) 922.0544 E-mail: mrba@pshift.com

2019 BY THE NUMBERS



EDUCATIONAL OUTREACH

...Lake Lessons.....Enviroscape...

In 2019, MRBA was able to provide **14** Bugworks sessions to over **150** students; **4** watershed sessions to over **60** students; and demonstrate our rainfall simulator to educate over **500** students about runoff and infiltration.

...Rainfall Simulator.....Bugworks...

Visit www.mrbavt.com to learn how you can book an educational session for your event or classroom!

WATER SAMPLING

In 2019 the MRBA collected hundreds of water samples from **24** sites through the La Rosa Program with the Vermont DEC. This was our **16th** year with this program, and we sampled these sites for phosphorous and nitrogen to monitor water quality within our watershed.



RIVER CLEAN-UP

15 people joined us for our annual river clean up during 2019. We removed **10** tires, **2** 5-gallon buckets, **4** balls, and lots of rusty metal from **2** miles of river in Richford. Join us for our annual clean-up in 2020 - it's always a fun day and a fun way to protect the river!





Dedicated to restoring and maintaining the ecological integrity of the Missisquoi River system, since 1996

Missisquoi River Basin Association 2019 Annual Report



A summary of the actions, activities, stories, events, and improvements undertaken by the Missisquoi River Basin Association during 2019. We always have more on the way - please plan to join us in 2020!

Want to receive regular updates about MRBA activities and other regional events? Make sure you're on our digital mailing list - contact us at mrba@pshift.com or visit our website at MRBAVT.com

Missisquoi River Basin Association
2839 VT Route 105
East Berkshire, VT 05447

