

2022 Watershed Update



Montgomery



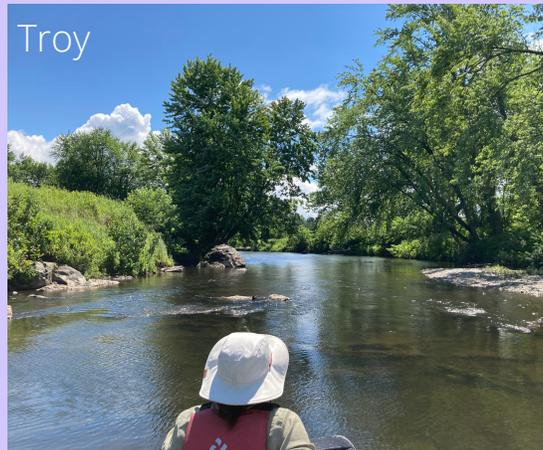
North Troy



Enosburg

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Troy



Troy



Enosburg



North Troy

Happy Summer! *Summer is one of our favorite times to enjoy our Rivers!*

Swimming holes, float trips, paddles, wading, looking for aquatic insects; there's no end to the ways you can spend summers along the river. In this summer 2022 edition of our Watershed Update, we wanted to share what has been going on in our watershed and what is yet to come: read on to learn more about our efforts relating to watershed resiliency, our summer internship program, and our upcoming **25th Anniversary Celebration!**

As always, we want to thank our donors and community members for their continued support and partnership. We look forward to a thrilling summer on the river and hope you join us out in our beautiful watershed!



Follow us on facebook and instagram for updates about events happing in our watershed!

@mrbavt



Introductions

The MRBA continues to grow! Hopefully you've already had the opportunity to meet our



Education & Outreach Coordinator, **Sarah Lunn**. A member of the ECO AmeriCorps program, Sarah grew up in the area and spent much of her youth exploring the Missisquoi watershed on horseback, and by bike or skis. This year, she has taken charge of several existing projects and developed new ones; and we are so very pleased to announce that she will be staying with us for a second year!



We are also delight to announce that **Corrina King** has joined us as our Community Relations Coordinator! A limnologist by training, Corrina has a passion for water quality protection and has dedicated her career to protecting our water resources. The MRBA is pleased to have Corrina's skills on our team; she is already hard at work improving our communications and marketing - so you will soon see more from us!

Riparian buffer plantings continue to be one of the important ways we work to improve our watershed. These plantings not only improve water quality and provide shade to keep water cool for trout, they also bring people together! Want to plant trees with us? Join our tree-planting volunteer list today!

Tree Plantings

In 2021, the MRBA was able to partner with a landowner and several other regional groups to improve **26 ACRES** along waterways in Troy! This spring, we followed up with that planting, and added another 3 acres of trees and shrubs on town-owned land along Coburn Brook. This massive planting will have a great impact on the stream and the Missisquoi itself.

There are numerous programs that help facilitate tree plantings in our region, and we thank each and every landowner that takes advantage of any of these - let us know if you want to learn more!





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 the quality of its water.

Dear Friend of the MRBA,

We can't thank you enough for continuing to partner with and support us. Some of the best takeaways from the past couple of years have been the strength and resiliency of our community and the dedication of our friends and partners. We are so proud to see the way our community has rallied together to support families, local businesses and towns; together we are strong and can have big impacts.

We greatly look forward to a successful 2022 and 2023. As we grow in capacity, expand our presence within the community, and work with you and our partners to protect and restore the Missisquoi River and surrounding watershed, we are also looking forward to being able to accomplish more as an organization. We are excited about the direction that projects are taking, and thrilled to see your dedication and involvement.

Please enjoy our 2022 Annual Report, and let us know if you would like more details about any of the projects highlighted here. We're anticipating a busy and active second half of 2022, and would love your assistance through any of our volunteer programs. If you have the means, we'd also greatly appreciate your support through a financial donation – your dollars are integral to our successes and better enable us to pursue, expand, and refine projects that help our communities from the headwaters to the lake. Together, we can make a difference.

Thank you,

Lindsey Wight, Executive Director
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: mrbavt.com/donate

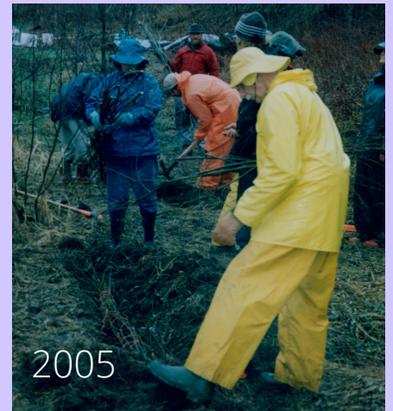
Special project ---- I want to support a special project specifically; please put my donation toward \$ _____ the following activity:

- Education programs in watershed schools
- Tree planting
- Water sampling

Please make checks payable to:
Missisquoi River Basin Association (MRBA)
2839 VT Route 105, East Berkshire, VT 05447
Tel: (802) 393-0076 Email: lindsey@mrbavt.com

Celebrating 25 years!!

The true beginnings of community-led organizations are hard to pin down, but we believe that the MRBA was first officially called by that name in 1996 - which means that last year was our 25th year of working to improve the health of and relationship with our streams and rivers! Since last year was ...odd, to say the least, we are going to celebrate 25 year THIS year (what, you've never pushed your birthday celebrations a bit? We just want to keep the fun rolling!) Reflect back on the years with us as we celebrate our accomplishments and make plans for our future!



Celebrate with Us!

You're invited! Come celebrate our 25th year with us as we enjoy great food and entertainment, share stories and remembrances, review successes, and outline hopes for the future.

Your support continues to mean so much to us, and your official invitation will be sent out shortly.

All are welcome!!!!

When: Saturday, October 1st

Where: Pigeon Hill Farm (Barn Owl) in East Berkshire

Missisquoi River Basin Association - 2022 Watershed Update

**25 Years of community partnerships
and conservation successes!!!**

Thank you for making all this possible!

Join us on October 1st to celebrate

For more information visit:

<https://www.mrbavt.com/25th-celebration>



Watershed Resilience



Last summer we were delighted to convene our **Headwaters Soiree**. Community decision-makers from 6 of our headwaters towns came together to discuss the ways the river connects us and how we can all work to improve our resilience to river-related events. Good company and good food provided a wonderful opportunity to share ideas, hopes, and plans with neighbors and to consider our rivers in a cross-boundary way. It was a lovely evening; we're so thankful to the community members who joined us and to Windy River Farm in Westfield for providing the beautiful setting!

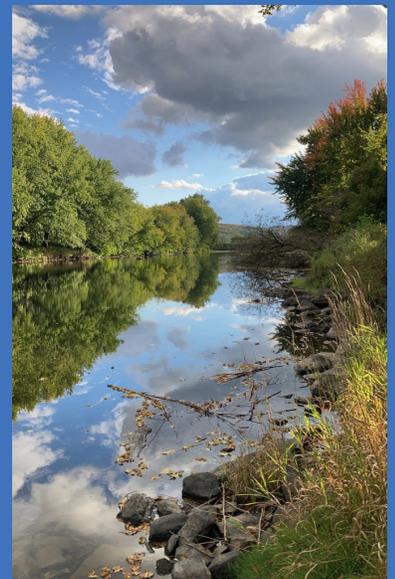


We plan to bring together more communities this year for another Soiree - watch for more information as the details for this event come together!



Iconic locations

Seasons change fast here!
Can you spot where these seasonal shots were taken?



Tag us in your river shots on Instagram!

 @mrbavt



MRBA Summer LEAP Internships

During 2021, the MRBA was privileged to host two LEAP* interns through Lake Champlain Sea Grant. Kendra Pepin, of Troy, and Anthony Plante, of Richford, helped us with a variety of projects: planting and monitoring trees along streams, installing fascines and willow cuttings on eroding banks, doing maintenance on rain gardens, and much more! This year's interns: Millie Reardon of Newport and Kyle Elms of Burlington, will expand on some of this work, and will also complete projects related to invasive species and removing litter from our rivers.

*The Lake Education & Action Program provides and opportunity to marry facilitating stewardship projects and providing professional development opportunities to high school and college-aged students. Learn more at: <https://www.uvm.edu/seagrant/programs/lake-education-action-program-leap>



River Reporter

The River Reporter is a newsletter-style way of highlighting river stories and

successes among our watershed towns. Our inaugural edition focused on our headwaters towns of Montgomery, Richford, Jay, Westfield, and Lowell, touching on topics including flood readiness, river education, riparian restoration efforts, and recreation.

A new edition is in the works - let us know if you have a story about your town that you want to share. We can all learn from each other and the River Reporter hopes to facilitate that in our river communities!

Lake Lessons

The MRBA staff are thrilled to be a part of bringing back Lake Lessons: a collaborative educational workshop focused on the environment and history of Lake Champlain. This hands-on partnership program is offered to local schools and will take place along St Albans Bay in September. Interested in seeing what it's all about/volunteering? Let us know!



Celebrate 25 years with us!



Please join us
SATURDAY OCTOBER 1ST
At the **Pigeon Hill Farm** (Barn Owl)
in East Berkshire

To learn more, visit: www.mrbavt.com/25th-celebration

Join the MRBA to celebrate 25 years with: an amazing dinner by chefs at Phoenix House, an open bar, live band, swag bag filled with items from local artisans, guest speaker, displays, door prizes, silent auction, and a sundae bar.



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

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

