



Lewis Creek Association 2015 Program Highlights

The LCA board was thrilled that Marty Illick our Executive Director received the Governor's Environmental Excellence Award at a July ceremony in Montpelier. These annual awards are given to recognize the efforts and actions of Vermonters who conserve and protect natural resources, prevent pollution and promote environmental sustainability. Marty has not only been a strong advocate for water quality but also for developing strategies to foster greater collaboration between state staff and local citizens. Her passion for clean water, citizen engagement and science based policies continues to inspire the board and provide the leadership we need to continue our programs. We are also pleased Susan Moegenburg an ecologist and resident of Shelburne agreed to join the board. Susan has been co leading stream monitoring work of the South Chittenden River Watch since 2004.

We welcome anyone interested in our programs to join in and assist with special projects and board activities. Please visit our library at lewiscreek.org and learn about daily activities on Facebook.

This year your contributions helped leverage grants from the Lake Champlain Basin Program and VT Agency of Natural Resources for education, restoration and conservation projects in our watersheds that drain to the mid portion of Lake Champlain.

We continue to work with our partners to educate residents to improve the health of land and water resources in two counties and seven towns. Our partner groups include state and local governments, LaPlatte Watershed Partnership, Lake Iroquois Association, South Chittenden Riverwatch, Addison County Riverwatch Collaborative, Vermont Family Forests, state and local land trusts and conservancies, and two new regional groups -Watersheds United Vermont and the Vermont Water Monitoring Council.

With many thanks from the LCA Board of Directors and Staff:

Louis duPont, Chris Runcie - Starksboro
Peter Erb, Andrea Morgante - Hinesburg
Thomas Newcomb, Susan Moegenburg- Shelburne
Mollie Wills, Tai Dinnan - Communications

Judy Elson- Ferrisburgh
Chris Slesar- Monkton
Stevie Spencer- Administration
Marty Illick- Executive Director

LCA Program Highlights (\$100,000 annual budget)

Restoration and Conservation

Successful fundraising of \$120,000 provided the needed matching funds to allow the Town of Monkton to construct VT's first two amphibian and wildlife underpasses in Monkton Vermont.

Year 7 -Thorp Kimball Invasive European Frogbit Plant Control. 210 volunteer hrs removed 4.75 tons – Charlotte.

Year 4- LaPlatte Invasive European Frogbit Plant Control. 140 volunteer hrs removed 2.1 tons – Shelburne.

Year 1- LaPlatte, Lewis, Thorp and Kimball Invasive Yellow Iris Survey and Control – Ferrisburgh, Charlotte, Shelburne.

Assisting Charlotte with its emerging wetland restoration and invasive common reed (*Phragmites australis*) control project.

Planning and Data Collection

Provided administrative support for Addison County River Watch Collaborative, South Chittenden River Watch and the Hinesburg Silver Street Storm Water Rain Garden. Monitoring recently installed agricultural and forestry water quality improvement projects in the Pond Brook valley in Monkton (VT ANR and USDA funded).

Completed annual water quality sampling for the Lewis, LaPlatte, McCabe's, Thorp and Kimball streams.

Participating in the development of the VT Lake Champlain TMDL Implementation and LaPlatte Basin Plans.

Education and Outreach

Initiated the grassroots "Ahead of the Storm" (AOTS) program to promote optimal green stormwater infrastructure demonstration projects throughout our watershed towns.

Maintained the LCA website and Facebook page.

Preparing watershed health report cards for LaPlatte watershed towns of Shelburne, Hinesburg and Charlotte.

Shared water quality data and river assessment results with landowners, towns, state, legislators and others.

Promoting cost effective and strategic clean water governance policies and management plans.