

**Sudbury, Assabet, and Concord Wild and Scenic River Stewardship Council
Community Small Grants - Awarded 2006-2020**

Grantee	Title/Description	Amount
2006		
Town of Wayland	Hand pulling of Eurasian Milfoil in Dudley Pond	\$2,000
Town of Billerica	Route 4-Dudley Park Trail Enhancement Project	\$1,250
Town of Billerica	Refuge Ranger Program with USFWS	\$1,000
Town of Bedford	Davis School SUASCO Watershed Education Project	\$2,500
Town of Sudbury	Water resource inventory	\$1,500
2007		
Sudbury Conservation Commission	Sudbury River Overlook – Water Row	\$650
Billerica/OAR/Lowell Parks & Conservation Trust	Invasive Aquatic Weed Control on the Concord River in Billerica	\$1,000
Town of Bedford	Davis School SUASCO Watershed Education Project	\$1,000
Framingham Department of Public Works	Stormwater Marking Program	\$350
Framingham Conservation Commission	Development and Installation of an Interpretive Trail along the Carol Getchell Trail	\$1,000
2008		
Carlisle Trails Committee	Greenough bridge replacement	\$2,000
Sudbury Ponds & Waterways Committee	Eco-friendly lawn care lawn signs	\$650
2009		
First Parish of Sudbury	Water conservation education and outreach project for the church with a goal of decreasing usage by 10 percent.	\$1,200
Boston Symphony Orchestra	Through Richard Sebring will create a program featuring photos of natural ice sculptures taken along the Wild and Scenic Rivers set to new music to be presented at Boston Pops.	\$2,500
Concord National Resources Division and Musketaquid Arts and Environment	Quest for Teachers (professional development) and a Quest for 4th Graders focused on Blanding's turtles	\$2,500
2010		
SWEET (Sudbury Weed Education and Eradication Project)	Funds were used to purchase equipment to support eradication of invasive species in Sudbury. SWEET used volunteer crews in their efforts.	\$450

SUASCO Watershed Stewards (MA Audubon Drumlin Farm)	Drumlin Farm worked with middle school and high school students to pilot a new innovative program engaging students in hands-on environmental science. Worked with Brian Windmiller on Blanding Turtle and Eastern Spadefoot Toads research.	\$2,000
Framingham Library	A mural of the Sudbury River was painted in the children's room of the Framingham Library. Students were engaged in the creation and content of mural.	\$3,000
Carlisle Library	Funds were used to purchase books, digital resources and media for adults about the rivers. A relevant talk was sponsored as well.	\$800
Concord Department of Public Works	Pharmaceuticals are thought to be a large, unregulated threat to water quality and ecology. Concord DPW hosted a Pharmaceuticals Collection Day. Concord developed a protocol for how they implement the collection that can be shared with other towns.	\$2,000
Concord Land Conservation Trust	Supported water chestnut control in the Sudbury River. Harvesting took place near Conantum, in an area of the river in which FWS does not work.	\$750
Local Photographer	Large 30" by 40" photos were taken of the Assabet River, reflecting the whole river, not just the wild and scenic segment. Photos have been used as an educational tool and the RSC worked with artist to create venues for exhibiting. (\$800 from USFWS)	\$2,000
Wayland	Wayland Turtle Project - Wayland High School Environmental Science teacher partnered with MADOT, USFWS, SVT and a turtle expert to locate and design fencing along Water Row and River Road to keep turtles from crossing the road and eliminate unnecessary wildlife deaths. Students from the high school worked on placing the fencing and undertaking inspections and evaluations. (\$3000 from USFWS)	---
2011		
Three Rivers Chorus	The newly organized Three Rivers Chorus learned and performed River Songs, by composer Gwyneth Walker. The addition of River Songs to the Three Rivers Chorus' repertoire allowed the chorus to perform at multiple locations and instances over its lifetime, each opportunity bringing inspiration and a call to action for the preservation and enjoyment of the rivers that surround us. The river- related focus of the performances were enhanced with photos, speakers, information tables etc.	\$1,250
Lowell Parks & Conservation Trust / MA Audubon	Lowell School Project – The Stewardship through Leadership program worked to connect students at the Daley Middle School in Lowell with middle school students in Concord to discuss and compare perspectives on watershed issues that both groups have been working on in their own communities. This was done by visiting each other's projects and through skyping, or other internet –based communications. At the end of the year a mini-institute was held for all students to get together.	\$2,000
SWEET (Sudbury Weed eradication and Education Team)	This volunteer group, working closely with the Sudbury Conservation Commission, focused on invasive species outreach and education, as well as control. Work was focused in identified priority areas in town, including High School property and the King Philip Conservation area. Work engaged high school students and other town volunteers.	\$730

Framingham School	Framingham Mural – Yetti Frankl, a local artist (and last year small grant recipient to paint mural in library) worked with elementary school children to create a mosaic, inspired by river writings and poetry, on the outside of the Stapleton School. Small grant funds were leveraged with other grant funds for this project.	\$2,500
Sudbury Middle School	Turtle Project – Sudbury 7th grade science teacher collaborated with Bryan Windmiller, wildlife biologist, and Mass Audubon on a Blanding’s Turtle headstarting program. The program included class presentations, outdoor field work and close–up care of the turtles. Turtles were released with radio transmitters in a year.	\$2,210
2012		
Three Rivers Chorus	Created “Where the River Flows”, a multimedia presentation including performance of River Songs by Gwyneth Walker, poetry, art and facts about the rivers presented in a slide show. The presentation was performed, recorded, and uploaded to Youtube, as well as made available on websites.	\$2,500
Wayland Historical Commission	Wayland Historical Commission led a cooperative effort between Wayland and Framingham to remove debris behind Old Stone Bridge, remove vegetation from the bridge structure and repair the bridge fence.	\$2,500
Wayland Walks	As part of the Town’s celebration of 375 years, Wayland Walks will identify and map trails within town, making a connection to the cultural, historical and natural resources of the Town. While this project is very large in scope, RSC funds will be used to connect trails to river resources.	\$2,000
Friends of Saxonville	Friends of Saxonville, Framingham, in partnership with OARS created a new sign for the kiosk at Danforth Street Bridge. The sign focuses on the return of raptors to our watershed and complements the sign already there about the Wild and Scenic River.	\$1,000
Lowell Parks & Conservation Trust	Lowell Parks & Conservation Trust continued to grow the Stewardship through Leadership Program, focusing on the Daley School in Lowell and connecting these students to those in other watershed towns, specifically Concord. This grant builds on work initiated in 2011.	\$2,000
2013		
Mass Rivers Alliance	Stream Crossing Workshops - Mass Rivers Alliance worked with Baystate Roads to host 3 workshops in eastern MA on improving road stream crossings to provide better wildlife habitat and improve public safety. These workshops were modeled on a series of successful workshops in the western part of the State . One of the workshops was held within the SUASCO watershed. Workshops will provide information on river ecology, permitting standards, case studies, and technical resources.	\$1,500
Wayland Conservation Commission	Wayland Boat Ramp Improvement - The Wayland Conservation Commission took the lead in a project to improve the Route 20 boat launch, making it more easily accessible to trailered boats while protecting the river and wetland resources of the site. Funds were used to purchase Trakmat that was placed on the ground during the boating season, creating a safe place for trailers to turn around.	\$2,200

Mass Audubon / Thoreau School	SUASCO River School Network - Thoreau School fifth grade teacher, Susan Erickson enhanced the ongoing River Schools project by using IPADS and a blog to create a network among schools so that students may communicate with each other, sharing observations, scientific data, and reflections. She offered a workshop for teachers to introduce them to the project and the technology.	\$2,500
Sudbury Middle School	SUASCO Turtle Project - To further ensure the success of the turtle headstarting program, Dr. Bryan Windmiller created a turtle curriculum guide and a turtle classroom care manual. He also offered a teacher workshop to provide an opportunity for teachers to share how they have used the turtles to further their curriculums.	\$1,800
2014		
Concord Land Conservation Trust	Phragmites Control at Bigelow Woods, a 61 acre property along the Sudbury River. This is a multiyear project and RSC Small grant funding will help support year two of control. A contractor worked with CLCT to remove the approximately acre of infestation using targeted herbicide applications and manual cutting. Bigelow Woods is part of the BioMap 2 Core Habitat and Critical Natural Landscape and has exceptional river corridor values. The removal of the phragmites helped protect the ecology of the river system.	\$2,000
Mass Audubon / Thoreau School	SUASCO Riverschools Network - Continued work focused on the use of digital technology to create a network of schools studying and sharing data about the Sudbury, Assabet, and Concord rivers throughout the SuAsCo watershed. In its first year, the network was created, a blog was developed and students were trained in use of ipad-minis to input data to be shared. Professional development workshops were held for teachers. This year, included additional training of teachers, as well as support of a coordinator to ensure that the network continues and becomes sustaining. A youth summit or some other way to connect students face to face was explored, and two additional towns were added to the network.	\$790
2015		
Sudbury Conservation Commission	King Phillip Woods Trail Reconstruction - Trail improvements in the historic King Philip Woods consisted of vegetation clearing/invasive plant removal between the historic stone walls located along the Old Berlin Road; installation of interpretive signage; and trail reestablishment to reconnect the trail network within this parcel and the three adjacent conservation lands and private, conservation non-profit trails.	\$4,000
2016		
SWEET, Inc	Roadside Butterfly Garden, Basswood/Linden Tree Group & Lincoln Lane Black Swallowwort removal	\$1,177

One Earth Collaborative	The One Earth Collaborative Interfaith Woodland and Wetland Adventure Camp is designed to provide children going into grades 2-5 with time outdoors in nature for informal play, exploration, and experience. 8-10 children were taken outdoors for half a day for five days, each day at a different conservation or recreation area in and around Framingham. In addition to guided play, informal instruction about flora and fauna, games, guided activities and independent exploration time, children had the opportunity to do a nature craft project and to write a daily journal entry about their experiences, and had daily quiet time. Children went canoeing on the Sudbury River, explored the wonders of woods and fields and streams, made friends with a tree, walked a natural balance beam, and listened to sounds of nature.	\$1,285
Sudbury Valley Trustees	Pollinator Project - Purchased and planted native plants for local pollinator species.	\$3,000
OARS	Sudbury River Recreation Guide - Enhanced public access to the river by providing up-to-date on-line and hard copy recreation map of the Sudbury River. Developed an inventory and action plan to improve and restore access points for future fundraising and community engagement.	6000
2017		
Boy Scout Troop 114	Bedford Rt 225 Boat Launch Kiosk - Constructed a new information kiosk for the boat launch on the Bedford side of the Concord river off of Rt. 225 in Bedford. The kiosk included a weather-resistant and lockable information box, which facilitates the posting of time-sensitive information for the boaters. The kiosk also includes a bench between the uprights and pamphlet boxes, which will fix the problem of having no seating or maps at the boat launch.	\$250
Concord Land Conservation Trust	October Farm Riverfront - October Farm Riverfront is a remarkable 80-acre property, located in Concord, Massachusetts with over a mile of frontage on the Concord River. It is located just over a mile south along the river from the Elliott Concord River Preserve, a land protection project the River Stewardship Council supported in 2013 with a \$20,000 grant. The RSC supported the Concord Conservation Land Trust's efforts to bring to a close their campaign to acquire the October Farm Riverfront with a grant that was matched dollar for dollar through a donor challenge.	\$5,000
Town of Framingham	Sudbury River Nuisance Aquatic Vegetation Management Program - The Framingham Conservation Commission, with the support of the Town of Framingham Conservation and Open Space Division, received fund to support nuisance aquatic vegetation management efforts within the Sudbury River through Framingham. The principal objective of the management program is to reestablish the use of the Sudbury River for recreation and restore viable habitat for fisheries and wildlife. Grant funds were used to cover direct expenses for a lake management contractor to complete an initial Clearcast herbicide treatment for nuisance aquatic management. The Commission and its staff have made a multi-year commitment to the public to improve the health of the Sudbury River. This project included management surveys to evaluate success.	\$5,000
Hudson Public Schools	Hudson Public Schools Field Science on the Assabet River - The Hudson Public Schools Field Science on the Assabet River Project serviced 227 3rd grade students from the CA Farley Elementary School, Forest Avenue Elementary School, and JL Mulready Elementary School. This project consisted of teacher professional development workshops with Mass Audubon, classroom workshops with Mass Audubon, and student field trips to the Assabet River with Mass Audubon in September 2017.	\$6,000

Lowell Parks and Conservation Trust	Concord River Alewife Restoration - This project directly contributed to return of the historic run of the Concord River alewife and other species through the training of stakeholder and volunteering monitors (in-person and video monitoring). SuAsCo RSC funding supported the hiring of a seasonal employee, river herring monitoring equipment (non-capital) and training, outreach, and reporting for the lower Concord River in collaboration with federal and state resources agencies.	\$5,000
Mass Rivers Alliance	MA Rivers Alliance Drought Research - To address the current gap in drought research, the Mass Rivers Alliance completed the following research project: an in-depth analysis of five states' approaches to public messaging that promotes water conservation during periods of drought. In particular, the project focused on how state officials can encourage citizens to follow nonessential outdoor water use restrictions during summer droughts. Methods of data collection included phone interviews, literature reviews, and internet research. The project culminated in a brief report that was shared with state officials, watershed organizations, municipal water suppliers, conservation commissions and local boards of health.	\$1,000
2018		
Town of Billerica Recreation Department	Billerica Recreation Boat Trailer - In an effort to try and increase awareness of the aquatic opportunities in town, Billerica recreation received funding to purchase a kayak trailer. Specifically, this trailer holds up to 8 boats, and allows us to offer recreation opportunities on the Concord River. With the purchase of this trailer, Billerica Recreation Department committed to programming on the Concord River in the 2018 summer season.	\$3,913
Hudson Public Schools	Hudson Public School Wetland Study - Hudson Public Schools received funds to support the 3rd grade Assabet River Watershed Studies Program, through which students conduct year-round watershed field studies at the Assabet River and at school-based sites around Hudson, MA; and partner with Grassroots Wildlife Conservation to raise Blanding's Turtle hatchlings for spring release at the Assabet River National Wildlife Refuge in Sudbury, MA.	\$2,491
OARS	Blue Trails: Concord River Trail Survey and Three-River Recreation Guide - To increase the public's enjoyment of the rivers' natural beauty, habitat and recreational value as well as bring attention to the threats to the Wild & Scenic Sudbury, Assabet and Concord River, the project includes enhancing public access to the river by providing up-to-date on-line and hard copy recreation maps of the three rivers, developing an inventory and action plan to improve and restore access points.	\$6,000

Happy Hollow School, Wayland	River/Wetlands Stewards; Environmental Engagement, Exploration and Education - The Happy Hollow School, in Wayland, MA, worked with Drumlin Farm to carry out this project which: taught children about wetlands and river habitats via classroom science study; learned about and headstart the endangered spadefoot toad through the Drumlin Farm/Grassroots Wildlife Conservation program: Headstarting Native Frogs: Life Cycles and Conservation Science in the Classroom; brought students to the Great Meadows National Wildlife Refuge for a day of learning in nature where student/chaperone groups tour the refuge and engage in a number of hands-on wetlands, river, and water studies as outlined in this guide; hiked with high school student-chaperones from the Wayland High School environmental class along Wayland's aqueduct to discover, observe, and study vernal pool(s), the nearby Sudbury River, and the related plant life and wildlife.	\$2,350
Town of Wayland	Design of a canoe and kayak launch - Obtained design and constructions documents and started construction in 2018. The project was designed (and later constructed) to minimize both short and long term impacts on the ecological functions, wildlife habitat and scenic qualities of the site. The Commission, as stewards of the property, enforced the state Wetlands Protection Act and local bylaws and use Best Management Practices to sensitively maintain and protect this property to limit impacts on this riverfront area and any resources downstream.	\$5,500
2019		
Friends of Saxonville	Conchituate Rail Trail Invasive Vegetation Management - Components of the project included identifying and documenting invasive non-native & native vegetation along the section of the Conchituate Rail Trail, CRT from School Street Framingham to Route 30 Framingham; creating a removal "Action Plan and Removal Timeline for the Invasive Vegetation"; identifying location and names of flowering native vegetation to plant along the trail and Conchituate Brook; creating an "Educational Map" that shows examples of native and invasive vegetation; communicating with schools, community groups, and local artists to use the trail as an educational walking tour and as a venue for creating artwork of native vegetation.	\$2,050
Lowell Parks & Conservation Trust	Lowell Parks and Conservation Trust - The Lowell Parks & Conservation Trust received funds to support anadromous fish monitoring and restoration on the Concord River in Lowell. This project directly contributed to return of the historic run of the Concord River alewife (<i>Alosa pseudoharengus</i>) and other species through the training of stakeholder and volunteering monitors (in-person and video monitoring). SuAsCo RSC funding supported the hiring of a seasonal employee, river herring monitoring equipment (non-capital) and training, outreach, and reporting for the lower Concord River in collaboration with federal and state resources agencies.	\$5,000
Individual - Kevin Martin	Big Tree Tour - Riverfest talk about Big Trees in Massachusetts. Kevin Martin, boatbuilder and author of Big Trees of NH, showed participants how big trees are measured for circumference, height, and crown spread.	\$2,500
2020		

City of Framingham Department of Public Works	Public education on water pollution using the Enviroscape model - The City of Framingham received funds for the purchase and shipping of an Enviroscape Ecological Restoration model and case. The City will provide in-kind labor for public outreach events to support the project. The City is also committed to purchasing replacement materials for the model as needed in the future.	\$1,400
Lowell Parks & Conservation Trust	Fish Monitoring During a Pandemic - Funds to support staff time, river herring monitoring supplies (non-capital), and outreach for the fish monitoring program on the Concord River in Lowell. Due to the COVID pandemic, protocols needed to be adapted to ensure volunteers are protected from exposure.	\$3,000
The Umbrella Art Center / OARS	Earth Month Water Installation and Children’s Film Festival - The Umbrella Arts Center hired an artist to create a virtual installation about our local waterways/systems – and made a virtual experience - for the Earth Month Exhibit and Earth Day Celebration. As part of the celebration, OARS presented a streaming Children’s Wild & Scenic Film Festival for children and their families. The “Wild & Scenic Film Festival On Tour,” the largest of its kind in the nation, uses film to inspire activism. A selection of their award-winning films about energy and climate change, nature, adventure, conservation, water, wildlife, and community activism will be shown. Totaling 60-80 minutes in length, the films were chosen for their relevance to grade school and middle school children and their families living in the communities of the Assabet, Sudbury, and Concord Rivers.	\$2,500
Mass Rivers Alliance	Water Bylaws Toolkit - Developed a water bylaw toolkit. The toolkit includes examples of the most protective and effective water-related bylaws in the state, covering issues from stormwater to water conservation. Each bylaw also includes contact information for at least one municipal contact that has implemented said bylaw and also one local environmental partner in the region so that interested parties can contact these entities in case of questions. In addition, the project includes five case examples of existing Massachusetts town and/or city bylaws that could be strengthened to be more protective for water resources. Three of the five case examples are communities inside of the Sudbury, Assabet and Concord watersheds.	\$4,600