



# RIPARIAN READS

Newsletter of the Kennebecasis Watershed Restoration Committee

SUMMER 2019



## WADING INTO CONSERVATION

Welcome to *Riparian Reads* - a quarterly newsletter published by the staff of the Kennebecasis Watershed Restoration Committee (KWRC). The KWRC is a non-profit organization whose mission is to restore the Kennebecasis River Watershed back to a sustainable ecosystem.

The actions of the KWRC are guided by a Committee of stakeholders composed of representatives from various provincial and federal departments, municipalities of the area, and local interest groups. These stakeholders have been planning, securing funding for, and implementing restoration activities and other projects within the Kennebecasis watershed since 1994.

We hope you enjoy *Riparian Reads* where you can stay informed about the important restoration, monitoring and education outreach work we undertake in the Kennebecasis watershed. Future issues will highlight the work we do, report on workshops and events, and share inspiring stories about our “Watershed Champions” - volunteers and landowners who have partnered with the KWRC to improve the health and well being of the watershed and our communities.

To learn more about us and the Kennebecasis watershed, please visit our website at [www.kennebecasisriver.org](http://www.kennebecasisriver.org).

~ Dean Toole, KWRC Chair

### UPCOMING KWRC WORKSHOPS & EVENTS

**June 24 & 25 - Beginner Fly Fishing Workshop\***  
(one workshop over two evenings for adults)

**July 10 & 11- Youth Angling Day Camps\***  
(two separate day camps for kids aged 7-14 years)

**August 21 - Wading In: Exploring Trout Creek Day**  
(4:00-8:00pm, O'Connell Park and Sussex Nature Trail)

**September 21 – Great Canadian Shoreline Cleanup**  
(9:30am -12:00pm, Burton Park, Sussex)

\*pre registration required – call the KWRC office 433-4394 to register



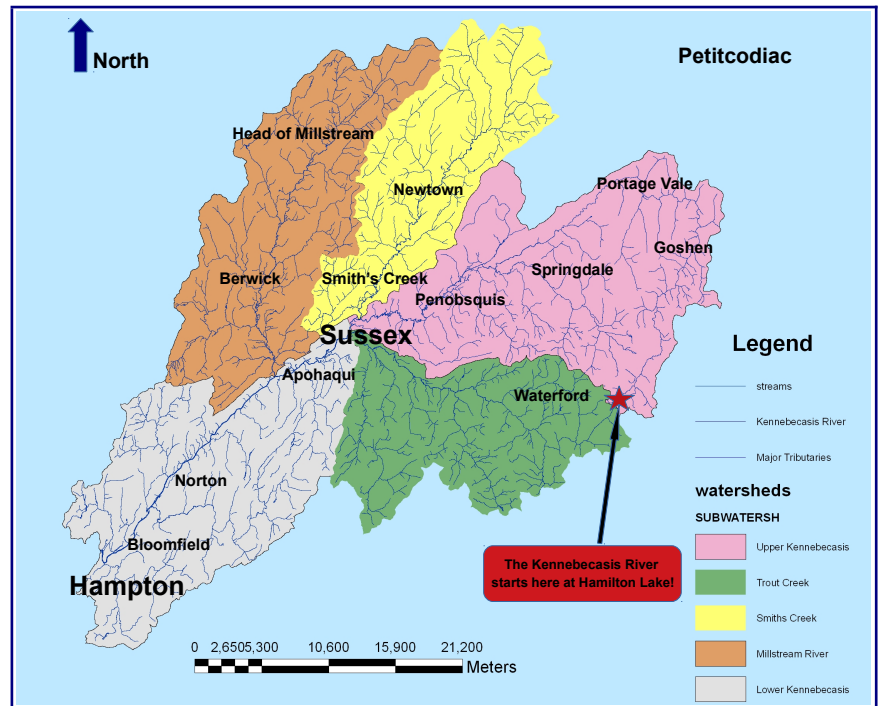
## THE KENNEBECASIS WATERSHED

The Kennebecasis Watershed is located in southern New Brunswick, Canada with the town of Sussex located nearly at its center. The KWRC primarily works with all those rivers, streams and lakes that flow into the Kennebecasis River.

The head waters of the Kennebecasis River begin in Hamilton Lake, near Mechanic Settlement, and flow north through Goshen and Portage Vale before turning south towards Sussex. The lower watershed boundary is located at the head of tide at the Bloomfield Bridge above Hampton.

The main stem of the Kennebecasis River wanders the watershed for approximately 95km, growing in width and depth as it flows south due to being fed by many sources including Trout Creek, Smiths Creek, and the Millstream River while draining an area of 134,660 hectares or 1,346 km<sup>2</sup>.

**A watershed is an area within a ridge of land that contains water flowing to a main river.**

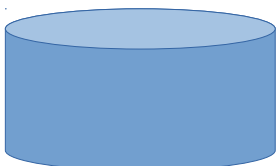


*In May 2019, KWRC staff and summer students hiked to Hamilton Lake – the birthplace of the Kennebecasis river!*

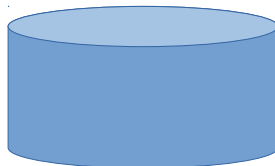
## WHAT DOES THE KWRC DO?

The Kennebecasis Watershed Restoration Committee's goals are to undertake habitat restoration, water quality monitoring, and educational and advisory initiatives to promote public awareness and participation in the restoration of the Kennebecasis River Watershed. We do this by focusing our work on three main pillars:

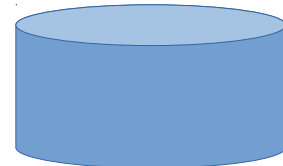
### MONITORING



### EDUCATION & OUTREACH



### RESTORATION



## MONITORING



Monitoring helps us identify and keep track of problem areas within the watershed. It is important to gather baseline data so we know what conditions exist currently and then we strive to maintain those levels. This is important as landscapes change within the watershed.

We have a number of sites where we monitor water quality, water temperature and measure flow of water in tributaries to help estimate how much water volume each contributes to the Kennebecasis River. We also sample benthic macroinvertebrates (aquatic insects that live in stream beds) using the Canadian Aquatic Biomonitoring Network's (CABIN) protocol to further assess water quality and use electrofishing sampling methods to assess fish species diversity – learn more in our next issue!

For more information on our monitoring program, visit our website [www.kennebecasisriver.org/monitoring](http://www.kennebecasisriver.org/monitoring)

## RESTORATION

Destruction of riparian zones opens the door to severe stream bank erosion, with numerous detrimental impacts to the watercourse at the site and downstream. Eroding stream banks can negatively affect the health of fish and other wildlife species that depend on clean water and healthy riparian zones.

A 1994 habitat assessment project revealed numerous issues in the watershed that can often be attributed to poor land use and riparian zone degradation. To improve the overall conditions of the watershed, the KWRC works with landowners and employs a combination of techniques to deal with riparian and aquatic habitat issues. These include bioengineering, bank stabilization, digger logs, groynes, livestock fencing and stabilized fording sites, rock sills, and tree planting.

Many of these sites are marked with an information sign at road side which describes the work done on the property. Look for our restoration signs as you drive the roads throughout the watershed.

If you or your organization are interested in learning more about the work on our restoration or demonstration sites, please contact us to inquire about a field tour and we can make arrangements.

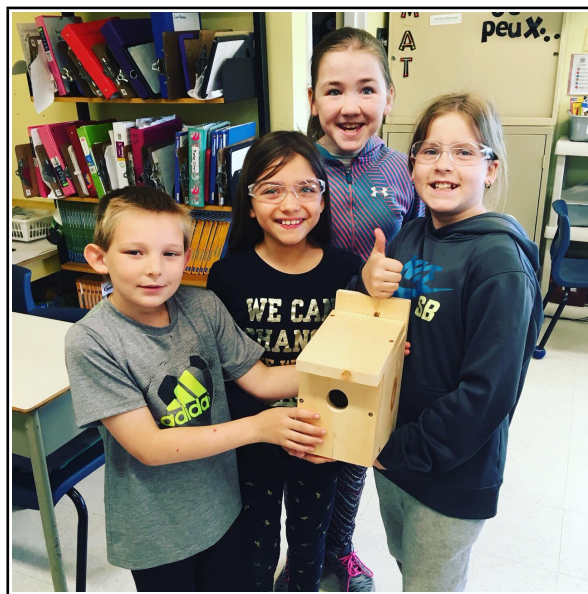


## EDUCATION & OUTREACH

The KWRC offers a wide array of education and outreach programs to engage the public in learning about our watershed and how we can work together to care for it.

We host a variety of events and workshops for all ages throughout the year and welcome you to contact us if you would like us to come do a presentation for your classroom or organization.

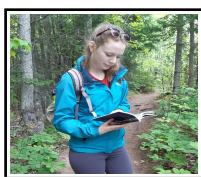
For more information on our programs, please check out the Education & Outreach page on our website at [www.kennebecasisriver.org/education](http://www.kennebecasisriver.org/education)



## KWRC STAFF



Ben Whalen  
Project Manager



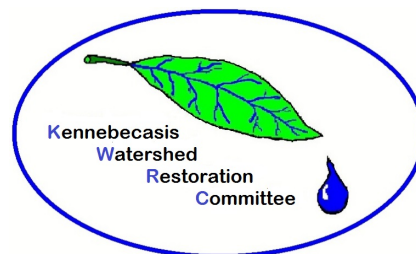
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Information is also available on our website at [www.kennebecasisriver.org](http://www.kennebecasisriver.org)

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