

# FWR 2007 Highlights



Volunteers measure stream flow as part of the water quality monitoring program in the Inner Winooski.

## Project Highlights

FWR partnered with the Winooski Natural Resource Conservation District, the Central VT Regional Planning Commission and local volunteers in the **Kingsbury Branch & North Branch to conduct stream geomorphic assessments**. These assessments, which evaluate the physical condition of the river, are used to identify and prioritize restoration and protection projects.

In the **Winooski Headwaters**, discussions have been initiated with several large landowners to permanently protect the river corridor. FWR supported two riparian restoration projects at Martins Bridge and at a farm in Cabot. Education events included a series of talks in the spring and the Headwaters Festival.

FWR supported a dedicated group of volunteers who collected **water quality data** in the Winooski Headwaters. This data will be used to refine the testing program and to pinpoint potential pollution sources.

In **Barre City**, FWR continued **monitoring stormwater outfalls**. In addition, FWR worked with a teacher and students at Spaulding High School to train them on outfall monitoring.

FWR supported **three river cleanups**. In Montpelier, over 40 volunteers spent a Saturday morning removing trash from the Stevens, the Winooski and the North Branch. Montpelier & Spaulding High School students cleaned up the rivers near their schools.

FWR worked to **connect people to the river and to each other**. Specific events included canoe trips at the North Branch Nature Center and a wagon ride along the river at the Two Rivers Center. FWR also participated in the grand opening of LACE in Barre and the Winooski Harvest Festival.

In partnership with UVM Sea Grant, DEC and WNRCD, **rain gardens**, which filter run off, were installed in several locations in Barre, Montpelier and East Montpelier.

## You can help support the following projects in 2008

- Utilize the stream geomorphic data from the North Branch and Kingsbury Branch to determine specific river protection and restoration strategies and projects.
- Riparian and streambank restoration project.
- Outreach and education to landowners to help them manage their properties to protect water quality and habitat.
- Initiate a stream geomorphic study on the Stevens Branch.
- Develop tributary based partnerships of towns, nonprofits, civic groups, schools and businesses to work together to protect and restore the local rivers and stream.
- Continue to work with Barre City and other urban centers to reduced polluted runoff.
- Volunteer water quality monitoring programs.
- Develop watershed education programs and materials that focus on land use and everyday human activities that impact river systems.
- The Winooski River Sojourn, a fun and educational paddling trip, highlighting challenges facing the river and celebrating its natural resources and history.

## Organizational Highlights

FWR welcomed two new board members, expanding our geographic representation and professional skills:

John Tedesco is the Environmental Manager for Green Mountain Power.

Jeanne Daniele is a resident of Barre and very active in a variety of organizations and efforts in the

Stevens Branch.

FWR completed a redesigned and expanded website. We also continued to expand our electronic communications.

Other board members: Colin McCaffrey and Bev Lavin (E. Montpelier), Anne Sarcka and Linda Henzel (Montpelier), Allen Banbury (Marshfield), Bill Haines (Worcester), Jim Pease (Morrisville)



Recording data during a geomorphic assessment