

# *Riverbend Local River Subcommittee*

## **of the Connecticut River Joint Commissions**

New Hampshire – Lancaster, Dalton, Littleton, Monroe, Bath, Haverhill

Vermont – Guildhall, Lunenburg, Concord, Waterford, Barnet, Ryegate, Newbury

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### ***Connecticut River – Riverbend Local River Subcommittee – Annual Report 2023***

The Riverbend Subcommittee of the Connecticut River Joint Commissions (CRJC) meets quarterly and consists of up to two volunteers nominated by riverfront municipalities, with allowance for alternates. Throughout 2023, the Subcommittee has maintained a hybrid meeting format where a quorum of participating municipalities is required to be present in person. Current members of Vermont are Bill Graves and John Fairchild from Barnet, Deborah Noble from Concord, Scott Labun from Newbury, Sally Wilson from Ryegate, William Piper from Waterford, and openings in Guildhall & Lunenburg. Current members of New Hampshire are Rick Walling from Bath, Gal Potashnick from Dalton, Pauline Corzilius and Howard Hatch from Haverhill, Rob Christie from Lancaster, Sean Doll from Littleton, and Justin Bradshaw and Steve Sherman from Monroe. Those with one representative have an opening for a second volunteer. During 2023, Rick Walling served as chair. Meetings and events are open to the public.

Riverbend is one of the five subcommittees a part of the CRJC since 1989. The Subcommittees provide a local voice to help steward the resources on or affecting the Connecticut River, particularly on topics related to the maintenance of good water quality, wildlife habitat, and appropriate development. Specific responsibilities include providing feedback on proposed permits and plans to NH Department of Environmental Services, VT Agency of Natural Resources, and municipalities. In addition, CRJC is responsible for maintaining a bi-state watershed plan.

During 2023, Riverbend engaged on several issues. Permits that were reviewed include a water quality certification for the Newbury Hydroelectric project, Wetlands permit for Eversource, Alteration of Terrain for a transmission line, stormwater runoff during construction in Ryegate, herbicide use, and a Lancaster floodplain restoration. Riverbend is also following the Twin States Clean Energy Link project.

Riverbend supported outreach efforts in service of the Connecticut River, including the Making Room series: Planning for those who are here and those on their way; as well as the Connecticut River Watershed Partnership meeting in coordination with Friends of Conte. Further, Riverbend supported water quality monitoring efforts along the Connecticut River.

In 2024, Riverbend will continue their activities in management, outreach, and learning for the Connecticut River. Riverbend welcomes local participation in permit reviews, educational events, watershed planning, and water quality monitoring. If you are interested, contact [info@crjc.org](mailto:info@crjc.org).

