



2019 ANNUAL REPORT: BY THE NUMBERS

2,500

POUNDS OF MAN-MADE TRASH REMOVED

The WRP coordinated 2 types of river cleanups in 2019. We recruited and supported "site steward" volunteers who collected trash during the summer months at 15 White River Water Trail sites. And we partnered with VT Law School, Sun Rise Rotary Club, and 3 school groups to remove trash at 12 additional White River Water Trail sites at the end of the recreation season!



1,600

NATIVE BROOK TROUT RAISED THROUGH THE TROUT IN THE CLASSROOM PROGRAM

Since 2015 the WRP has partnered with the Greater Upper Valley Chapter of Trout Unlimited to support watershed schools interested in raising brook trout during the winter months. 500 students & teachers at 16 watershed schools participated in the 2019 program!

1,400

STUDENTS & TEACHERS ENGAGED IN HANDS-ON EDUCATION PROGRAMS

From fall through spring, the WRP's school-based watershed education program gets students outside and in the river. Programs include crayfish sampling & identification, Freshwater Snorkeling with the Green Mountain National Forest, stream-crossing culvert assessments, Trout in the Classroom (see above), waterbugs monitoring, and more!



The White River Partnership (WRP) is a membership-based, nonprofit organization formed in 1996 by a group of local people who shared an interest in keeping the White River healthy. The WRP envisions a White River watershed in which individuals and communities work together to make informed decisions that result in clean water, fewer flood damages, improved access to the river, and more.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, visit www.whiteriverpartnership.org.



4,500

NATIVE TREES AND SHRUBS PLANTED

In 2019 the WRP engaged 9 landowners willing to restore 35- to 100-foot-wide vegetation "buffers" along their river banks. Over 700 students, partners, and community volunteers helped WRP staff plant 11 acres of native trees along the river to improve water quality, fish and wildlife habitat, and flood resilience.

350

WATER QUALITY SAMPLES COLLECTED

During summer 2019, WRP staff and 25 trained volunteers monitored water quality at 22 swimming holes and 12 other priority sites across the watershed. WRP staff also helped partners monitor other indicators of watershed health, including fish populations, project effectiveness, waterbugs, and more!



40

MILES OF STREAM RE-CONNECTED

In 2019 the WRP worked with partners and local contractors to implement 2 habitat connectivity projects. On the First Branch in Royalton, we removed the derelict Upper & Lower Eaton Dams, which had been barriers to fish passage since 1776. And on Pomfret's Mill Brook, we installed flexible, rubber baffles inside the first stream-crossing culvert to improve upstream passage for spawning trout.



28

MILES OF RIVER ASSESSED

WRP staff and partners walked or paddled the entire 28-mile-long Second or "Middle" Branch during summer 2019, gathering data to assess the physical condition of the stream bed, banks, and floodplains. The data will help the WRP and its partners identify what types of on-the-ground projects might help improve water quality on the Second Branch.



THANK YOU to our members, volunteers, and partners for helping us accomplish this work!