



# WINOOSKI NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Fall / Winter 2009

## Tour of Stormwater Mitigation Demonstration Sites



*Matt Muranski of DuBois and King, Inc. describes the work done to stabilize several gullies in the Allen Brook watershed*

On September 10th approximately 20 people (staff, board members, partners, and funders) attended a tour of several stormwater mitigation projects that the Winooski NRCDC and our partners implemented in the stormwater-impaired Allen Brook and Potash Brook watersheds over the past few years. We spent the morning touring projects in the Allen Brook watershed (Williston) and the afternoon in the Potash Brook watershed (South Burlington). Sites visited included rain gardens, gully stabilizations sites, stream restoration sites, and a wetland filtration system. Thanks to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and Senator Leahy's office whose support was critical in initiating these projects. We'd also like to acknowledge the City of South Burlington and the Town of Williston for their continued dedication to stormwater mitigation and watershed stewardship projects. We honored South Burlington and Williston at our Annual Dinner on November 12th as "Urban Conservation Stewards of the Year".

## Providing Habitat and Improving Water Quality Through Planting Trees

During each field season, community volunteers and local school groups spend a portion of their days planting trees and shrubs for the improvement of water quality. Projects this year occurred in the Upper Winooski watershed in the towns of Marshfield and Cabot, along the Browns River in Jericho and Westford, and in Worcester along the North Branch. Collectively, over 980 native tree and shrub stems along with 850 willow fascines were planted along sections of streambank in need of additional riparian vegetation. This work was conducted by the hard efforts of nearly 300 volunteer hours and resulted in 3 acres of enhanced forest riparian buffers along Vermont's rivers on both private and municipal properties. All participating volunteers are reminded of the benefits of buffers: to stabilize streambanks, attenuate sediment and nutrients, reduce overland flow, provide aquatic and terrestrial habitat, control the spread of invasive species, and add aesthetic value to the property. Winooski NRCDC is seeking interested landowners within the Winooski and Browns River watersheds who would like to voluntarily improve their property's water quality footprint as well as from community organizations and schools with an interest in future 'Trees for Streams' efforts in their community. Please contact 828-4493 x110 if you would like to be involved during the 2010 planting season.



*Installing a willow fascine in Worcester along the North Branch with community volunteers*

### INSIDE...

- ◇ River restoration efforts underway along the Browns River
  - ◇ What's New in the Winooski River Watershed?
  - ◇ Honoring agricultural practices that help the farmer help the land
  - ◇ Districts discuss sustainability
  - ◇ 2009 Vermont Rain garden Contest
  - ◇ Artistic Rain Barrel Project
- ...AND MORE

### SAVE THE DATE:

**Winooski NRCDC Annual Tree Sale  
Saturday, May 1, 2010**

Look for the 2010 Tree Sale order form in early March in our spring newsletter. Orders will be due in late March.

It is our hope that you enjoy reading our newsletters as much as we enjoy writing them. However, if you no longer wish to be on our mailing list, please contact Ashley Lidman at 802-865-7895 x104 or Ashley.Lidman@vt.nacdnet.net to be removed.

# WINOOSKI NRC D STAFF PROFILES



**Abbey Willard**, *District Manager*

Abbey began as Winooski Natural Resources Conservation District Manager six years ago. She manages watershed stewardship projects, technical staff for agricultural producers, educational opportunities for youth and the community, as well as the day to day function of the District and its employees. Abbey grew up in Peacham, VT and currently lives in Randolph Center. She previously lived and worked in Bozeman, Montana and graduated from Montana State University's Soils & Environmental Science Program. Abbey recently completed a Masters of Environmental Studies degree with a concentration in Conservation Biology from Green Mountain College.



**Ashley Lidman**, *Assistant Manager*

Ashley joined the Winooski NRC D during the summer of 2008, after graduating from the University of Vermont with a Master of Science in Natural Resources. Ashley has an undergraduate degree in urban studies from Brown University and has worked for numerous non-profit organizations in New England and Washington, DC, with a focus in urban forestry, environmental education, and urban ecology. Originally from Rhode Island, Ashley has made Vermont her new home. At the Winooski NRC D, Ashley focuses on promoting rain gardens, rain barrels, and other stormwater management projects in the Winooski watershed.



**Cherie Staples**, *Bookkeeper*

Cherie spent eleven years with the Vermont Land Trust, after six years at Vermont Natural Resources Council, and then moved to Colorado for six years, where she helped care for her first granddaughter and then managed the Denver office of The Wilderness Society. Along the way, a camera has been a steady companion and she has quite a raft of photos. Returning to Vermont in 2003, she's become a part-time bookkeeper for several businesses in the central Vermont area. She is a member of the Onion River Chorus and sings in the Old Meeting House Choir, and participates on three East Montpelier community committees. Cherie has two children and three grandchildren.

## Vermont Association of Conservation Districts (VACD) Staff



**Jason Fleury**, *Conservation Planner*

Jason Fleury has been a Land Treatment Planner with the District since August 2006. Jason primarily services Washington, Chittenden, and half of Orange County. Prior to the Winooski District, Jason worked for the Franklin County NRC D for almost two years as a Farm Conservation Planner for the Farmland Ranch Protection Program as well as a Land Treatment Planner. He grew up on a small Jersey farm in Berkshire, VT. He graduated from the 2 + 2 Program from the University of Vermont with a degree focused in Agricultural Entrepreneurship. Jason currently lives in Barre, VT.



**Pam Stefanek**, *Basin Planner & Agriculture Resource Specialist*

Pamela has served the Winooski Natural Resources Conservation District as Agriculture Resource Specialist (ARS) since 1997. She works with farmers to attain Accepted Agricultural Practices and minimize runoff into Lake Champlain and also is tasked to work with the agricultural community to write the agricultural portion of the Lower Winooski Basin Plan. Pamela grew up in England, and graduated from the University of Vermont Agriculture College - Plant and Soil Science program. Pamela lives in Benson with her husband and three children.

**A special thank you to Susan Alexander** who served as a Agriculture Resources Specialist and Basin Planner for close to three years and has moved on to work with the Lamoille Regional Solid Waste Management District. We would also like to thank **Molly Wingersky** who generously donates her time and skills managing and updating Winooski NRC D's Web site.

**Thank you to the many organizations, agencies, municipalities, and individuals who provide financial support for our work!**

Our primary funders for 2009 projects include: Better Back Roads Program, Cabot Creamery, Lake Champlain Basin Program, Merchants Bank, Northern Vermont Resource Conservation and Development, Northfield Savings Bank, the Oakland Foundation, the Reddus Foundation, Regional Stormwater Education Program, Town of Williston, U.S. Department of Agriculture, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, U.S. Fish & Wildlife, Vermont Agency of Transportation, VT Department of Environmental Conservation, and VT Agency of Agriculture, Food & Markets. And as always, special thanks to our members!

**CONTACT US:** *Berlin office:* 617 Comstock Road, Suite 1, Berlin, Vermont 05602, 802-828-4493 x110, [Abbey.Willard@vt.nacdnet.net](mailto:Abbey.Willard@vt.nacdnet.net)

*Williston office:* 1193 South Brownell Road, Suite 35, Williston, Vermont 05495, 802-865-7895 x104, [Ashley.Lidman@vt.nacdnet.net](mailto:Ashley.Lidman@vt.nacdnet.net)

**Visit our Web site to learn more about our work:** [www.vacd.org/winooski](http://www.vacd.org/winooski)

## RIVER RESTORATION EFFORTS UNDERWAY ALONG THE BROWNS RIVER

Finally, after six years of collecting data and studying the Browns River, watershed projects are really starting to unfold. As part of the Browns River study, a bridge and culvert inventory was conducted. Undersized structures were evaluated as well as those which properly pass surface water but do not necessarily allow upstream fish passage or accommodate proper stream function. Stream crossings should be constructed at bankfull width so as not to cause channel constriction or erosion hazards which can result in bank erosion or infrastructure damage.

The Winooski NRCDC is working with Jason Boissoneault on removing old bridge abutments along the mainstem of the river in Essex. These unused rock piles function as channel constrictions or in-stream obstructions and contribute to the river's over-widening. The Boissoneault family grows corn and soybeans in fields on the western side of the Browns River. Over the years, they have noticed the river eroding streambanks on their property up and down stream of these three old abandoned bridge abutments, where once farm bridges were located. The Boissoneault are good land and river stewards and dislike the idea of soil and nutrients entering the Browns River but also have an agricultural investment to protect their productive cropland. Through a Clean & Clear grant the Boissoneaults' will work with the Winooski NRCDC and various other conservation organizations to remove these old bridge abutments, remove the existing under-sized farm bridge, and build a properly-sized farm bridge providing access across the river.

In the nearby communities of Westford and Underhill, additional stream-related projects are underway. Four road culverts are being examined by the towns, VT Department of Environmental Conservation and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for enhanced aquatic organism passage. Since the Browns River watershed is recognized as a significant brook trout ecosystem, support is available to encourage free-flowing access to the headwaters sections on the tributaries. Discussions are occurring with the Westford Selectboard and Underhill Conservation Commission to determine which of these structures can be installed with fish baffles and tailwater weirs to allow fish and benthic macroinvertebrates access into the culverts and resting locations while in the fast-flowing water in the culvert.



*Potential culvert retrofit project in Underhill, Browns River watershed*

### Winooski NRCDC Mission Statement

*Connecting people to a sustainable landscape*

- ◇ To ensure the wise use, protection and enhancement of Vermont's natural resources through the use of local initiatives, education, and partnerships;
- ◇ To foster public awareness and appreciation for the value and need for natural resource conservation; and
- ◇ To advance the understanding that we are all stewards of the living earth.

*Serving landowners in Washington and Chittenden Counties since 1940*

### WNRCD STAFF

*District Manager:* Abbey Willard  
*Assistant Manager:* Ashley Lidman  
*Bookkeeper:* Cherie Staples

### VACD TECHNICAL STAFF

*Conservation Planner:* Jason Fleury  
*Basin Planner & Agriculture Resource Specialist:* Pam Stefanek

### WNRCD SUPERVISORS

Mike Dominique, *Chair*  
Rita Bisson, *Vice Chair*  
Catherine Scribner, *Treasurer*  
Tom Bushey, *Supervisor*  
Paul Hartshorn, *Supervisor*  
Don Hipes, *Associate Supervisor*

### A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO OUR NEW MEMBERS & THOSE THAT RECENTLY RENEWED THEIR ANNUAL MEMBERSHIPS!

Marion Abajian, Stuart Alexander, Jennifer Appleyard, John Bagwell, Elsie Beard, Liz Bossi, Scott T. Brinker, S.F. Chadwick, Bruce Chapell, Robert & Barbara Chappelle, Mike & Donna Domingue, Janet & David Ellison, Mary Evslin, Karen Fiebig, Vivien Fritz, Marjorie Gormel, Ian Govett, Christine Grangien, Rick Hamilton, Dorrice Hammer, Sam Hawkey, Dan Holland, John Hoogenboom, Jeff Howard, Wally Jenkins, Stephen Kiernan, Niki Kobacker, Chris Morgan & Robbin LaRue, Ted & Margaret Lindsay, Lance Llewellyn, Jill and Mark Lyons, Ben Machin, Kevin Mailepors, Patti Delaney & Dean Menke, Pat & Chris Meriam, William Mikell Jr., Sara Moran, David and Judy Murphy, Kathy Murray, Krista Nickerson, Bob Olesen, Dru Oren, Emma Ottolenghi, Robert Pierce, Dennis Porterfield, David Potter, Matthew Probasco, Justin Rich, Thomas A. Russell, Amy Stevens Saar, Tyler Scott, Linda Waite-Simpson & Harold Simpson, Thomas and Ellen Sivret, Ann Smith, Steve Sweeny, Jessica Tanner, Christine R. Turner, Mary Van Vleck, Tom Vogelmann, Joan Wallace, Susan Warren

**To become a member, fill out and mail in the membership form on the last page of this newsletter.**



## Urban Conservation

**Rain Garden Projects:** This summer, in partnership with UVM Extension, we held the 2nd Annual VT Rain Garden Contest. In August, around a dozen Rain Garden Tour participants visited five rain gardens of different scales and applications in Williston, Winooski, and Essex Junction. The aim of the tour was to educate local residents about stormwater runoff and rain gardens.

**Rain Barrel Painting Projects:** During the spring of 2009, we worked with students at Milton Elementary School to paint 20 rain barrels, which were then distributed to community members through a sale held at the school. During the summer, we partnered with local artists to paint rain barrels with designs inspired by the Quadricentennial. In 2010, we plan to work with students from UVM's GreenHouse Learning Community to paint and distribute rain barrels in Burlington. We also plan to hold a series of rain barrel workshops and sales in South Burlington.

**Water Quality Projects in Williston:** Work to stabilize a large eroding gully in the Williston Hills neighborhood is complete. The underground stormwater storage tank that was installed will reduce erosion along the length of the gully, correct the erosion that was threatening adjacent properties, and reduce sediment and phosphorus loading into Allen Brook. In June, we partnered with the Town and Conservation Commission to hold a stream clean-up and storm drain stenciling event along Muddy Brook and install a rain garden at Town Hall. We also partnered with VTrans and VT Building and General Services to install a rain garden and rain barrel at the I-89 Northbound Welcome Center in Williston in October.

**Low Impact Development (LID) Atlas:** The Winooski NRCD and UVM Extension are working to create a LID Atlas for the state, which is part of the larger National LID Atlas (<http://clear.uconn.edu/tools/lidmap/>).



*Volunteers clean-up Muddy Brook, Williston*

## Watershed Stewardship

**Winooski Headwaters Community Partnership:** Since 2006 the District's presence on restoration projects in the Upper Winooski River and its tributaries has been strong. Over the past field season, working closely with Friends of the Winooski River and numerous community volunteers, two acres of forest riparian buffer were planted in Marshfield and Cabot plus six hundred linear feet of willow fascines installed.

Thanks to efforts of VT Forests, Park and Rec., VT DEC staff, and the volunteer assistance from eight local loggers and Mark Fontaine as the hosting sawmill, two portable skidder bridges were constructed and are now available to foresters and loggers for a reasonable rental price. The bridges are already in use on logging operations in East Montpelier and Braintree. If you are a landowner or logger interested in protecting water quality through the use of one of these bridges, contact the Winooski NRCD office in Berlin.

**Mid Winooski Partnership:** In an effort to collaborate with the great community conservation work occurring within the Winooski District -- including water quality monitoring, basin planning, and establishing conservation easements -- Montpelier High School, U32, and Spaulding High School students are engaged in collecting stream data, observing river flume demonstrations, and learning the basics of fluvial geomorphology. Beyond these educational opportunities, each classroom intends to participate in a community event where they will share their river data, knowledge of streams, and possibly make restoration and protection recommendations for their neighborhood.



*Portable skidder bridge construction workshop, E. Montpelier*

# WINOOSKI RIVER WATERSHED?

## Agriculture

**Local Growers Guide:** The Winooski NRC and UVM Center for Rural Studies are developing Local Growers Guides for Chittenden and Washington Counties to raise awareness about local food sources and link customers to local growers. Look for the printed guides in early spring 2010. Visit [www.vermontgrowersguide.com](http://www.vermontgrowersguide.com) for a searchable map and listings of farms, CSAs, farmers markets, and farm stands in the Champlain Valley and central Vermont.

**Westford Water Quality Workshop:** In late October community members from around Westford gathered to discuss backyard agriculture and its impact on water quality. Presentations from VT Association of Conservation Districts, UVM Center for Sustainable Ag., VT Dept. of Environmental Conservation, and the Town of Westford staff focused on pasture management, accepted agricultural practices, and water quality trends within the Browns River watershed. Nearby site visits allowed workshop participants to see sound conservation practices.

**Cover Cropping Incentive Program:** In recent years, the support and acceptance of fall cover cropping practices has grown. The Winooski NRC started a cover crop incentive program back in 2004 in the Mad River Valley. The program grew to include the remainder of the Winooski watershed in 2006. Modeled after this successful cost-share program, the VT Agency of Ag. developed the state-wide Farm Agronomic Practices (FAP) program in 2007. Farmer participation has doubled each of the years since this program's inception. In 2007, 21 farms enrolled 1,499 acres, in 2009 85 farms participated enrolling 6,632 acres, and in 2010 all available cover crop cost-share funds were expended on approximately 9,000 acres! This year the Conservation District Cover Crop Incentive Program grew to supplement the Agency's program and encompassed producers in the Winooski District as well as Caledonia Co. and White River NRCs. In total, 41 farms enrolled over 3,050 acres for fall cover cropping. Farmers are clearly seeing both the agronomic and economic benefits to cover crops!



*Fall cover cropped vegetable field, Waitfield*

## Outreach & Education

**Vermont Rain Garden Manuals:** The 2nd edition of the Vermont Rain Garden Manual is now for sale. Visit our web site to purchase manuals (\$6 each).

**Educational displays & presentations:** An educational sign which raises public awareness about Potash Brook and efforts being undertaken to improve water quality in the area, was recently installed in front of Healthy Living at the City Center Gateway in South Burlington. The Winooski NRC educated youth and adults about stormwater management practices at the 2009 Vermont Flower Show, and Earth Day events at ECHO and Vermont Technical College. We also gave a presentation on rain gardens to over 200 Master Gardeners in-training.

**Vermont Envirothon for High School students:** The Vermont Envirothon helps students focus on local environmental issues related to forestry, wildlife, soils and water resources. The program provides an opportunity for hands-on field experiences and activities with local conservation professionals. This year, the Winooski NRC is sponsoring a first-year Envirothon team from Twinfield School! To learn more or to enroll a team from your community, please contact Carrie Riker at 802-888-9218 x17 or [carrie.riker@vt.nacdnet.net](mailto:carrie.riker@vt.nacdnet.net).

**Landowner Stewardship Assistance Guide:** In response to community need and interest, the Landowner Stewardship Assistance Guide is finally complete, available in print, and soon to be available online. The idea of this paper guide is to help landowners in the Winooski watershed interested in natural resource conservation access one document with all the available conservation programs, technical assistance and financial resource options. Copies of the guide are available by contacting the Winooski NRC and will soon be retrievable from the Friends of the Winooski River website at: [www.winooskiriver.org](http://www.winooskiriver.org).



*Potash Brook/City Center Gateway Sign*

## TREE STEWARDS COURSE

### Stewardship of the Urban Landscape (SOUL)

*A course for Vermonters interested in promoting trees in their community*

Thursday evenings, 6-9pm  
February 11 through April 8, 2010

#### Offered at 12 locations:

Bennington, Brattleboro, Lyndonville, Montpelier, Newport, Randolph, Rutland, Springfield, St. Albans, Waterbury, White River Junction, and Williston.

#### Overview:

Stewardship of the Urban Landscape (SOUL) is an eight-week course that prepares participants to become stewards of their community's tree resources. Topics covered include: Identifying Trees, Landscape Planning and Design, Tree Planting & Maintenance, Engaging Youth in Urban Forestry, and much more. In addition, you must complete 20 hours of community service, where you put your skills to work on improving your community's urban and community trees and forests.

#### To register or for more info:

Call 1-866-860-1382 (toll-free in VT)  
or E-mail: [soul.treesteward@uvm.edu](mailto:soul.treesteward@uvm.edu)

## Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP)

Operators of agricultural land and non-industrial private forest land have the opportunity to sign up for the new CSP at their local Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) field office. The program is available nationwide and encourages agricultural and forestry producers to maintain existing conservation activities and adopt additional ones on their operations. Sign-up is offered on a continuous basis, however, deadlines for the 2009 funding year have passed. For more information or to enroll in 2010, visit: <http://www.vt.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/CSP/index.html>

## HONORING AGRICULTURAL PRACTICES THAT HELP THE FARMER HELP THE LAND

This fall the Winooski NRCDC visited two established farms in the Mad River Valley that have been cover cropping for years and have successful stories to share as a result. David Hartshorn is a Waitsfield vegetable producer responsible for organic vegetable production on 20 acres along Rte 100b. Using only one ton of organic granular fertilizer annually, David relies on dehydrated manure for a dairy farm in East Montpelier, wood ash from Ryegate and the "green stuff" – his plowed down cover crop, to supply his outstanding vegetable and fruit crops with all the nutrients they need. David grows some of the earliest tomatoes and sweet corn in the Valley thanks to his healthy soils! He attributes the health of his soils to the use of hairy vetch and annual winter rye as cover crops, applied to the land as soon as the commodity crop is harvested and picked for the season. He finds this cropping rotation to help with water retention, building of organic matter, and growing an enormous earthworm count in the soil.



*Farm tour discussion at the Hartshorn Farm Market, Waitsfield*

Across the Mad River, Elwin Neill Jr. a 2<sup>nd</sup> generation dairy farmer feels cover cropping helps his soils, crops, and bottom line as well. Currently milking 80 cows with limited help on the family farm, Elwin is appreciative of this "cheap practice that protects both water quality and soil quality". This past fall he broadcast winter rye seed and disc harrowed in the cover crop on 80 acres of field and sweet corn. This practice has helped keep his production costs low as well. Elwin was able to grow excellent feed for his herd without commercial fertilizer and only liming the soil, applying a fall manure application and incorporating the winter rye cover crop in the spring when it reaches 12" in height. In addition to economic and agronomic benefits, these farmers recognize the public relation benefits to this best land management practice.

Both farmers have received financial and technical support from the Winooski NRCDC since 2004. Since then, many comments have come in from community members and Rte 100b commuters alike about how green the fields of the Mad River Valley are in late fall and early spring. This season-extension cover crop can be found all throughout the Winooski watershed this year, thanks to a 319-grant from VT Department of Environmental Conservation and the VT Agency of Agriculture's Farm Agronomic Practices Program.

*David Hartshorn and Elwin Neill were honored at the Winooski NRCDC Annual Dinner on November 12th as "Conservation Farmers of the Year".*

## DISTRICTS DISCUSS SUSTAINABILITY

The Winooski and White River NRCDCs hosted the Vermont Association of Conservation Districts' Annual Meeting on October 28th at The Ponds at Bolton Valley. The focus of the meeting was on achieving successful and sustainable programs and partnerships. Andy Robinson, a consultant based in Plainfield, spoke on this topic and led small groups through an exercise to evaluate their programs. We also heard updates from several of our partners including UVM Extension, NRCS, VT Agency of Agriculture, and VT DEC, and enjoyed visiting displays from Districts highlighting selected projects. Thanks to the speakers and facilitators who helped to make this event possible.



# 2009 VERMONT RAIN GARDEN CONTEST

Building on the success of the 1st Annual Vermont Rain Garden Contest in 2008, the Winooski Natural Resources Conservation District (WNRCD) and UVM Extension Lake Champlain Sea Grant partnered to hold the 2nd Annual Vermont Rain Garden Contest this summer. A rain garden is an attractive, landscaped garden that is used to treat stormwater runoff (water generated from rainfall or snowmelt), usually from a roof, parking lot, or other impervious surface. The goal of the contest was to encourage the installation of rain gardens to reduce stormwater runoff and improve water quality in the Lake Champlain Basin. Participants of the contest received a copy of the Vermont Rain Garden Manual, were invited to attend rain garden workshops and demonstration installations, and received on-site technical assistance, all free of cost.

Twelve residential, municipal, and school/educational facility rain gardens were judged as part of the contest. In addition, over 100 local residents attended rain garden workshops, hands-on demonstration installations, and rain garden tours, which were led by Emma Melvin, of UVM Extension Lake Champlain Sea Grant, and Ashley Lidman of the WNRCD.

In late August volunteer judges visited the gardens in the contest and selected the following six gardens, which stood out in various categories, as winners of the 2009 Vermont Rain Garden Contest:

- Best in Chittenden County: Laurie Wight and her students (Essex Middle School)
- Best outside of Chittenden County: Claudia Clark and the Plainfield Conservation Commission, with Master Gardener assistance (Mill Street Park, Plainfield)
- Most Original in Chittenden County: Allaire Diamond and Seth Maciejowski (residents in Williston)

- Most Original outside of Chittenden County: Ian Ambler (landscape designer) and Mary Evslin (resident in Stowe)
- Best Stormwater Reduction: Jack Price of Central Vermont Trout Unlimited and Mark Keffer (Mount Mansfield High School, Jericho)
- Best Do-It-Yourself Rain Garden: Deb Healey (resident in Vergennes)

The 6 contest winners received prizes that were generously donated by Marijke's Perennial Gardens Plus, Shelburne Farms, Lake Champlain Chocolates, Gardener's Supply Company, Intervale Conservation Nursery, Green Mountain Coffee, and Intervale Compost Products. The contest was made possible by the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources and the Vermont Watershed Grant program.



*"Most Original Rain Garden in Chittenden County", Williston*

## ARTISTIC RAIN BARREL PROJECT

Twelve local artists and two local youth groups donated their time and talent to paint rain barrels, which were displayed and auctioned off at the Burlington City Arts Waterfront Art Festival in July 2009. A rain barrel is a recycled food-grade barrel used to capture runoff from roofs, which can be reused to water lawns and gardens. Rain barrels help to conserve water and improve water quality through reducing the volume of stormwater runoff entering local streams and lakes and preventing erosion.

The "Artistic Rain Barrels" were painted with designs inspired by "The Lake, the Land, and the People of the Champlain Valley", in honor of the 400th anniversary of Samuel de Champlain's arrival on Lake Champlain and his exploration of its surroundings. The aim of this project was to improve water quality through reducing stormwater runoff and to raise awareness about rain barrels as a solu-



tion to residential stormwater management. This project was organized by the Winooski NRC, UVM Extension Lake Champlain Sea Grant, and the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation. Thanks to the local artists who participated in this project: Sue Mowrer Adamson, Susan Alden, Sam Balling, Gail Beckwith, Alex Costantino, Kevyn Cundiff, Gillian Klein, Keith Long, Stacey Luba, Jamal Reid, Catherine Seidenberg, Jodi

Whalen, and youth from the Boys & Girls Club of Burlington and Burlington City Arts.

Thanks, also, to the Lake Champlain Basin Program for their support and Burlington City Arts for donating display space at the Waterfront Art Festival.

If you want to be notified about painted rain barrel sales or build your own workshops, write to [Ashley.Lidman@vt.nacdnet.net](mailto:Ashley.Lidman@vt.nacdnet.net) and asked to be added to the "rain barrel waitlist".



Winooski NRC D  
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 Berlin, Vermont 05602

Non-Profit Org.  
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 Montpelier, VT  
 05602  
 Permit # 49

*Visit [www.vermontgrowersguide.com](http://www.vermontgrowersguide.com) to put your farm on the map or to find local food near you!*

## Support Our Work: Become a Member or Renew Your Membership!



### Members Only: WNRCD Members will receive...

- Member benefits at our Annual Tree Sale
- An entry to a drawing for a dinner for two each spring
- A complimentary copy of the Vermont Rain Garden Manual (by request)

## SUPPORT WINOOSKI NRC D THROUGH OUR ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP

The District needs funds now more than ever. Membership will bring you special benefits at our Annual Tree Sale, an entry to a drawing for a dinner for two each spring, a complimentary copy of the Vermont Rain Garden Manual (by request), and the comfort of knowing that the good work the District does in your community will continue into the future. Please fill out this membership form and return to the address listed below with your tax-deductible donation. Thank you very much for your support!

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

Student Membership	\$25
Individual Membership	\$35
Family/Couple Membership	\$60
Professional Membership	\$125
Naturalist	\$250
Conservationist	\$500
Steward	\$1000



Please send this form along with your check to:  
 Winooski NRC D: Fundraising  
 1193 South Brownell Road, Suite 35  
 Williston, VT 05495

New Member

Existing Member