



NARROW RIVER PRESERVATION ASSOCIATION

53rd Annual Meeting - October 3, 2023

Introduction - Marianne Chronley, events coordinator

Welcome and Year in Review - Richard B. Grant and Veronica M. Berounsky, NRPA co-presidents

Treasurer's Report - Kathy Byington, NRPA treasurer

Acknowledgment of retiring directors - Paula Santos, NRPA secretary

Board of Directors Election, and Election of Officers - Shirley Freitag, administration coordinator

32 Years of River Watch - Annette DeSilva, River Watch coordinator and Veronica M. Berounsky

Review of Science Fair Environmental Award and Scholarships - Sally Sutherland

Presentation of Awards - Veronica M. Berounsky, Craig Wood and Richard B. Grant

Kayak Raffle Drawing - Shirley Freitag and Jake Pietrzak

Concluding Remarks - Veronica M. Berounsky



NARROW RIVER PRESERVATION ASSOCIATION

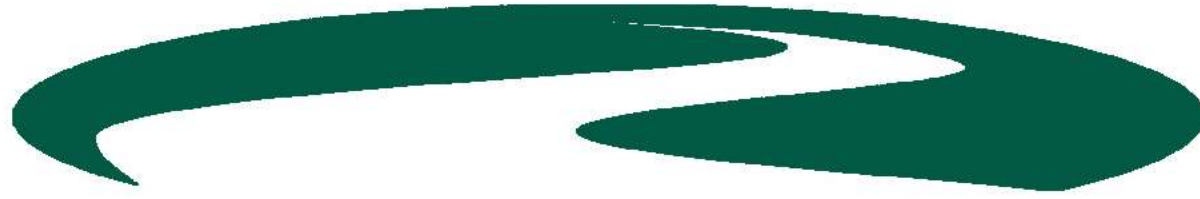
Introducing our 2023 Mascot, the River Otter

*Lontra
canadensis*



Photo credit:
Mike Laptew





NARROW RIVER PRESERVATION ASSOCIATION

Year in Review
2022-23 NRPA Co-Presidents
Richard B. Grant
&
Veronica M. Berounsky

Otter mention the people who made it all happen...

Video by
Elise Torello



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NARROW RIVER PRESERVATION ASSOCIATION

Present Board of Directors

Current Officers:

Co-Presidents:

**Richard B. Grant &
Veronica M. Berounsky**

Craig Wood, vice president

Kathy Byington, treasurer

Paula Santos, secretary

Current Board Members:

Jason Considine

Chris Hubbard

Catalina Martinez

James McGregor

Sally Sutherland

Nathan Vinhateiro

James Vogel



NARROW RIVER PRESERVATION ASSOCIATION

Present Members of the Advisory Board of Directors

Annette DeSilva

Alison Kates

Barry Devine

Rob Leeson

Sarah Gaines

Ken McShane

Administrative Coordinator



**Shirley
Freitag**



Special Events Coordinator



**Marianne
Chronley**



Otter review NRPA's events & activities...

Video by
Elise Torello



30.03 inHg ↑ 69°F 05/09/2023 09:14AM SPRING1





**401Gives, RI's Statewide day of giving.
NRPA took in 4X over 2022!**





NARROW RIVER PRESERVATION ASSOCIATION

**We're using Mail Chimp, a
GREEN way to keep in touch.**



**INTUIT
mailchimp**

Have you been getting more NRPA emails??

**This marketing platform enables
NRPA to easily keep you updated.**



enviroscape®

Hands-on Products for Environmental Education



Funded by a *Rhode Island Rebounds*
“Take It Outside”
grant of behalf of the
North Kingstown Chamber of Commerce





enviroscape®

Hands-on Products for Environmental Education



NRPA loans Enviroscape out to teachers, Scouts, home schoolers and similar groups in North Kingstown and the Narrow River Watershed



Promote NRPA with Displays at Various Events

Narragansett Art
Festival

Gilbert Stuart
Birthplace and
Museum:
Fish on the Run

Casey Farm
Farmer's Market



February 26, setting up perch pole for osprey nest





May 1, male osprey enjoys the new perch while female incubates eggs

05/01/2023 19:16:39



August 15, male feeds chicks

08/15/2023 15:50:44



Three healthy chicks fledged the nest in September. Many thanks to the Farrell family who donate the operating costs of the Cam in loving memory of Eileen Farrell.



Osprey Education Program for Fourth Graders



Craig Wood with 4th graders at Matunuck Elementary School



Discussions about the mouth of the Narrow River



NRPA continues to work with the Town of Narragansett to examine options for the mouth of the Narrow River that will allow safe recreational boating while maintaining and preserving critical habitats within the estuary.

Navigating the Narrow



SRO! New DEM regulations on life jackets, fire extinguishers etc. generated lively discussions at the Mettatuxet Yacht Club on April 1. DEM, CRMC and the Town of South Kingstown sent representatives to this yearly NRPA event.



June 10, What Lives in the River



What Lives in The River





June 24

~ 2023 Swim Sponsors ~

Thomas Allan
Veronica M. Berounsky
Stuart Cromarty

Robert Gibson
Kathy Lewis
Mark McHugh

Ann Walsh
Philip Whaling
Rob Wolfgang



NARROW RIVER PRESERVATION ASSOCIATION



NARROW RIVER TURNAROUND SWIM



16th Turnaround Swim, good weather for swimmers and otters only.

Photo credit:
Mike Derr
Southern RI
Newspapers



**Men's
non-wetsuit
1st Place
Eric Nilson
21:12
minutes**

Photo credit:
Mike Derr
Southern RI
Newspapers



**Women's
non-wetsuit
1st Place
Abby Bauman
24:07 minutes**

Photo credit:
Mike Derr
Southern RI
Newspapers



NARROW RIVER PRESERVATION ASSOCIATION

July 22, Environmental Awareness Day



Art at the River August 12



TV show Boston Chronicle filmed at Narrow River June 15 and aired July 26

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wJpz7S1Pab8&t=64s>



Narrow River was highlighted in the URI Magazine 2023 spring issue essay on Veronica's Source to Sea Swim



Summer issue interview about River Watch monitoring



On Pettaquamscutt

2024

*Presentations on the Environment and
History of the Narrow River Watershed*

Pati Sylvia

11th season of On Pettaquamscutt,
Sunday afternoon talks (all start at 1:00)

January 28: Dressed for Life and Leisure, 1870 to 1920

**February 25: Restoring Salt Marsh in the John H. Chafee
National Wildlife Refuge**

**March 24: History of the Watershed in Maps and Aerial
Photos**



Otter talk about money...

Video by
Elise Torello



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NARROW RIVER PRESERVATION ASSOCIATION

Treasurer's Report

By Kathy Byington

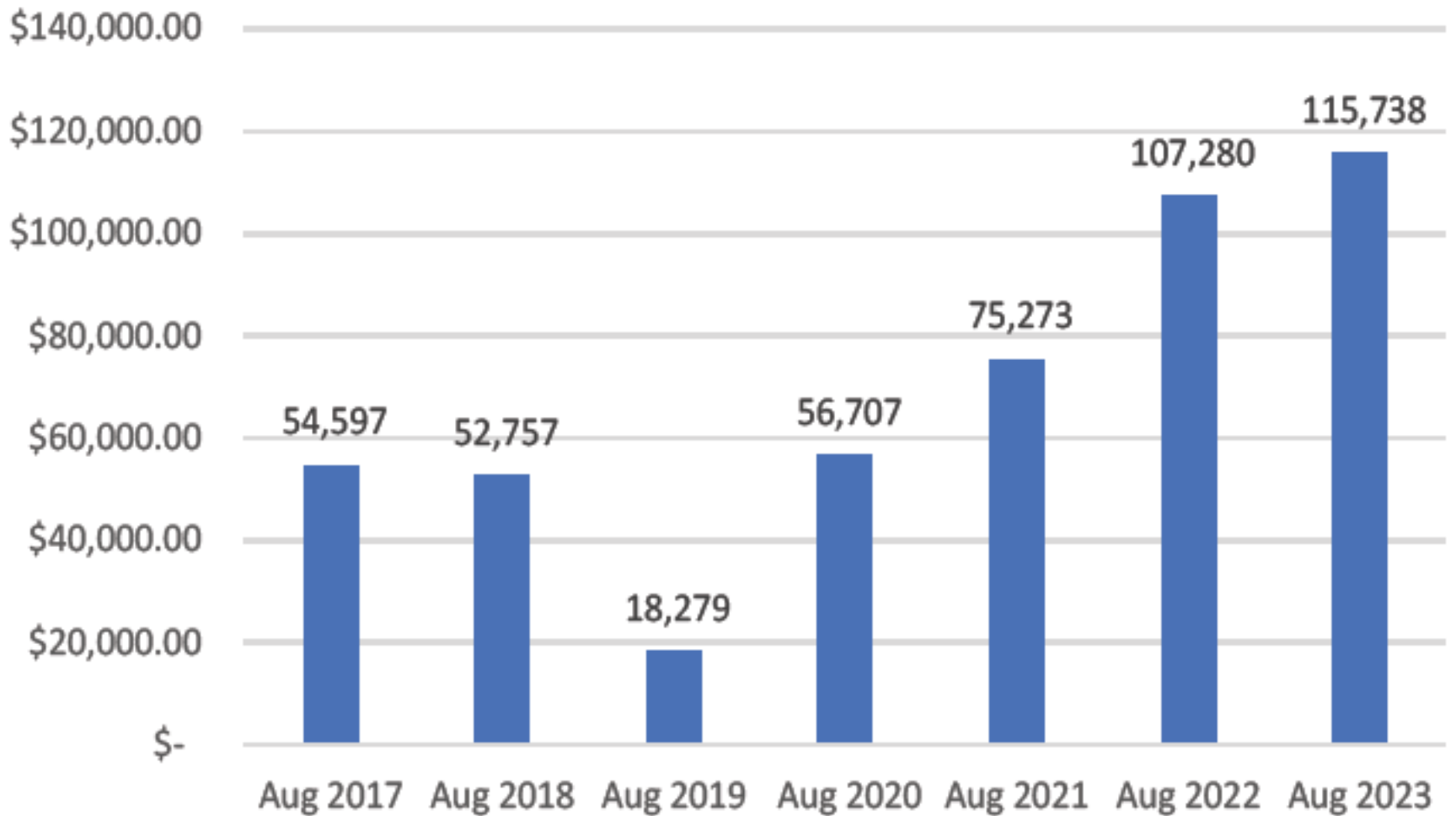


**Narrow River Preservation Association
 Summary Operating Budget - Full year results
 September 2022 - August 2023**

	<u>Actual FY2022</u>	<u>Budget FY2023</u>	<u>Actual (Draft) FY2023</u>
Income from ongoing activities			
Contributions, gifts, grants, raffle	46,331	35,000	33,039
Sponsors	12,452	8,000	8,219
Swim fundraiser	5,818	5,000	7,205
Membership Dues	30,774	25,000	23,816
Investment Income (RIF grant)	<u>7,749</u>	<u>7,500</u>	<u>8,337</u>
Income from ongoing activities	103,124	80,500	80,616
Expenses for ongoing activities			
Professional Services	41,743	48,400	47,095
Fund raising expenses	6,309	5,000	6,451
Membership, newsletter and admin	13,273	15,000	14,473
Program Expenses	10,255	10,900	5,281
New programming	<u>-</u>	<u>1,200</u>	<u>-</u>
Expenses for ongoing activities	71,580	80,500	73,300
Net Income (from ongoing activities)	31,544	-	7,316



Bank Balance





NARROW RIVER PRESERVATION ASSOCIATION

**Retiring Board of Directors
presented by
Paula Santos, secretary**





NARROW RIVER PRESERVATION ASSOCIATION

Board of Directors Retiring:

Jason Considine

Richard Grant

Catalina Martinez

James McGregor



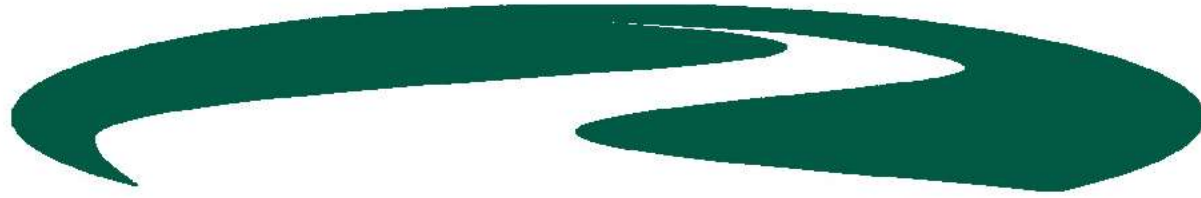
Otter move on to elections...

Video by
Elise Torello



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NARROW RIVER PRESERVATION ASSOCIATION

**Introduction of
Board of Directors
by Shirley Freitag**



5 Returning Board of Directors terms expire in 2024

Craig Wood



Paula Santos



Nate Vinhatiero

James Vogel



And Kathy Byington



3 Returning Board of Directors terms expire in 2025



Veronica
Berounsky



Chris Hubbard



Sally Sutherland



3 NRPA BOD Nominees

Terms expire in 2025



Andrew Neill



Christine Ariel



Peter Gelhaar





NARROW RIVER PRESERVATION ASSOCIATION

Election of the Board of Directors

Christine Ariel

Paula Santos

Veronica Berounsky

Nate Vinhatiero

Kathy Byington

James Vogel

Peter Gelhaar

Craig Wood

Chris Hubbard

Sally Sutherland

Andrew Neill

**(Vote by all NRPA
members present)**



NARROW RIVER PRESERVATION ASSOCIATION

Election of Officers of the Board of Directors

President - Veronica Berounsky

Vice President - Craig Wood

Treasurer - Kathy Byington

Secretary - Paula Santos

(Vote by all Board Members present)

Otter thank our Sponsors & Volunteers

Video by
Elise Torello

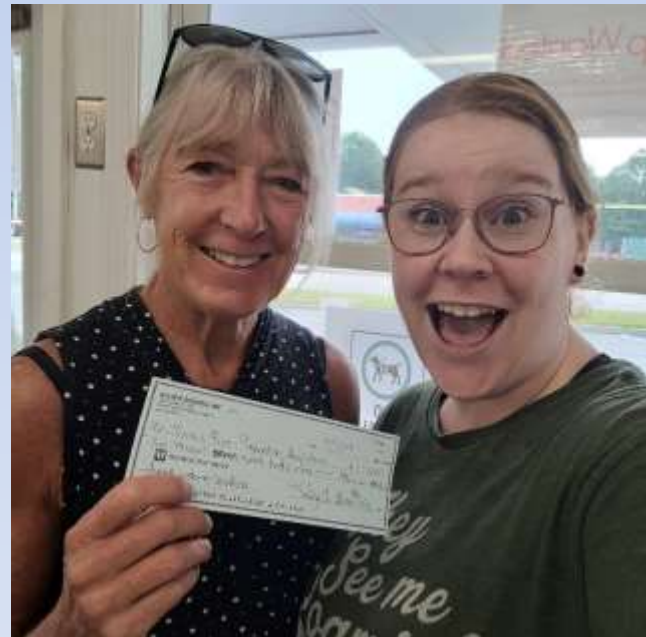


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NARROW RIVER PRESERVATION ASSOCIATION



**Allie's DONUTS
donated their August tips to NRPA!**

2023 NRPA Sponsors



**John & Daria Barry
Family Foundation**

**The Royal Little
Memorial Fund at
The RI Foundation**



**The Farrell Family
in Memory of
Eileen Farrell**

**Hazard
Family Foundation**

**Wilmot Wheeler
Family Foundation**



SWEENOR BUILDERS
since 1989



THE
UNIVERSITY
OF RHODE ISLAND,
GRADUATE SCHOOL
OF OCEANOGRAPHY.



West Marine



**schaffner
press**

**Bill & Perry
Moylan**



OARS and Campanella Rowing Center



Joe Viele



**Winter Family
Foundation**



**Center of Effort
Coast Guard House**

**Dave's Marketplace
Kingston Pizza**

**Pati Sylvia Fine Art
Pods Swimming**

2023 NRPA Volunteers

Elizabeth Archibald
Ted Archibald
Ed Baker
Veronica Berounsky
Walter Berry
Nicole Brouillette
Kathy Byington
David Chronley
Jeremy Collie
Jason Considine
Annette DeSilva
Barry Devine
Jeana DiNatale
Peter Duggan
Matt Eddy
Monica Eddy
Bob Facey
June Fischer
Sarah Gaines
Mike Garr
Richard Grant
Stephanie Griffin
Chris Hubbard
Lucia Hubbard
Maia Hubbard

Tristan Hubbard
Emma Hunter
William Hunter
Andrew Huth
Helen Johnson
Alison Kates
Shannon Kelly
Everett Kittredge
Weston Kittredge
Maeve LaPlante
Sue Lareau
Ben Lee
Karuna Lohmann
Jason McNamee
Erin Major
Steve Major
Catalina Martinez
Chris Machinski
Jael Matteson
Bill McCusker
Jamie McGregor
Ken McShane
Brooklyn Mitchell
Rick Moffit
Frank McQuiggan

Denise Murphy
Tim Nesselrodt
Mary Parlange
Joan Pavlinsky
Jake Pietrzak
Jim Roche
Paula Santos
Felix Sarubbi
Pat Salzillo
Oscar Suchanek
Debbie Sullivan
Sally Sutherland
Elise Torello
Padma Venkatraman
Nathan Vinhateiro
Anna Vogel
Dieter Vogel
James Dean Vogel
Lynn Wolslegel
Mick Westkott
David White
Craig Wood

*That's 72 PLUS about 30
River Watch Volunteers!*



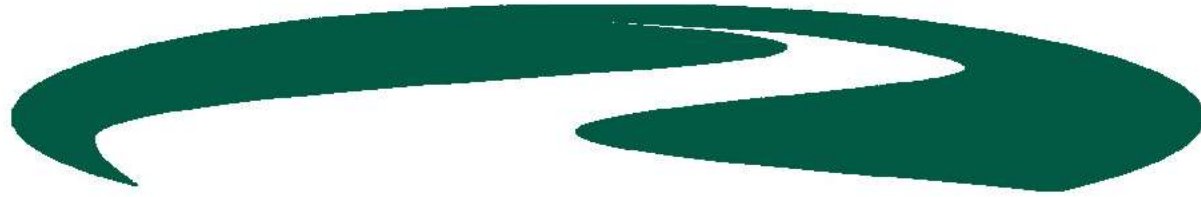
Otter look in on water monitoring...

Video by
Elise Torello



Video by
Elise Torello





NARROW RIVER PRESERVATION ASSOCIATION

River Watch Program

- **2023 Season Update**
- **Three Decades of Observations**
- **Thank you to the 2023 Monitors!**

**Presented by Annette DeSilva
Narrow River Watch Coordinator**

&

**Veronica M. Berounsky
NRPA President**



NRPA's River Watch Program 32 Years of Volunteer Monitoring!

Narrow River Preservation Association Annual Meeting
October 3, 2023

Monitoring Locations

Yellow circles on map (started in 1992 unless other year given)

Sites in blue text are current sites:

- NR1 - Gilbert Stuart Stream
- NR2 - Upper Pond
- NR3 - Lower Pond A
- NR4 - Lower Pond B
- NR5 - Lacey Bridge
- NR6 - Mettatuxet Beach
- NR7 - End of the Narrows
- NR8 - Middlebridge
- NR9 - Pettaquamscutt Cove (1992-2017)
- NR24 - Starr Drive (2018)*
- NR10 - Sprague Bridge
- NR11 - Mettatuxet Brook (1996)
- NR12 - Mumford Brook (2000)
- NR13 - Lakeside Dock (2004)
- NR14 - Lakeside Outfall (2004-2017)



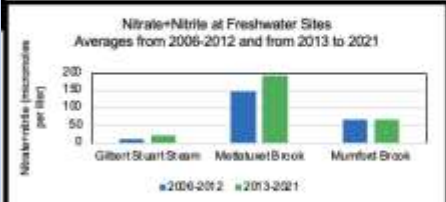
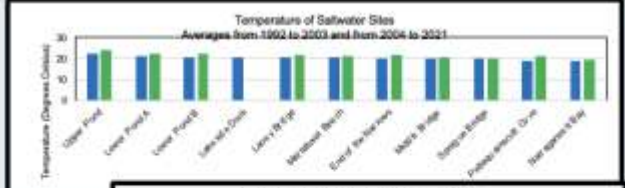
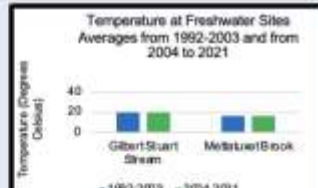
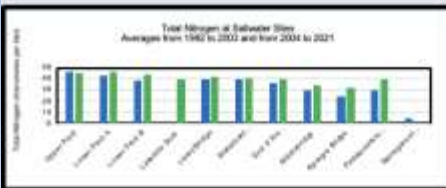
2023 Monitoring Season: Late May - October



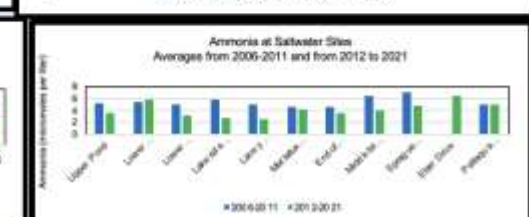
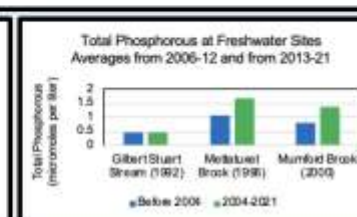
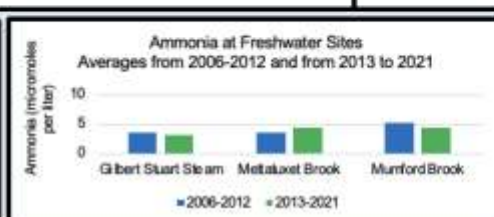
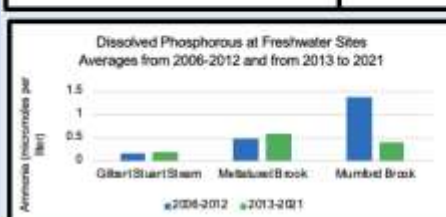
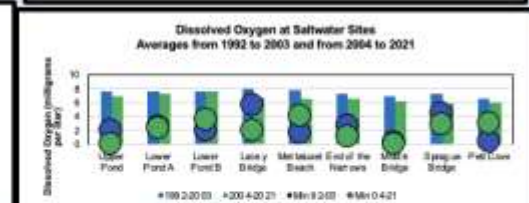
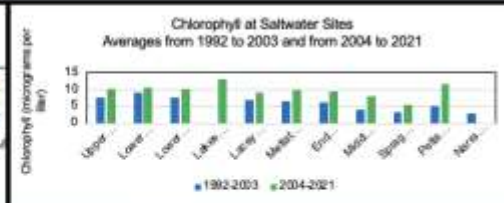
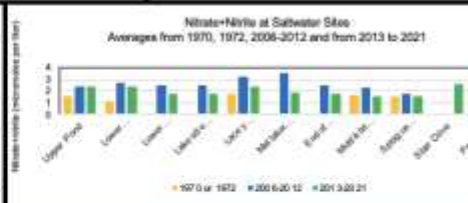
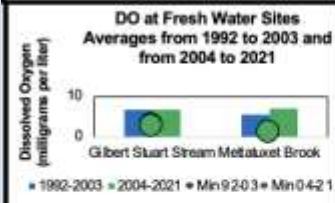
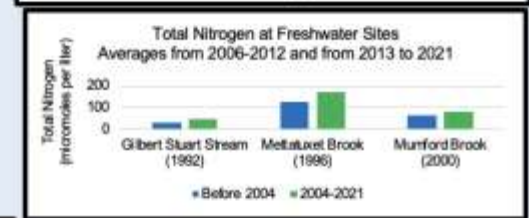
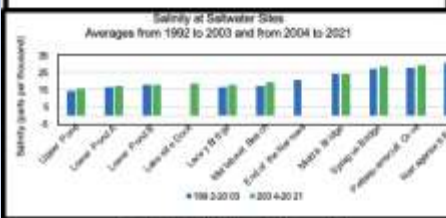
Narrow River volunteer, Chris Gouveia, in action taking samples and measurements on her boat in the Upper Pond (NR-2). Furry friends supervise!

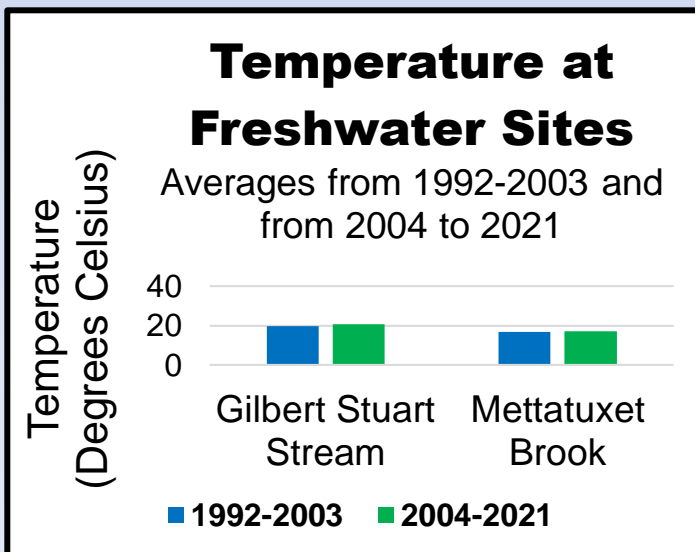
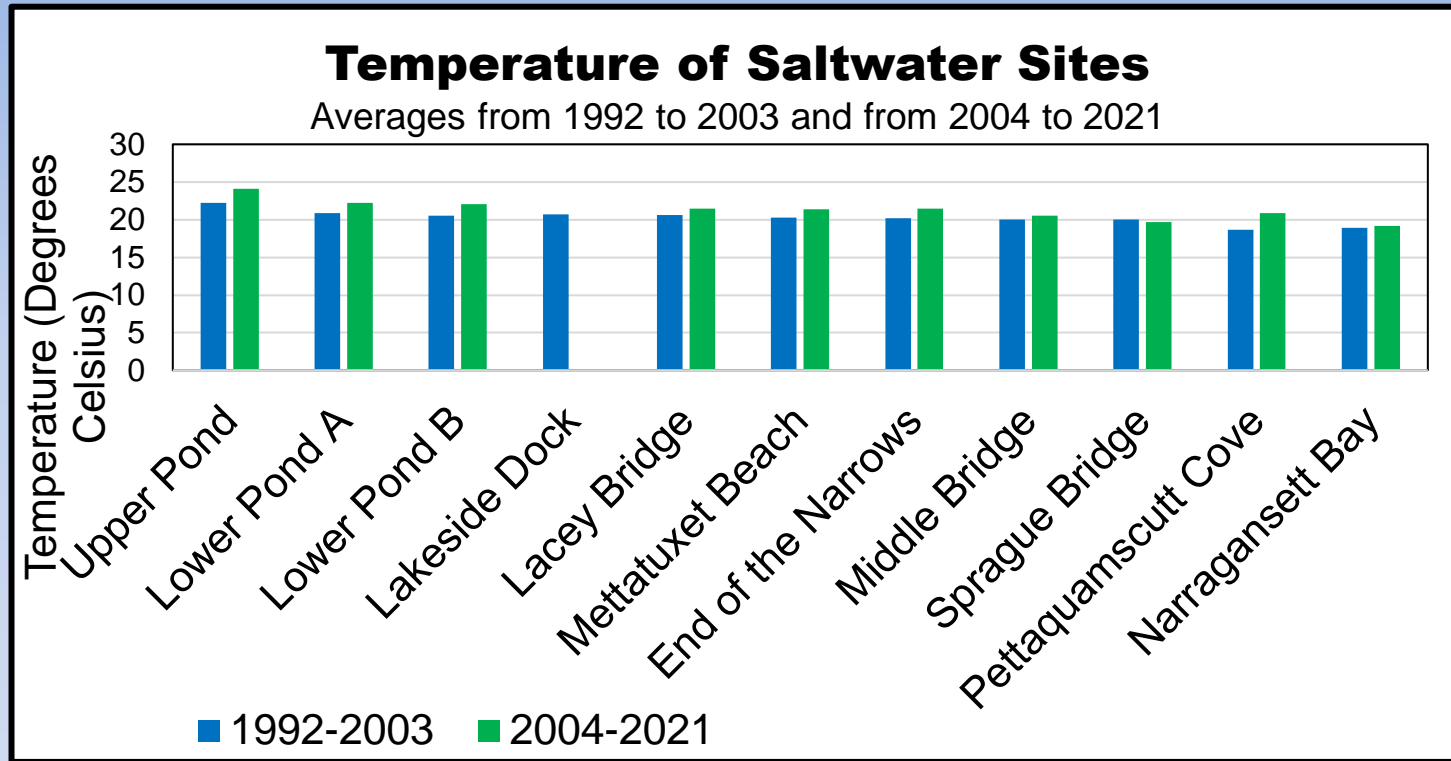
- What is Monitored and Sampled:
 - Temperature
 - Salinity
 - Dissolved Oxygen
 - Chlorophyll
 - Bacteria
 - Nutrients
 - pH





Three Decades of Narrow River Data!



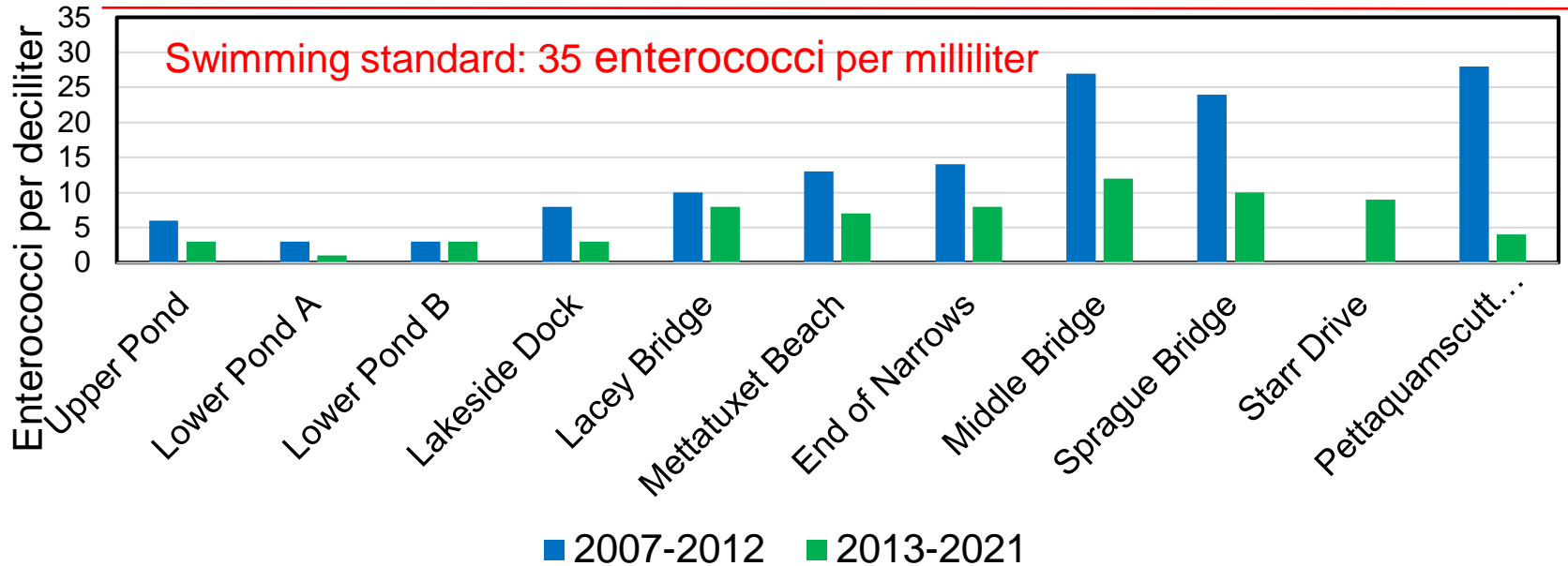


Temperature - Observations:

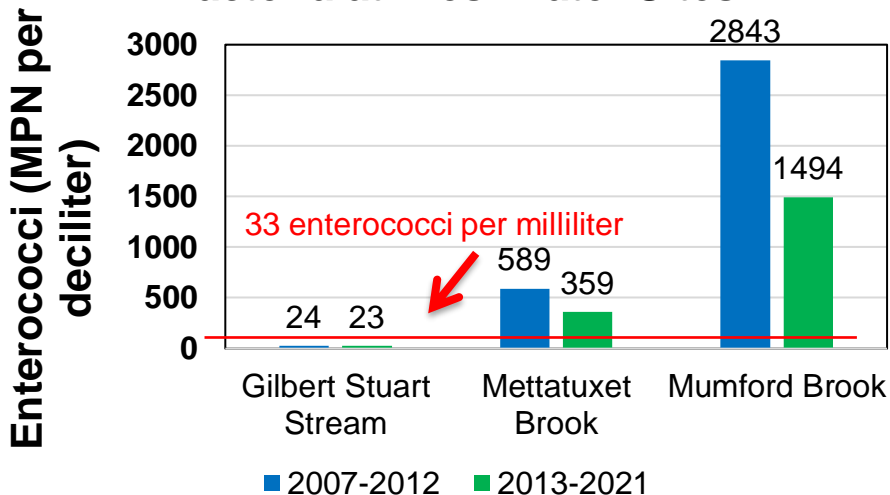
- The average temperature over the 30 years has been relatively stable.
- The water temperature at the sites closer to the mouth of the River are a bit cooler than those are sites at the North end of the River.
- At most of the sites, there is a slight increase in temperature in more recent years.



Geometric Mean Enterococci



Geometric Mean Enterococci Bacteria at Freshwater Sites



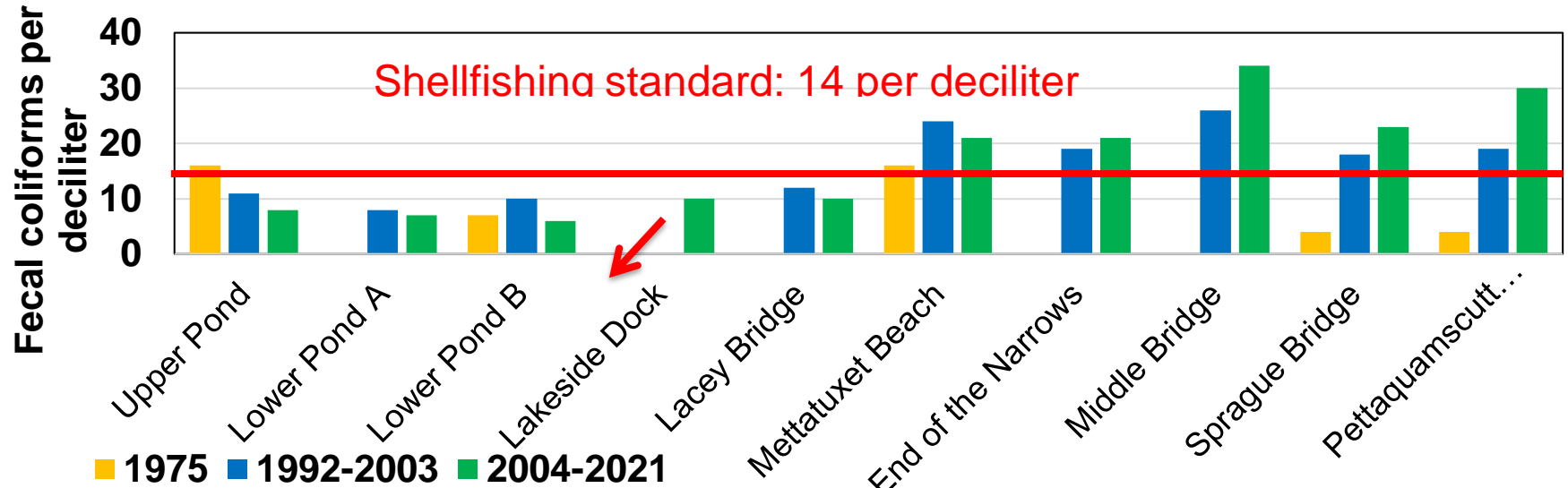
Is it safe to swim?

Bacteria: Enterococci - Observations:

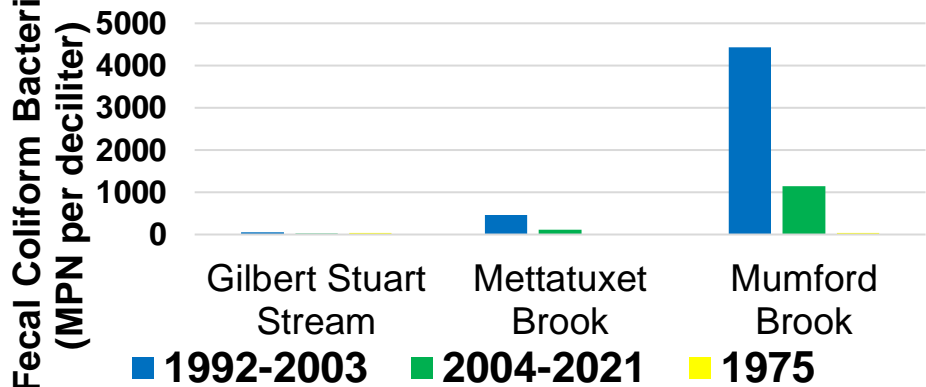
- At saltwater sites, the enterococci geometric mean does not exceed the standard for safe swimming. ☹️
- The deepwater sites at the north end of the river have the lowest enterococci geometric means.
- The levels increase as you go south along the river.
- At the saltwater sites, the geometric means are lower in the more recent years than in the earlier year.
- At the freshwater sites, the enterococci levels are high.



Geometric Mean Fecal Coliform Bacteria at Saltwater Sites



Geometric Mean Fecal Coliform Bacteria at Freshwater Sites



The River continues to be closed to shellfishing

Bacteria: Fecal Coliform - Observations:

- At the saltwater sites, the shellfishing standard is exceeded at all sites below Lacey Bridge. ☹️
- For the freshwater sites, with the exception of Gilbert Stuart Stream, the fecal coliform geometric means are extremely high.



What are Nutrients?

- **Substances that are necessary for plants and animals to grow, such as nitrogen and phosphorus**

Why do we worry about Nutrients?

- **Nutrients lead to algal blooms which decrease sunlight and which are harmful to eelgrass beds**
- **Decaying algae depletes dissolved oxygen which can form hypoxic (low oxygen) conditions and harm fish and shellfish and other organisms**

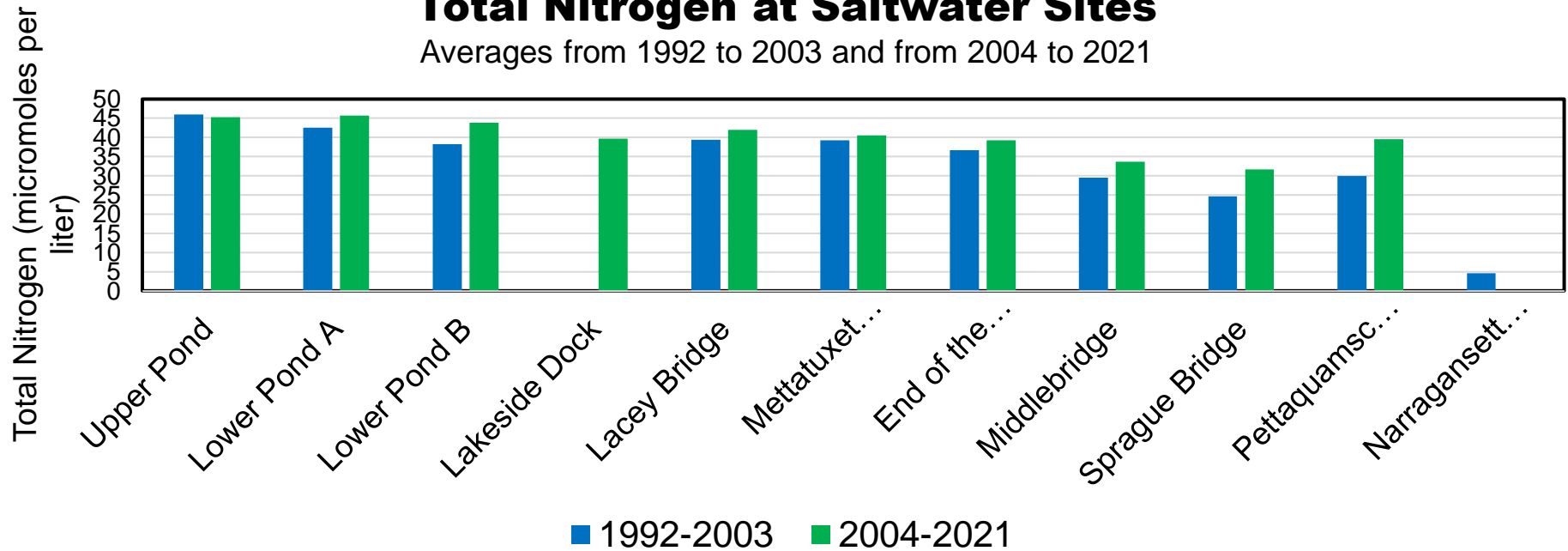
Where do Nutrients come from?

- **From streams, groundwater, rain, and the air**
- **Stormwater runoff picks up nutrients and bacteria from lawns, roads, and pet waste**
- **Excess fertilizer use leads to runoff of excess nutrients to the River**



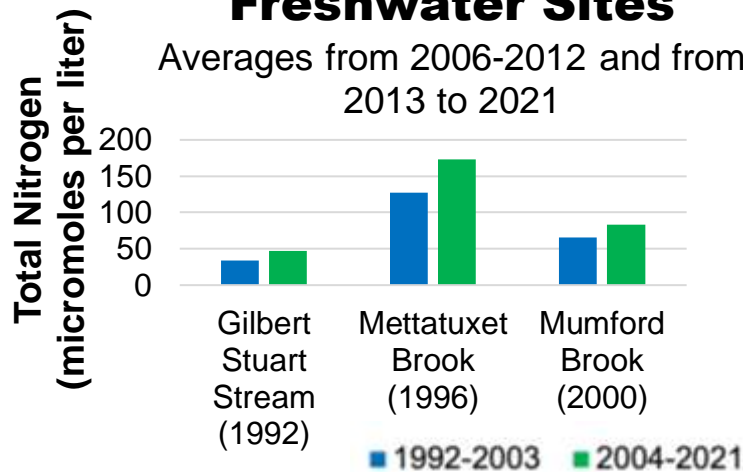
Total Nitrogen at Saltwater Sites

Averages from 1992 to 2003 and from 2004 to 2021



Total Nitrogen at Freshwater Sites

Averages from 2006-2012 and from 2013 to 2021

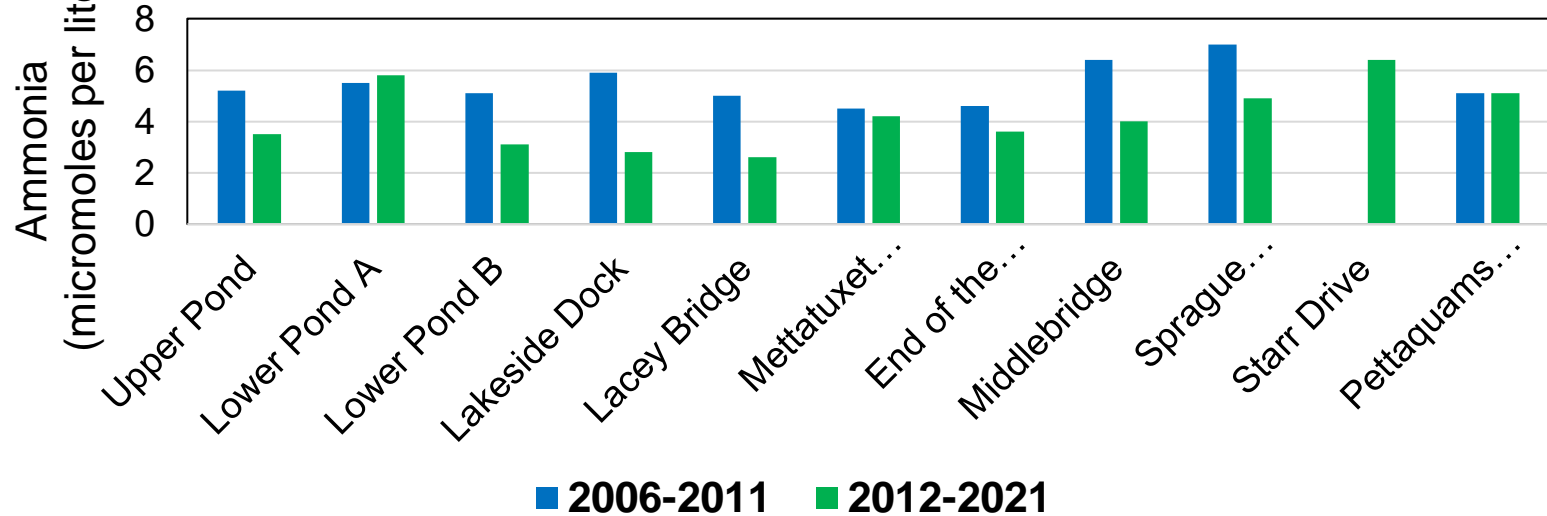


Total Nitrogen means the sum of all forms of the nutrient, nitrogen



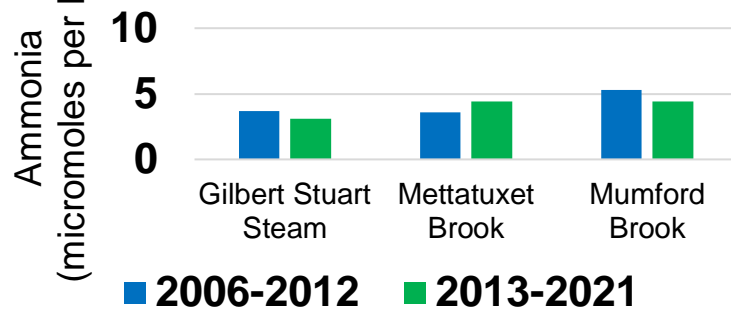
Ammonia at Saltwater Sites

Averages from 2006-2011 and from 2012 to 2021



Ammonia at Freshwater Sites

Averages from 2006-2012 and from 2013 to 2021

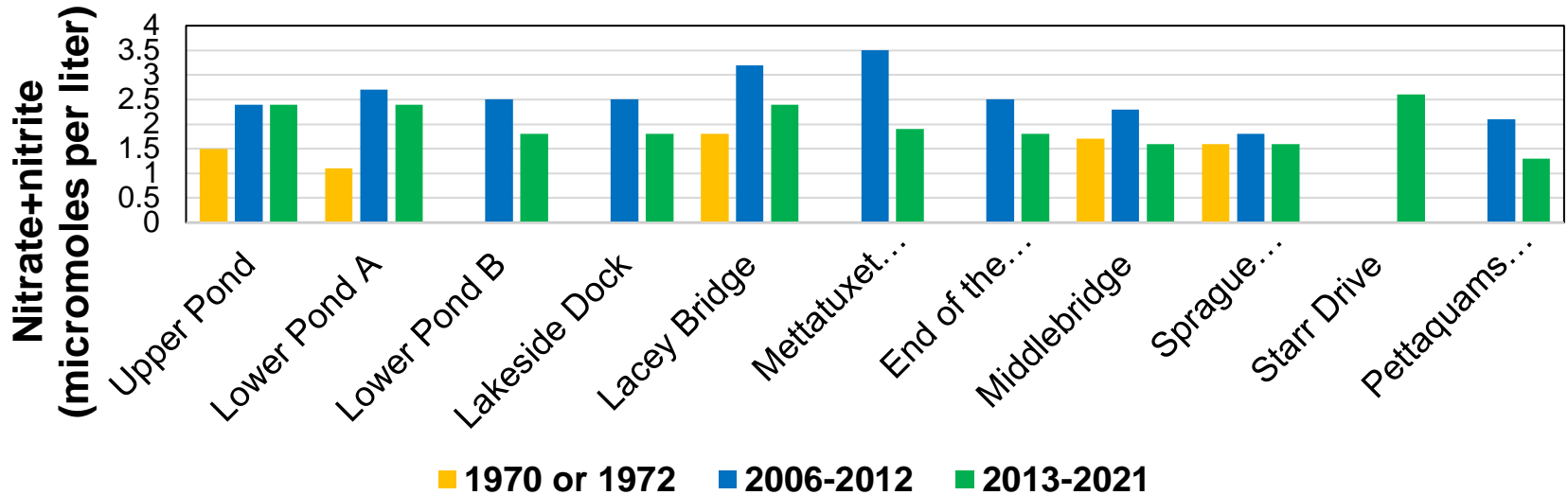


Ammonia is an inorganic form of nitrogen produced by decaying organic matter, excreted by animals, and found coming from leaking septic systems



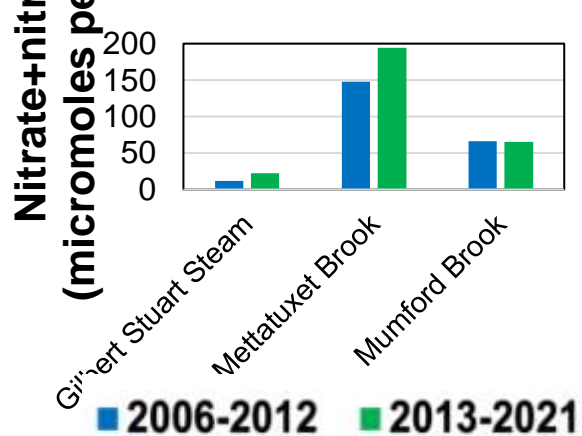
Nitrate+Nitrite at Saltwater Sites

Averages from 1970, 1972, 2006-2012 and from 2013 to 2021



Nitrate+Nitrite at Freshwater Sites

Averages from 2006-2012 and from 2013 to 2021



Nitrate and nitrite are inorganic forms of nitrogen that appear together and come from groundwater. They also result from the nitrification (conversion) of ammonia with oxygen.



2023 Narrow River Volunteer Monitors

(# = Years as a Volunteer Monitor)

- Rich Bourbonnais (1)
- Jeri Levesque (1)
- Deborah Casey (1)
- Betsy Motyl (3)
- Nancy McLean (3)
- Michael Remington (3)
- Mark Silverman (3)
- George & Suzanne Faucher (3)
- Rick Schultz (3)
- Michelle Goldman (3)
- Kare Sullivan (3)
- Chris Gouveia (4) & John Gouveia (1+)
- Marcia Izzi (4)
- Karen Killian (4)
- Alison, Ted, and Lily Kutcher (5)
- Jill O'Neill (5)
- Margaret Bradley (6)
- Elizabeth Donovan (6)
- Eric & Jennifer Kohlsaas (7)
- Paula Santos (13)
- Perry Moylan (14)
- Craig Wood (14)
- Rosemary (17) and David (11+) Smith
- Marc Lamson (18)
- Veronica Berounsky (20)
- Annette DeSilva (32)

Thank you to Elizabeth Herron of the URI Watershed Watch Program

Thank you to Eric Peterson for his help compiling the River Watch data into the NRPA database.

Thank you to all of the volunteers!



Otter mention these awards...

Video by
Elise Torello





NARROW RIVER PRESERVATION ASSOCIATION

**Science Fair Environmental Award
&
College Scholarships**

Reviewed by Sally Sutherland



NARROW RIVER PRESERVATION ASSOCIATION

Science Fair Environmental Award



Anna Kelly, from
South Kingstown HS
presented
“Clever Clover”



NARROW RIVER PRESERVATION ASSOCIATION

Lesa Meng College Scholarships from Narragansett HS

**Bridget
Blessing**



**Veronica
Sabatino**





NARROW RIVER PRESERVATION ASSOCIATION

Lesa Meng College Scholarships from South Kingstown HS

Cole Capizzo



**Anna Kelly
(what, again?)**





NARROW RIVER PRESERVATION ASSOCIATION

Youth Environmental Achievement Award

Presented by Veronica M. Berounsky

Youth Environmental Achievement

Narrow River Preservation Association presents the 2023 Student Volunteer for the River Award to Jake Pietrzak in recognition of his cheerful and capable assistance over the years with NUMEROUS events.

Award to Jake Pietrzak





NARROW RIVER PRESERVATION ASSOCIATION

Environmental Appreciation Award

Presented by Craig Wood



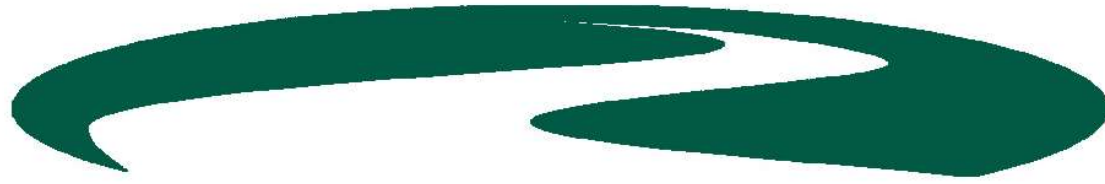
NARROW RIVER PRESERVATION ASSOCIATION

Environmental Appreciation Award to

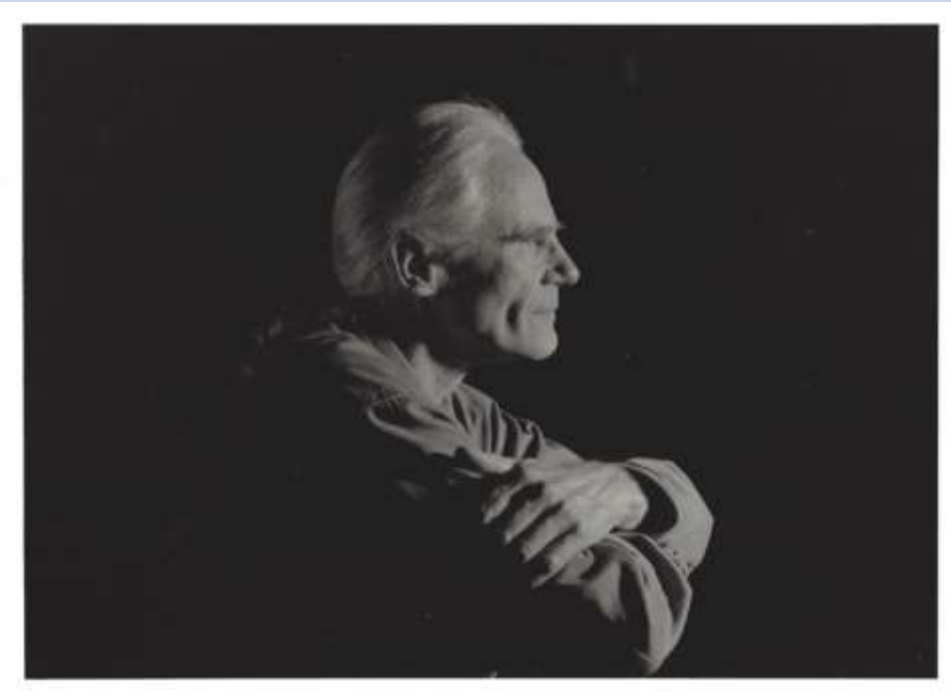
Bob Facey



Narrow River Preservation Association awards the 2023 Environmental Appreciation Award to Bob Facey in recognition of his years of sharing his technical expertise to support NRPA's live Osprey Webcam. Bob's efforts enable thousands of viewers to learn the fascinating history of osprey and enjoy the beauty of the Narrow (Pettaquamscutt) River.



NARROW RIVER PRESERVATION ASSOCIATION



2023
W.E.R. La Farge
Memorial
Friend of the River
Award

Presented by

Veronica M. Berounsky

&

Richard B. Grant



NARROW RIVER PRESERVATION ASSOCIATION

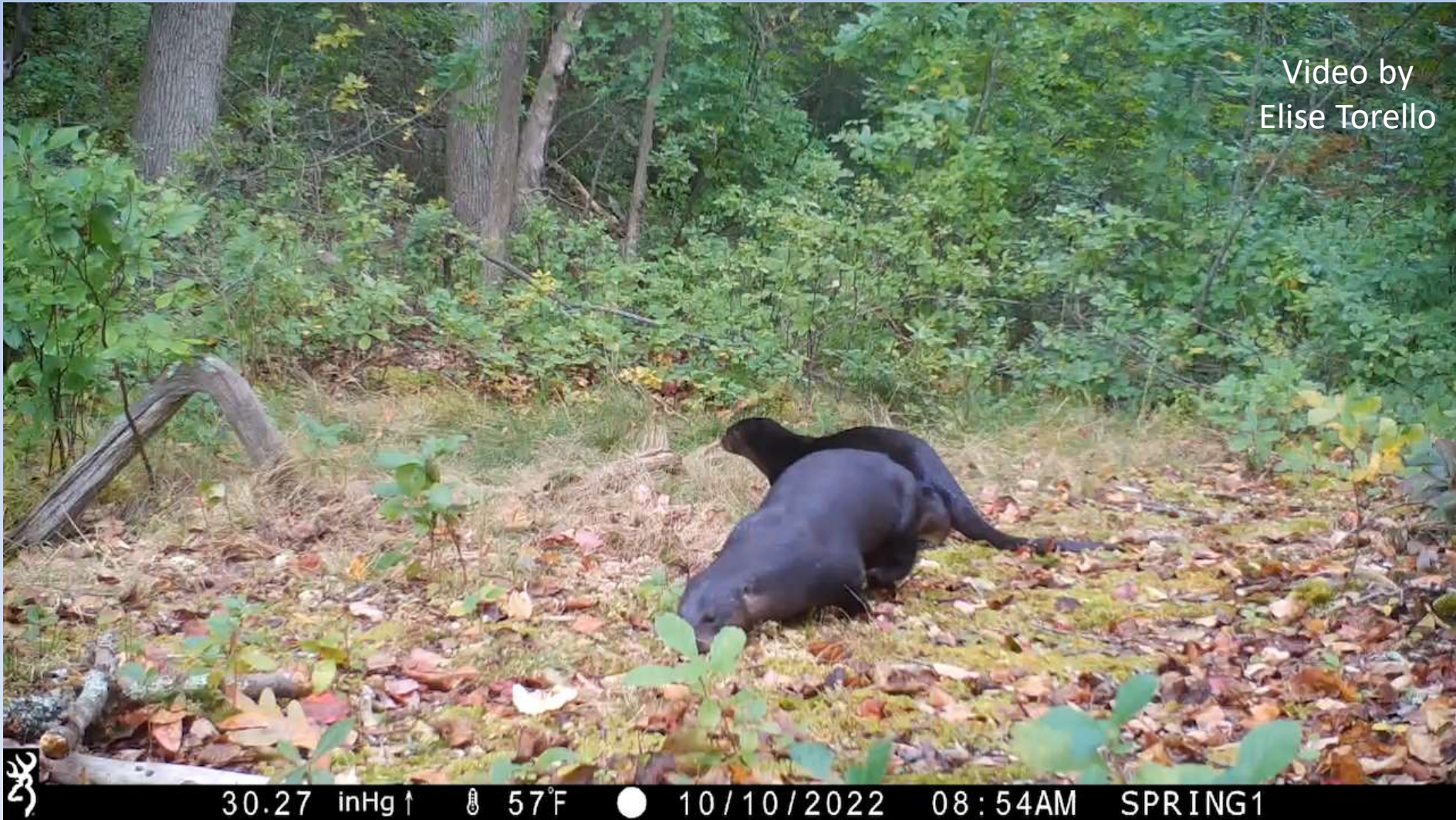
W.E.R. La Farge Memorial Friend of the River Award Rebecca Russell

for her dedication and outstanding service to the Narrow River Preservation Association and to Narrow River and its watershed as the NRPA Program Coordinator/Program Director from 2021 to 2023. We appreciate her enthusiastic participation and leadership in NRPA's initiatives and events.



Otter move along, almost done

Video by
Elise Torello



30.27 inHg ↑ 57°F ● 10/10/2022 08:54AM SPRING1



Kayak Raffle Drawing



Narrow River Kayaks

KAYAK ★ PADDLEBOARD ★ CANOE





NARROW RIVER PRESERVATION ASSOCIATION

Concluding remarks

President Veronica M. Berounsky



NARROW RIVER PRESERVATION ASSOCIATION

Members of the Advisory Board of Directors 2023-24

Jason Considine

Alison Kates

Annette DeSilva

Rob Leeson

Barry Devine

Catalina Martinez

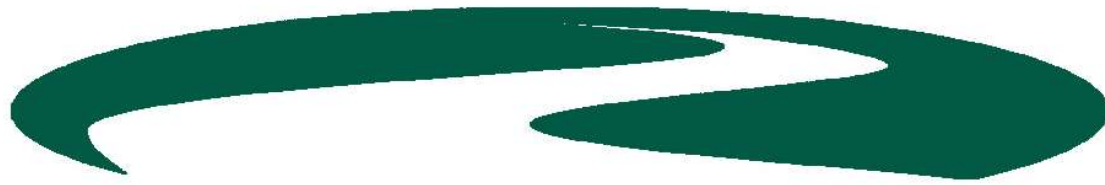
Sarah Gaines

James McGregor

Richard Grant

Ken McShane

& Sally Kenyon Grant (proposed)



NARROW RIVER PRESERVATION ASSOCIATION



**Special “thank you”
to Richard Grant**
**For of his 51 years of
service to NRPA; 26 of
them as president and
one year as
co-president, from RI
Governor McKee**



NARROW RIVER PRESERVATION ASSOCIATION

Getting late, otter say “Goodnight and Thank You”

Video by
Elise Torello



30.18 inHg ↓ 8 77°F ▶ 09/05/2022 02:18AM SPRING1