


WOOD-PAWCATUCK RIVER GUIDE

You will find a wealth of fine paddling and fishing in the Wood-Pawcatuck Watershed. Conditions vary with the season, depth of water, and unpredictability of winter blowdowns. These factors and your own experience and abilities should be considered when choosing a route. Always wear a personal flotation device. Please, carry out your trash and clean up others' trash when you can. Miles are approximate; route maps are graphically simplified. The three major routes have been subdivided to provide a number of short trip options.

Wood-Pawcatuck River Guide
(2nd edition) Navigate over 60 miles on the Wood & Pawcatuck Rivers by canoe or kayak with this easy to read, two sided map. Unfolded map is 17" x 22"



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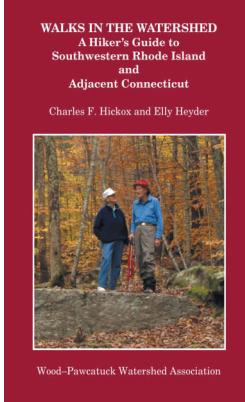
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A Hiker's Guide to Southwestern Rhode Island and Adjacent Connecticut
Charles F. Hickox and Elly Heyder

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**WATERSHED
TECH CORNER**

Though quite different from previous Tech Corner articles, this issue of *Watershed* features an introductory article from the RI NEMO program. If you are not familiar with it, NEMO stands for Nonpoint Education for Municipal Officials. NEMO is a national network, with programs in over thirty states. Their goal is to provide decision makers with the skills and resources that they need to identify local water quality problems and to adopt effective pollution controls. The RI program offers training in the science, management, and regulation of water resources for community leaders and volunteer board members.

The RI NEMO program has worked with over 90% of Rhode Island communities since its inception in 1993. Providing support to the RI Dept. of Environmental Management, RI Dept. of Transportation, RI Coastal Resources Management Council, and RI HEALTH, RI NEMO continues to work on various projects of importance to the future of Rhode Island.

More info can be found on their website:
<http://www.uri.edu/ce/wq/NEMO/index.htm>

A New Way of Doing Business

By Lisa DeProspero Philo & Lorraine Joubert

For the first time in seventeen years, the standards by which Rhode Island contractors, builders, and even homeowners must manage stormwater have been updated. In December 2010, the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management released the newly-revised *Rhode Island Stormwater Design and Installation Standards Manual*, and business is not going to be the same as usual.

If you experienced any of the severe flooding of last March, you might have given stormwater some consideration. However, problems related to stormwater do not end with flooding. In fact, stormwater is the top water pollution problem in Rhode Island.



Stormwater becomes polluted when it flows over paved surfaces, picking up any contaminants in its path. Those contaminants might include automobile fluids, grease, fertilizers, pesticides, and debris. This polluted water either flows directly into local water bodies or down drainage ditches and storm drains, which then channel it to local water bodies.

Stormwater is responsible for closing swimming beaches, destroying trout waters, degrading some of the state's most pristine water resources, and contributing to flooding.

The new Stormwater Manual addresses this form of water pollution by establishing standards that now require the use of "Low Impact Development" for new construction, redevelopment, and infill projects. The use of Low Impact Development represents a fundamental shift in approach, to new methods that specifically consider how to mimic nature to maintain the natural hydrology of a piece of land.

The release of this manual provides an opportunity for all of us to consider how we are managing stormwater on our own properties. For the next few editions of this newsletter, we'll be sharing some simple steps that homeowners can take to keep as much water as possible off of paved surfaces and to keep the water that does run off as clean as possible.

