

LAWRENCE BROOK WATERSHED PARTNERSHIP, INC.

"Responsible Stewardship of the Lawrence Brook Watershed"

85 Washington Avenue, Milltown, NJ 08850

Telephone: (732) 249-LBWP (5297)

www.LBWP.org

Jan. 9th, 2018

PLEASE REPLY TO:

Alan S. Godber, President, LBWP

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To: Members and Participants in the Lawrence Brook Watershed Partnership Inc.
From: Alan S. Godber, President, Lawrence Brook Watershed Partnership Inc.
SUBJECT: **JANUARY MEMBERSHIP MEETING #145 OF LAWRENCE BROOK WATERSHED PARTNERSHIP INC. Tuesday, January 16th, 7:30PM, at Milltown Senior Ctr.**

Dear Members and Friends,

“Mr. Andy Still, Fisherman

will present a fascinating topic:

“A Fisherman’s Perspective of the NEW Raritan River, by Mr. Andy Still, Sharing His Experience and Knowledge of Positive Changes to the Raritan River Over His Life”

at the January Membership Meeting of the Partnership which will be held **Tuesday, January 16th, 2018, 7:30PM**, at Milltown Senior Center, 60 Violet Terrace, Milltown, NJ 08850.

Mr. Still has been fishing in New Jersey his whole life. He is now a fisherman turned environmentalist. He still fishes the Raritan River and he likes what he sees. He says that the recent changes in fish are truly amazing, American Shad being one of them. He has also spent a lot of time in recent years in cleaning up the river and encouraging others to do so. He has volunteered with the Central Jersey Stream Team in cleaning up the South Branch of the Raritan River and he has done essentially a one-man cleanup of the North Branch of the river. He was awarded the 2017 Citizens Action Award from the Sustainable Raritan River Initiative. He has a many photographs of fish and the Raritan.

We are looking forward to this presentation. This topic naturally follows our December presentation by Anthony Vastano about the analysis of fish project in the Raritan. It also relates to an LBWP project to make it possible for Herring and Shad to reenter our Watershed for the first time in 150 years. We will all learn something new and important from this talk.

Everyone is welcome. Please let your friends & colleagues know of the event. If you need a map of how to reach Milltown Senior Center, please let us know. See Directions to Milltown Senior Center → Overleaf



South Brunswick * East Brunswick * North Brunswick * Milltown * New Brunswick

Directions to Milltown Senior Center:

From the South Brunswick, North Brunswick and New Brunswick Areas

Travel via Rte. 1 & take Milltown Rd exit. (Traveling South this is three exits after Rte. 18, traveling North it is the next exit after Rte. 130 (follow signs at Rte.130 intersection for Milltown Rd. exit to the right). Enter Milltown from Milltown Rd., continue south to Nth. Main St. for approx. 3/4 mile to Mill Pond traffic light, junction with Washington Ave. (having crossed Lawrence Brook at Main St. bridge). Turn left (Hess Station on left), take first right turn into J.F.Kennedy Drive. Proceed approx. 1/4 mile to Violet Terrace & turn left. After 200 feet, building on right is the Senior Center, parking is to right & rear of the building.

From the South Brunswick and East Brunswick Areas

From South Brunswick, take Cranbury Rd. to Ryders Lane & turn left on Ryders Lane. From East Brunswick, Rte. 18, take Rues Lane leading to Ryders Lane. Continue on Ryders Lane to Milltown Rd. then turn left. Cross NJ Turnpike & proceed for approx. 3/4 mile to Violet Terrace (first right turn after traffic light at Kuhlthau Ave), where turn right (one way street). Proceed across J.F.Kennedy Drive (four way stop). After 200 feet, building on right is the Senior Center, parking is to right & rear of building.

Other Announcements and Information

VOLUNTEERS & MEMBERS NEEDED!!

If you haven't joined or renewed your membership for 2018, please do so now. Thank you to the many of you who recently joined or rejoined. We very much appreciate your support.

We really welcome your donations to the work of the LBWP. We primarily need general operating funds. Projects such as public outreach, mapping equipment & the planned Education & Nature Center need funding. 2018 Membership dues are still \$35 & our brochure, available from the HQ or the website, recommends a range of donation levels. A Partnership tee shirt & cap is included for new members. We will have additional environmentally-sustainable bonus gifts soon. The Partnership is a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation, & your contributions are tax-deductible. If your employer has a matching plan, you could add their contribution to yours, which would help us achieve more.

We are searching for a location in the watershed for our permanent Headquarters & Nature Center. We now have a very significant collection of mammals and birds in our taxidermied animal collection and we need a place to be able to exhibit these to provide education about nature. We also need help in this search and in raising funds to make this project happen. If you can help, please let us know. We are also interested in loaning out portions of the collection to appropriate places where they can be seen by the general public. We are also interested in providing environmental education related to the collection.

Watershed-Friendly Resident Project

This project aims to provide guidance and inspiration to residents of the watershed to make their homes, gardens and yards more friendly to Nature. We have a brochure which lays out a number of options for homeowners to fulfill these aspirations and to reward the achievement. If you can do or have done at least 20 of these activities, then we will provide you with a certificate of achievement and a canvas bag named for the project. We have previously held seminars to educate the residents about these issues and we are planning to do so again soon.

If you would like to sign up for the project and for the seminars, please let us know soon.

The project brochures are available from our HQ or can be requested by e-mail or phone.

Fish Ladders Feasibility Study

A study, funded by the NY-NJ Harbor Estuary Program was started three years ago. A follow-up study was completed, a final report prepared & agreements with New Brunswick Water Utility have been in discussion. LBWP is managing the project and Princeton Hydro did the scientific study. We had stream gages installed in Lawrence Brook at New Brunswick, which measured the water height every 15 minutes. LBWP has monitored this data. We are now looking for funding for the next stage, design of the fish ladders.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY.

Membership meetings in 2018 are likely to continue to be the Third Tuesday of each month with additional meetings if needed. Meetings scheduled, Jan. 16th, Feb. 20th, Mar. 20th.

Environmental Education

Educational support for the impervious surface studies and projects of the LBWP Collaborative, likely with local schools, including the Milltown School District and others in the next months. Our 2015 Rutgers intern created a brochure to educate homeowners and others in how to select native plants, trees, etc. to replace invasives. Our Spring 2016 Rutgers Intern created a new Watershed Map with detailed photographs and text about the watershed. Last summer, for the seventh year, we provided Environmental Education at Raritan Valley YMCA Summer Camp to young people on Tuesday mornings in July and August.

Nature Walks

Next walk is likely to be a Sunday in March, probably starting at 12 Noon. Details to follow.

Environmental Cleanups

Next Cleanup is likely to be a Saturday in Mid-March or Early April, starting at 9AM. We will likely clean up an area in North Brunswick, probably near Farrington Lake and streams feeding the Brook.

Water Monitoring

Training for and conducting Water Monitoring on a regular schedule is being planned. We do need additional expert guidance for training volunteers. If you can help, let us know. New training soon, during the winter. Also, please let us know if you would like to volunteer for water monitoring.

FUTURE MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS & TOPICS

Environmentally Healthy Farming Practices.

Nature & Wildlife in the Area.

Rain Gardens.

Sustainable Practices, Desirable & Undesirable Energy Practices

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED for LBWP ACTIVITIES

- Water Quality testing, chemical, biological or stream assessment (*training provided*).
- Land Use, etc. mapping activities using GIS & GPS methods (*training provided*). • Designing Trails.
- Experts & informed volunteers in Biology, Botany, Zoology, Geology, Civil Eng. & Law.
- Developing Nature Center design. • Development of Master Plan and Strategic Plan.
- Studying land acquisition for Open Space preservation. • Spring Environmental Cleanups (**Mar.Apr.**)
- Environmental Advocacy issues in all Watershed communities (**currently 8+ issues**).
- Organizing watershed walks (**Mar.Apr**) • Further development of the current web site www.lbwp.org
- Planning/Org. table at Comm. Events (**2018**) • Planning Environmental Education Pgms (**Jan.Feb.**)
- Publication of 2017 Edition, LBWP Newsletter. Need writers, graphic designers.
- Developing Meetings Programs. • Meetings Arrangements. • Web site & Facebook – Improve Designs
- Presentations on Nonpoint Source pollution, "Green Construction" & watershed issues (*training provided*).
- **Membership development.** • Grant application research and writing. • **Fund Raising.**
- Attending environmental meetings & conferences to learn or speak on behalf of LBWP.
- Organizing activities at HQ - filing, cleaning, gardening.

For further information on any activity or to volunteer for any of the above, see our web site www.lbwp.org or contact us at **(732) 249-LBWP (5297)**, at e-mail contact@lbwp.org or Phone/FAX or e-mail listed above.

Lawrence Brook Watershed Partnership Inc.

Membership Meeting #145,

7:30PM, Tuesday, 16th January, 2018,

at Milltown Senior Center, 60 Violet Terrace, Milltown, NJ 08850

DRAFT AGENDA

1. Welcome and Introduction of Attendees.
2. Approval of Draft Agenda.
3. Upcoming Events.
4. Presentation –

“Mr. Andy Still, Fisherman

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Q&A

5. Break for Refreshments
6. Nominations for Nominating Committee (for Trustees).
7. Approval of Draft Minutes of Previous Meetings.
8. Reports
 - 8.1 Watershed-Friendly Resident Project. – Alan Godber
 - 8.2 Membership, Michael Shakarjian.
 - 8.3 Flooding Mitigation & Watershed Restoration Collaborative. – Alan Godber
 - 8.4 Treasurer’s Report. – Michael Shakarjian.
 - 8.5 Environmental Education – Alan Godber.
 - 8.6 Advocacy Committee - Michael Shakarjian.
 - 8.7 Regreening of Milltown Washington Ave. Open Space & Eagle Scout Projects.
 - 8.8 Water Quality Monitoring & Training.
 - 8.9 Fish Ladder Feasibility Study.
 - 8.10 Liaison Reports.
EARTH Ctr. Rar.Basin WS Alliance. MC-WRA, NJCWA, MdxCtyO/S Comm. MdxCtyAgDev.Bd. LRWP,
SmtGrwthTF, NJ-DEP Policies. Delaware/Raritan CanalCmm.
9. Members Issues. Report by Attendees on Community Issues Around the Watershed, incl. Turnpike Widening, Transit Village, Industrial Development in East & Sth. Brunswick, E.Br. Sawmill Brk. Flooding & Beaver Action, Milltown Ford Ave; New Br. Rutgers U.
10. Any Other Business.
11. Date, Time and Location of Next Meetings.
12. Adjournment.