

FRIENDS OF THE

Winooski



Friends of the Winooski River
work together for a clean,
healthy, and resilient watershed.

Lake Champlain

Burlington

Richmond

Winooski River

Little River

Waterbury

North Branch

Kingsbury Branch

Montpelier

Cabot

Huntington River

Mad River

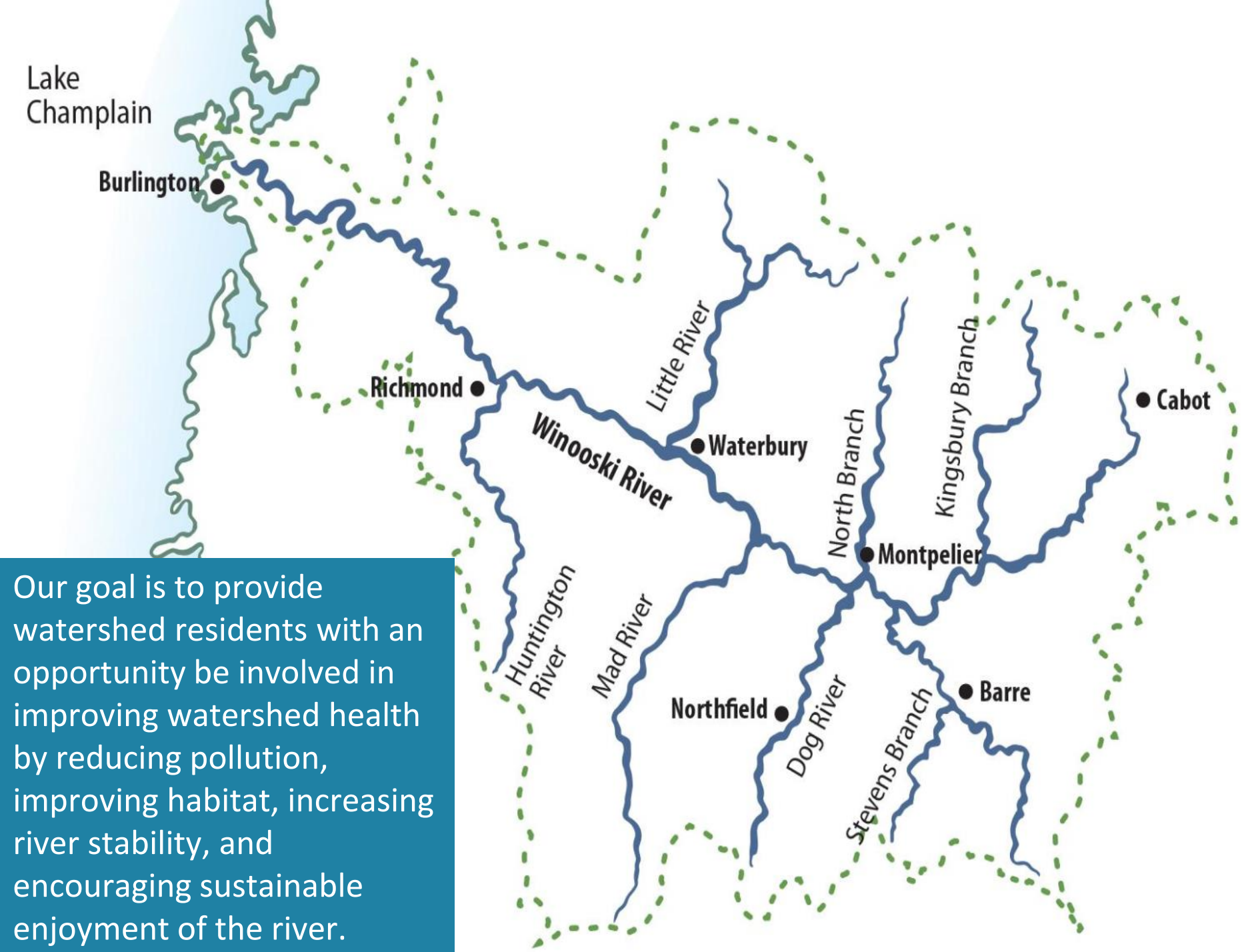
Northfield

Dog River

Stevens Branch

Barre

Our goal is to provide watershed residents with an opportunity be involved in improving watershed health by reducing pollution, improving habitat, increasing river stability, and encouraging sustainable enjoyment of the river.





Learn

1. Water Quality Monitoring
 - a. LaRosa monitoring in Waterbury, Stowe, Northfield, Montpelier, and Barre
 - b. IDDE monitoring for E. coli in Montpelier and Stowe
2. Storm Smart home stormwater site assessments
 - a. Funded by LCBP, partnership with Friends of the Mad River and WNRCD since 2020
 - b. 2022-23: expand the assessment protocol to look beyond stormwater at some kind of measure of biodiversity
3. Headwaters Flood Resilience
 - a. Forest management plans for blocks of small (non-UVA) parcels
4. Artist in Residence
 - a. Funded by LCBP, partnership with Friends of the Mad
 - b. Teaching artists in Harwood, Burlington, South Burlington, and Richmond schools



Learn

5. North Branch Nature Center
 - a. Funded by LCBP to better connect NBNC with North Branch
6. Lake Education and Action Program (LEAP)
 - a. Funded by Sea Grant, hosting two interns in July and August
 - b. UVM students gain experience in the field and conduct lakeshore assessments
7. Biodiversity Coalition
 - a. New network being formed by Half-Earth Vermont, Audubon Vermont, and VNRC to raise awareness of the biodiversity crisis and what Vermonters can do to help (eg: they can plant native trees & shrubs!)
8. Streamwise
 - a. Funded by LCBP, FWR is Vermont pilot host in 2022
 - b. Seeking landowners with healthy riparian buffers to receive an award
9. Unifying Stormwater
 - a. Lake Champlain Basin-wide process to develop shared messaging and assessment protocols among groups who do residential stormwater outreach and assessment



Restore

1. Tree Planting! 3,200 trees this year
2. Project Development
 - a. DEC funding in hand through September 30, 2022 to develop new restoration projects, focused on identification and landowner recruitment for riparian planting sites, floodplain reconnection, and wetland restoration. SLR to assist.
3. Richmond Schools stormwater
 - a. Funded by DEC, final design being completed by Stone through summer 2023
4. Culvert assessment process
 - a. Partnership with WNRCD & USFWS & VFWD to identify priority culverts for AOP improvement. Cooperative agreement with USFWS.
5. Stevens Branch dam removal feasibility & preliminary design



Restore

6. **Nantanna Mill sewer separation**
 - a. DEC funds for preliminary design to reduce volume and treat stormwater
 - b. Kickoff in June with DuFresne Group
7. **Baker Pond Access Improvement**
 - a. DEC funds for final design by Stone Environmental
 - b. Improve parking area and waterfront at State F&W Access
8. **Montpelier Stump Dump**
 - a. DEC funds for final design by Stone Environmental
 - b. Capture and treat stormwater
9. **Barre Town Garage Stormwater Treatment**
 - a. DEC funds to install underground chambers at DPW lot
 - b. Implementation: now in permitting by Watershed Consulting



Paddle

1. Onion River Race & Ramble

- a. New England's longest downriver points race
- b. June 5, 2022

2. River of Light

- a. Full moon paddle from Heineberg Bridge access to lake
- b. Participants illuminate their boats in every creative way
- c. August 12, 2022

3. Public Access Sites Stewardship

- a. Volunteer Monitoring of former restoration sites

Partners

- Federal government: US Fish & Wildlife Service, FEMA, EPA, Natural Resource Conservation Districts
- State government: Fish & Wildlife, Forestry, Environmental Conservation, Public Safety, Transportation
- Local government: Municipalities and RPCs
- Non-profits: The Nature Conservancy, Trout Unlimited, local watershed groups

