

Batten Kill
Watershed Alliance
NY/VT

RIVER STEWARD PROGRAM

The Batten Kill Watershed Alliance will be sponsoring the River Steward program for the third year in 2006. The River Stewards are on duty during the busy summer months to provide a variety of services to river users, riparian landowners, and watershed communities.

- ***The Stewards float the river in during periods of heavy river use. They provide information and outreach materials to river users, landowners, and community members about safe practices and river friendly behavior.
- ***They gather data about the number and kinds of river use and document eroded banks, invasive vegetation, and other river conditions.
- ***They engage in planting projects that provide vegetated riparian buffer zones on private and public land, and will assist in establishing the new Alliance Conservation Nursery of Native Riparian Vegetation.
- *** They meet with local officials and community groups in order to provide information about the river and about the steward program.



The River Stewards float the Batten Kill during the summer months gathering data about river use and river conditions and assisting river users and landowners.



River Steward Jennifer Durham with hopeful plantings on a Town of Arlington bank stabilization project along River Road.

For the summer of 2006 we will build on the River Steward activities of the past two years. We will seek to achieve solid counts of river users on the weekends of heaviest use. We will continue planting at Hill Farm Inn in Sunderland, the Manchester Slide, Whitney's in Salem, and elsewhere. We will initiate new planting projects at the Piekarz Bank Stabilization project in Jackson, NY, the Twin Rivers Project in West Arlington, VT, and the Trout Unlimited river restoration project on the Foster Farm in Shushan, NY. We hope to build and put up display kiosks at key river access points that provide information to river users about safety, river conditions, river-friendly behavior, and "river etiquette".

Funding for the River Steward Program in 2005 and 2006 has been generously provided by The Orvis Company of Manchester, VT. The Vermont Watershed Grant Program has funded the Conservation Nursery. The Alliance also receives funding from the Green Mountain National Forest.

Batten Kill Watershed Alliance
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check out the web site we are building at www.battenkillalliance.org

The Batten Kill Watershed Alliance is an equal opportunity provider.