



# SALMON RIVER WATERSHED PARTNERSHIP

## 2023 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

**Monitoring Stream Health:** SRWP, along with its volunteers, was able to complete its goal of monitoring 11 stream sites for 10 weeks in the summer for temperature, pH, dissolved oxygen, conductivity, total dissolved solids and salinity. Using benthic macroinvertebrates (AKA stream bugs) SRWP completed 9 stream habitat assessments in the fall, working with both community volunteers and student groups. SRWP also manages 10 stream temperature loggers and 8 conductivity loggers throughout the watershed.

**MS-4 Stormwater Permits:** Five of the ten towns that make up the Salmon River Watershed are currently under the state administered MS-4 Stormwater Permit. They include **Bolton, Glastonbury, Haddam, Hebron and Marlborough**. To assist towns in meeting annual permit requirements, SRWP provides a report of outreach & education activities conducted throughout the year.

**Reviewing Plans and Policies:** SRWP continues to review plans, policies and legislation focusing on potential impact to the watershed towns and submits written comments as is appropriate. In 2023, SRWP participated in project reviews for CT DEEP Fisheries for the ADA fishing pier on the Salmon River and CT DEEP Forestry for management on several Salmon River Forest tracts. SRWP also reviewed and submitted comments for the CT DOT the RT 16 bridge replacement.

**Invasive Species:** With Hydrilla present in the lower CT River, Salmon Cove, and more recently discovered in a local freshwater lake, SRWP continues to participate in meetings on this aquatic invasive species to stay current on the efforts of the Army Corps of Engineers to manage this nuisance and prevent spreading. SRWP will cohost an aquatic invasive identification training program for community members in the May of 2024.

**Outreach and Education:** SRWP continues to participate in a number of events and education programs throughout the watershed. In 2023 this included; *Hebron MapleFest, Machimoodus Spring Fling, Haddam Neck Fair* and *RiverFest* at Devil's Hopyard State Park. Education programming included field training for community volunteers and field learning presentations for *RHAM High School, RHAM Middle School* and *East Haddam Middle School*.

**Long-Term Sustainability Planning:** Along with completing a 5-year visioning plan for the partnership in 2023, SRWP also hosted a town leader breakfast meeting in Marlborough to review the highlights of the plan and coordinate a continued working relationship with the watershed towns.



*Town leader meeting on the Salmon River Watershed*

*Pictures T to B: 1. Stream assessment with volunteers at Elbow Brook (East Hampton), 2. Pine Brook (Haddam), 3. Tour of stormwater retrofits at Sears Park (East Hampton), 4. Pond exploration program with RHAM Middle School (Hebron), 5. Stream logger equipment, 6. Checking for invasive species, Babcock Pond WMA (Colchester), 7. Stream exploration program with East Haddam Middle School (East Haddam), 8. Stream assessment with RHAM High School at Blackledge River (Marlborough)*

