MASSACHUSETTS RIVERS ALLIANCE

2019 ANNUAL REPORT

Protecting and Restoring the Commonwealth's Rivers and Streams

OUR PARTNERS IN RIVER PROTECTION

Member Organizations:

Association to Preserve Cape Cod
Belmont Citizens Forum
Berkshire Environmental Action Team
Biodiversity for a Livable Climate
Blackstone River Coalition
Boxborough Conservation Trust
Buzzards Bay Coalition
Charlestown Waterfront Coalition
Chicopee 4Rivers Watershed Council
Clean River Project
Clean Water Fund
Connecticut River Conservancy
Deerfield River Watershed Chapter of Trout Unlimited
Environment Massachusetts
Farmington River Watershed Association
Friends of the Assabet River National Wildlife Refuge
Friends of the Bass River
Friends of the Blue Hills
Friends of the Malden River
Friends of the Ten Mile and Bucklin Brook
Greater Northfield Watershed Association
Green Newton
Greenbelt
Groundwork Lawrence
Hoosic River Watershed Association
Hop Brook Protection Association
Housatonic Valley Association
Jones River Watershed Association
League of Women Voters of Massachusetts
Lowell Parks & Conservation Trust
Massachusetts Association of Conservation Commissions
Massachusetts Land Trust Coalition
Massachusetts Watershed Coalition
Merrimack River Watershed Council
Millers River Watershed Council
Muddy Water Initiative
Ocean River Institute
Parker River Clean Water Association
Pioneer Valley Chapter #276 Trout Unlimited
River Merrimack
Save the Bay - Narragansett Bay Riverkeeper
Shawsheen River Watershed Association
Sudbury Valley Trustees
Taunton River Watershed Alliance
Taunton River Wild & Scenic Stewardship Council
Ten Mile River Watershed Council
Trust for Public Land
Wareham Land Trust
Wastewater Advisory Committee to the MWRA
Water Supply Citizens Advisory Committee
Westfield River Watershed Association
Westfield River Wild & Scenic River Advisory Committee
Westport River Watershed Alliance

Leadership Organizations:

Berkshire Natural Resources Council
Center for Coastal Studies
Charles River Conservancy
Charles River Watershed Association
Conservation Law Foundation
Environmental League of Massachusetts
Greater Boston Chapter Trout Unlimited
Hoosic River Revival
Ipswich River Watershed Association
MA RI Council of Trout Unlimited
Mass Audubon
Mass Organization of State Engineers and Scientists
Mystic River Watershed Association
Nashua River Watershed Association
Neponset River Watershed Association
Nor'East Chapter of Trout Unlimited
North and South Rivers Watershed Association
OARS
Sierra Club Massachusetts Chapter
Sudbury, Assabet & Concord Wild and
Scenic River Stewardship Council
The Nature Conservancy
The Trustees

Credits:

Image Left: Swift River Winter, Mark Lindhult
Image Above: Eagle at Charles River, Rick Olick
Cover Page: Sudbury River, Gabby Queenan
Highlights & Orgs Page: Swift River Wildlife, Lindhult
Annual Report Design: Jayce Cheldin

2019 HIGHLIGHTS | JAN 1 - DEC 31

Leaders from across the state convene for a river summit in June.

THE VOICE FOR RIVERS

As the only organization bringing together people and organizations from across the state and beyond to speak on behalf of all Massachusetts rivers with a strong, unified voice, Mass Rivers plays a unique leadership role. The organization punches far above its weight, with policy accomplishments that compare favorably to those of much larger organizations. In 2019, we celebrated ten years as a staffed organization, and with your support, we continued to grow.

INCREASING ADVOCACY
We mobilized individuals and organizations to urge elected officials and agency leaders to act on key water policy issues including: sewage overflow public notification and drought management legislation, defending environmental standards for state hydropower regulations, strengthening revisions to the state Surface Water Quality Standards, updating state Water Conservation Standards, opposing the disastrous proposed federal Waters of the United States Rule, and more.

STRENGTHENING LOCAL GROUPS & BUILDING PARTNERSHIPS
Our first Massachusetts Rivers Summit attracted 40 member organizations. Presenters shared success stories and lessons learned that could be replicated by others. Twelve of our member organizations presented on recent and current initiatives. We plan to make this an annual event.

INSPIRING ACTIVISM
Mass Rivers organized its second Lobby for the Rivers Day at the Massachusetts State House with over 100 participants from districts across the state. Collectively, volunteers met with over twenty state senators and sixty state representatives and their respective legislative staff. This coordinated day of action elevates our cause in the State House and provides momentum for key legislative and budget priorities for rivers and streams.

SECURING ENVIRONMENTAL FUNDING
With non-profit conservation partners, we secured an additional $4.2 million in new dollars for state environmental agencies to protect and restore our rivers and streams. These dollars will primarily be directed toward monitoring water quality, removing dams, replacing culverts and assessing the impacts of aquatic invasive species.

Thank you for taking action to protect the Commonwealth's streams, rivers and watersheds!

2019 STAFF: Julia Blatt *(Executive Director)*, Gretchen McClain *(Operations and Membership Manager)*, and Gabby Queenan *(Policy Director)*

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ACHIEVEMENTS

Increased state funding for rivers by $4.2M

12 organizations presented at the first "Massachusetts River Summit" with 40 participating organizations

Recruited 100+ "Lobby for the Rivers" participants at the Massachusetts State House

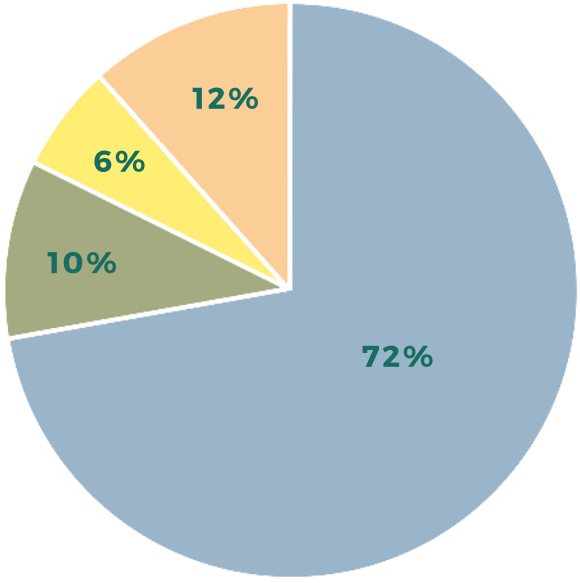
Grew to 75 organizational members across MA, RI and CT!

Shared 30+ presentations across the state

Member organizations and partners convened 65+ times to plan and implement advocacy actions

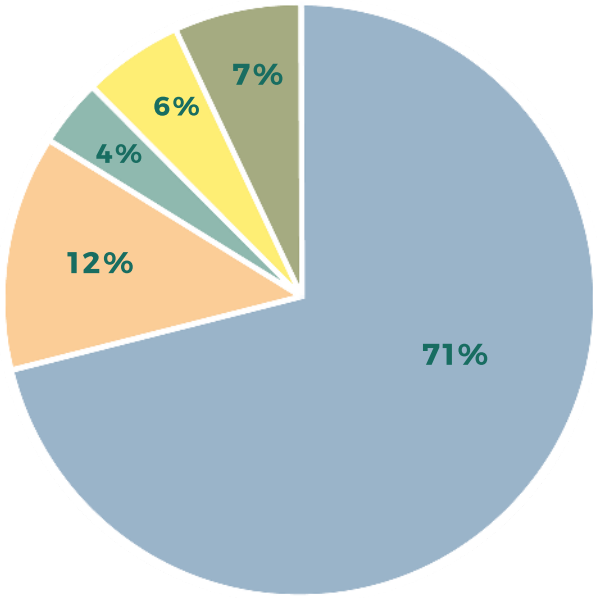
FINANCIALS

2019 REVENUES OF $268,600



- Individual Contributions
- Organizational Membership Dues
- Grants
- Program Revenues

2019 EXPENSES $211,400



- Personnel
- Tenancy
- Program
- Professional Services
- Operations

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