

# waterlines

## COVEHEAD-BRACKLEY WATERSHED NEWS

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### Enhancement Work Completed 2016

- ◇ Cleared 5 streams from estuaries to springs (60km)
- ◇ Constructed 25 brush mats to collect silt
- ◇ Planted 1500 native trees and shrubs with rabbit protection
- ◇ Tested stream and surface water weekly at 10 locations
- ◇ Canada Day Educational Booth
- ◇ Measured shoreline erosion at 10 worst spots
- ◇ Cleaned Covehead & Brackley Bay shorelines
- ◇ Displayed activities on website and Facebook
- ◇ Monthly fish sampling at 6 sites in Covehead and Brackley Bays (CAMP Program)
- ◇ Cooperated with Farmers on Nutrient Management Planning
- ◇ Measured oxygen and temperatures hourly in Black River estuary
- ◇ Monitored bays and estuaries for anoxic events
- ◇ Constructed 9 rock dams in field drainage ditch
- ◇ Collected sea lettuce for composting
- ◇ Distributed newsletters to community members
- ◇ Purchased new Nitrate Testing Photometer
- ◇ Replaced alders with native trees and food shrubs
- ◇ Completed annual spring runoff and redd surveys
- ◇ Presented the issues watersheds are facing to the Water Act Environmental Advisory Committee with desired results expected from the PEI Water Act



Summer 2016 crew: Nathan Roberts, Daniel Hobbs, Aaron Jackson, CJ Misener, Chet MacLean, Justin Walsh



@ Friends of Covehead-Brackley Bays

Visit our Web Page:

[www.fcbbwatershed.ca](http://www.fcbbwatershed.ca)

# Photo Contest Announces Winners and Exciting New Contest!

The first FCBB Photography Contest has been a great success with well over 200 excellent photographs received. The Stanhope Golf and Country Club Memberships for 2017 were awarded to April Adams in the adult category and Sadie Stapleton in the under 16. As well, 12 photographs were selected for prizes in specific categories. FCBB would like to thank all those who donated prizes: The Stanhope Golf Club, The Dunes, Shaw's Hotel, Dalvay By The Sea, Parks Canada, Vanco Tulips, Michael Hewitt and FCBB. We would also like to thank Troy MacKenzie for his invaluable assistance on our Facebook and website, and our guest judges Thea Jazbec of Stanhope and Duncan MacIntosh of West Covehead.

with details and rules to be found by following the links on our website <http://www.fcbbwatershed.ca> and our Facebook page.



L-R. April Adams with *Audicious Seagull* and Sadie Stapleton with *Releasing A Trout* receive their memberships from FCBB member Gordie MacCallum, representing The Stanhope Golf and Country Club, our major sponsor.

Michael Hewitt and Nancy Smitheram would like to thank every person who entered the contest. We were overwhelmed with the marvelous photographs and would like to encourage all of you to continue as we announce The Second Annual FCBB Photography Contest,

## 2017 FCBB Desk Top Calendar Don't Start Your Year Without One

FCBB has taken the twelve winning photographs from its photography contest and turned it into a calendar for your desktop, a perfect gift for you, friends or family. All board members will be selling them as

well as some extra volunteers and if you want one, or ten, get them soon. Contact your nearest board member.



## 2016 FCBB Youth Eco-Learning & Adventure Day

On August 12 FCBB hosted our annual Kids Day. The event was well attended and other than a few rain drops the day went off without a hitch thanks to great attendees and diligent planning by the FCBB summer crew. The children completed various fish sampling techniques and identification methods, viewed several watershed enhancement projects,

planted long-living native Acadian forest tree species and were provided lunch. There are plans of expanding this event next year and if you have any suggestions or would like to volunteer please contact FCBB.

A special thanks are in order to volunteers: Rosie MacFarlane, Michael Hewitt, Troy MacKenzie, & Verner Smitheram



## Testimonial to John Baird

John is a key figure in the history of the FCBB which began in the late nineties as a local committee of residents concerned about the declining fish population, the degradation of the streams and the impact of mussel leases in the bays.

He was recruited as a member in the summer of 2001 by the dynamic David Latimer who was FCBB's first Chair and Treasurer. Apparently, minute-taking was a hit and miss affair so John took it upon himself to do the secretarial task. His earliest computer records date back to October 19<sup>th</sup>, 2005. This is a good example of John's great sense of duty...if he thinks something needs to be done, he doesn't hesitate, he just does it. And, once he starts, he just carries on as he has from 2005 to 2015 when he retired from the Board.

John is committed to his community. This is evident not only with us but also in his role as Chair of the Northshore Community Centre Committee where he spent about ten years tending to the development of the building and activities within it. In addition, he serves the Stanhope United Church in many capacities.

With FCBB John has been the ever-conscientious Secretary recording motions and maintaining our records in detail. That sense of duty and precision made his sober second look at all our policies and projects invaluable to FCBB. Reliability is another of John's traits:

He never missed a meeting, he was always available to co-sign a cheque, he attended extra meetings with the PEI Watershed Alliance, he returns every call...he always delivers. At the same time, John is a modest person who never seeks attention or compliments while being quick to recognize others.

John, we offer you this testimonial as a token of how much we value your contributions over fifteen years and admire the generous community-minded person you are. This is a thank you, not a goodbye, as we expect to continue to benefit from your service and counsel in the years to come.





Beaver dam in Bell's Creek blocking 15 km of essential spawning habitat

*Friends of Covehead-Brackley Bay Inc. (FCBB) is a community-based volunteer organization established in 2000, incorporated in 2001. It was formed by a group of community members concerned with the health and sustainability of the Covehead-Brackley watershed area. Its mandate is to create a watershed area that is healthy: one which nourishes the land and water, one which is sustainable to native flora and fauna, and also balances the interests of residents, including those working in aquaculture, forestry, agriculture, fisheries and tourism.*

## Harmful Effects of Beaver Colonies

Beavers when located in appropriate locations can provide benefits to watershed health, but when located in upper and middle sections of rivers they can block essential spawning habitat, they can also cause major damage to stream banks and can cause severe flooding to occur. If you have nuisance beaver colony please contact FCBB.

(Below Left) One year of Beaver stream bank damage in 2015



(Below Right) FCBB's corrective measures to repair the damage



## Funding Partners 2016

FCBB wish to thank the following funding partners and volunteers without whom very little could be accomplished:

- PEI Department of Environment, Labour & Justice
- Stanhope Golf Course & Country Club
- PEI Department of Transportation & Infrastructure
- Environment Canada Eco-Action
- Hon. Wade MacLauchlan MLA York-Oyster Bed
- Canada Summer Jobs
- Insurance Bureau of Canada
- PEI Jobs For Youth
- PEI Greening Spaces Program
- Parks Canada
- North Shore Community Council
- J Frank Daudet Provincial Tree Nursery
- Robert Vessey, former MLA & Minister of PEI TIR
- Agriculture & Agri-Foods Canada
- FCBB Board of Directors & volunteers
- Evergreen & Cannon Canada
- PEI Employment Development Agency

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The publication of this newsletter is made possible through generous funding from

