

Sub Committees

Each committee will have an assigned chairperson to facilitate and organize meetings. Each stewardship council representative will serve on at least one committee per calendar year. Committees will be organized to achieve the goals and objectives of the Taunton River Stewardship Council. The Taunton River Stewardship Council Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson will automatically have membership on all sub-committees. All sub-committees are responsible to make recommendations to the council as a whole for approval.

Operations Sub-Committee

Responsibilities:

- compiles yearly budget for council
- developing and implementing funding plans
- filing necessary grant reports, documentations or fulfilling any other necessary funding obligations
- assists in implementation of grant program after review of applications by Resource Stewardship Sub-Committee
- creates council meeting minutes
- assists TRSC chairperson in development of meeting agendas
- oversees staff or interns
- reviews and conducts business on behalf of council

Resource Stewardship Sub-Committee

Responsibilities:

- development and oversight of specific projects related to natural resource protection and restoration
- oversees natural resource issues related to the implementation of the Taunton River Stewardship Plan
- organizes recreational activities to high light the Taunton River Wild and Scenic Resources
 - such as hikes, or paddles
- promotes long-term monitoring and stewardship of the river in partnership with other groups and volunteers
- assists in reviews of projects along the river
- assists in TRSC grant application reviews based on established criteria

Outreach and Education Sub-Committee

Responsibilities:

- increase public awareness and understanding of the Taunton River and the Wild and Scenic designation of the river
- inform community officials, community members, and partners about on-going river issues and activities
- promote partnerships to address river issues
- on-going outreach activities including website content, newsletter, email news, media relations
- development of informative and interpretive materials

Projects and Activities

Resource Stewardship

Water Quality

- Develop water quality monitoring QAPP for Taunton River and tributaries
- Increase capacity of water quality monitoring (wqm) program and add monitoring sites within the W&S corridor
- Ensure yearly water quality monitoring report is created
- Address stormwater improvement in the corridor communities through direct assistance and education

Recreation

- Support the Town River Landing project in Bridgewater
- Support Somerset public access project at Broad Cove

Restoration

- increase volunteer anadromous fish counting program
- pursue dam removal at Rattlesnake Brook (work with Fall River Water Department) and Cotley River (design in 2010)
- continue to push fish ladder resolution at Mt Hope Pond/Draka Factory

Land and Resource Protection

- continue to support communities working to pass Community Protection Act
- monitor salt marsh grass die-offs in the estuary, assist studies in this area
- develop criteria and review applications for grants for land conservation, funding legal fees, title searches and other efforts

Outreach and Education

Outreach

- develop and maintain Taunton River Stewardship Council website with up to date issue specific content related to Outstanding Resources of the Taunton River and the Stewardship Plan
- assist habitat restoration partners through supporting outreach tasks related to dam removal and habitat restoration projects on tributaries
- install signage at road crossings in the Wild & Scenic corridor and along the major tributaries in member communities
- implement at least one yearly recreational activity or event highlighting the Wild & Scenic resources of the Taunton River

Education

- develop educational initiatives for use in member community schools
- develop other educational materials as appropriate