

## Ashuelot River Clean Up

### *Expand your base!!!*

#### Possible participants:

- Public works departments of towns/city to receive &/or pick up collected trash.
- Advertising: use email lists/newsletters of sponsoring organizations; social media.
- Canoe outfitters will often donate a few canoes for use.
- High Schools (will need an adult supervisor, often club advisor, & parental consents if under 18).
  - service clubs like Interact or Key Club
  - environmental clubs
- Colleges/Universities-especially if they are on the river!
  - fraternities or sororities
  - conservation organizations
  - community service department
- Businesses on the river or otherwise:
  - monetary support, supplies
  - allow employees to do service for the day

#### Connecticut River Conservancy (formerly Connecticut River Watershed Council)

<https://www.ctriver.org/>

- Source to Sea annual river cleanup; focus is the CT river watershed.
- Provides bags, gloves, guidance for river cleanup.
- Typically held the 4<sup>th</sup> weekend of Sept., but you can still participate if you use another date within a week or two.
- Website has useful information/tools.

#### Current organizations involved in ARLAC Clean up

- Cheshire County Conservation District
  - Provides overall coordination
- City of Keene
  - provides staff person, dumpsters for city
  - coordinates with city civic groups & schools (neighborhood organizations, high school clubs such as Sierra Club)
- Keene State University
  - office of Community Service
  - coordinates students; fraternities & sororities
- Moosewood Ecological LLC
- Keene Young Professionals Network
- Harris Center for Conservation Education
  - publicity in newsletter
- Town of Swanzey
  - accepts trash from clean up.
- Ashuelot River Campground
  - offers free night stay to campers if they participate in clean up.
  - has canoes that are used in the clean-up.
- The Mountain
  - provides “Ashuelot River Clean up” t-shirts to give away

### Considerations for Clean-up coordination

- Boats or foot? Can you provide an experience for both? Is the shoreline accessible by foot? Typically you can glean more trash with boats on the river. Canoes are better than kayaks as they offer more volume. Small motor boats are great if your river can accommodate them.
- If you have boats, you need to organize a shuttle depending on the river segment done. Sometimes a volunteer is willing to drive a group of volunteers back to their cars when they don't feel they can participate in the actual clean-up.
- Pick-up trucks can be used to transport trash to local transfer station if your town cannot pick up the trash...another volunteer assignment.
- Plan time to unload boats when setting the time frame for your clean-up.