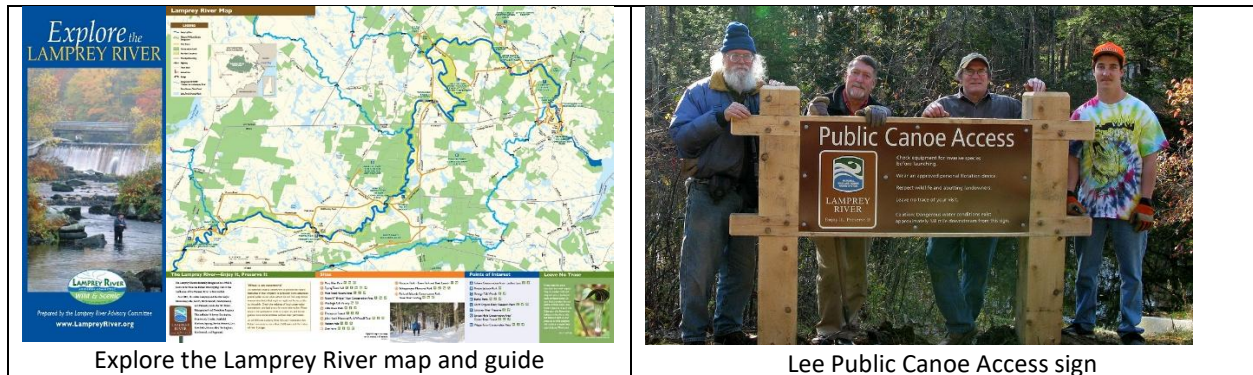


Recreation

Goal:

Improve and increase appropriate, non-motorized opportunities for public enjoyment along and in the Lamprey River and the designated tributaries (Little, North, North Branch, Pawtuckaway, and Piscassic rivers).



Background

People have a natural affinity for water; they seek to be near it and enjoy activities associated with it. These activities include walking, bird-watching, picnics, photography, fishing, boating, and swimming. When people can enjoy the natural and cultural assets of the rivers and their corridors, they form a connection to the rivers and are inspired to protect them. Long-term enjoyment of the rivers is dependent on being able to access the rivers and enjoy them appropriately through low-impact activities. The recreational resources along the rivers were recognized by the State of New Hampshire in designating the rivers into the NH Rivers Management and Protection Program. Analytics reveal that information about recreation is the primary reason people visit www.LampreyRiver.org.

Key Future Actions

- Offer public recreational activities that combine fun and education, such as guided walks or paddles.
- Expand and enhance plans for recreation and public enjoyment activities that include the entire Lamprey River and the five designated tributaries. Expand recreational opportunities for people with disabilities.
- Work with partners to support river-based activities for the public at riverside parks:
 - family fun day
 - river regatta
 - walks that feature conserved properties or town forests.

- Work with towns to improve existing recreational areas:
 - Durham: Create a universally accessible picnic area.
 - Epping: Create signage for the natural playground at Mary Blair Park.
 - Raymond: Investigate the plausibility of refurbishing and reopening the beach area at the Lamprey River Elementary School.
- Advocate for appropriate, non-damaging use of river recreational resources:
 - Work with towns to identify and reduce erosion issues at parks.
 - Use maps and kiosks to inform the public on ways to reduce recreational erosion.
- Explore sponsoring a road race, volksmarch, cycling tour, or paddling event along the river. If successful, make it an annual, signature event.
- Enhance or create additional recreational tour maps to include the towns in the middle and upper Lamprey River and the tributaries. List appropriate activities and accessibility status at all sites.
- Encourage riverside landowners to allow public access along the river. Provide information on amendments to RSA 212:34 that limit landowner liability when the public uses private property.

potential partners and resources
town recreation departments
town conservation commissions
town historical associations
National Park Service
NPS River Access Planning Guide
NH State Parks
SELT
National Recreation and Park Association
River Management Society

To view past Recreation Accomplishments, click [here](#) or go to Appendix C, page 51.