



HOUSATONIC VALLEY ASSOCIATION

2008 ANNUAL REPORT



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Front and back covers:

Horst Antosch

You are the heart and soul of the Housatonic River Valley. Your support spreads from the western hills of the Berkshires to the rural fields of the Harlem Valley's Tenmile Basin. Through the Litchfield Hills to the oyster beds of Milford and Stratford, you clean water, restore rivers and protect natural places.

The enthusiasm is contagious. Land conservation leaders across western Connecticut take on the challenge of saving more land than ever before. Middle-school teachers in the Berkshires open their classrooms to river educators. More and more people take the paddle challenge to enjoy the beauty of the Housatonic River. Volunteers keep an eye on riverfront conditions. We restore stream banks. We haul out trash. We stop pollution. We save farms and forests. We work with town leaders, developers and neighborhood groups for common-sense green development. We're green for 67 years and counting—because of you.

Yes, we have challenges. Sprawl threatens our rivers and natural places. Changing climate conditions push our New England forests northward. Demand jumps for our precious and finite supplies of clean water. But you are the counter weight. You balance the odds. You make success possible.

Imagine where this valley would be without you. On behalf of the rest of the HVA team, thank you!



Marc Taylor

Marc Taylor, President

Lynn Werner

Lynn Werner, Executive Director



FOCUS ON WATER

45%

of the river is being tested for water quality by HVA volunteers.

46%

of the Housatonic riverbanks are conserved.

500

Massachusetts middle school students have explored the river through HELP (Housatonic Environmental Literacy Program),



100%

of the Housatonic River shoreline

is now assessed for its good and bad conditions.



Your support stopped water pollution in New York, completed the Housatonic shoreline survey in Connecticut and developed dam release plans in Massachusetts.

You watch over our rivers

Throughout the Berkshires, western Connecticut and eastern New York you make it possible for volunteers and partners to:

- Safeguard the historic Shelton Canal along the Housatonic in Shelton.
- Prevent pollution of groundwater and the Housatonic River in Oxford and the Tenmile watershed in Dover, Pawling and Amenia.
- Develop dam release control plans for healthy river flows for fish and other water creatures from Pittsfield to Stockbridge.
- Share a flow management plan for Massachusetts' water resources with the Department of Environmental Protection.
- Stop riverbank erosion with hundreds of plantings along the Tenmile River, Amenia Creek and Webatuck and Swamp rivers.
- Complete the final 30 miles of Housatonic shoreline survey in northwest Connecticut.
- Bring regional watershed issues to the U.S. Congress and Dutchess County Legislature.
- Create a new estuary interpretive sign with Sikorsky for visitors to the Sikorsky Bridge Walkway in Stratford.
- Launch HELP (Housatonic Environmental Literacy Program) with Mass Audubon to

reconnect people with the Housatonic through science education and river trips.

- Expand the Storm Drain Awareness and aquatic insect monitoring programs to schools in the Berkshires, northwest Connecticut, Danbury and Stratford.
- Continue to study the effects on fish, their habitat and oyster beds of the proposed Housatonic Tidal Energy Project.
- Complete a Health of the Housatonic Watershed map displaying chemical analysis and water quality, quantity and flow. Check it out at www.hvatoday.org.

At year's end, you helped us . . .

- Push for special state protection of 12 miles of river corridor from Pittsfield to Lenox.
- Press for sensible PCB cleanup.
- Organize a Housatonic River protection action plan from the Massachusetts border to southern New Milford.
- Protect the Five Mile Brook in Seymour from development that would have added pollutants to this high water quality stream.
- Put together an action plan for a critical base-line study of the north flow of the Swamp River in Pawling and Dover.

FOCUS ON LAND

Special Thanks to our Corporate Associates

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You extended greenways, launched the first-ever Litchfield Hills Greenprint Collaborative and watershed management in New York's Tenmile valley.

Greenway continues growth

The Housatonic Greenway goal of a conserved riverfront from the source to Long Island Sound is shared by more communities.

- Seymour endorses a plan for a two-mile greenway along the Naugatuck River.
- Work continues on the riverside pedestrian trail in Hinsdale and Dalton.
- Amenia community leaders vote to work with HVA on a greenway connecting the Village of Wassaic to the train station.
- A generous donation of a 10-acre conservation easement in Salisbury permanently protects another half mile of riverfront.

Greenprint enters action phase

Your support has brought Greenprint plans for the Litchfield Hills to the attention of 18 conservation groups. These regional leaders, known as the Greenprint Collaborative, are taking on the task of saving half the undeveloped land in the Litchfield Hills in less than 20 years.

Working together for land's sake

- Joining with Friends of the Great Swamp, the Coalition for the Responsible Growth of Dover, Sustainable Hudson Valley,

Clearwater and Duell Hollow Conservation Society to address regional watershed issues and protection of natural resources.

- Launching a landowners conservation group to address forestland preservation on Rattlesnake Mountain.
- Joining many individuals to stop dumping, bulldozing along the river, runoff and septic violations.
- Explaining the benefits of low impact development to town officials, environmental groups, land owners and developers at a forum in Shelton. Plans are underway to repeat the event for land use boards and commissions and plan a new event for developers in the Tenmile valley.

At year's end, you supported . . .

- Targeting the top 50 regionally important landscapes for protection.
- Continuing work on protecting more than 8,000 acres of important Northeast Utilities conservation land statewide including 4,000 in the Housatonic valley.
- Creating statewide riverbuffer protection in Connecticut similar to that in Massachusetts.

Special Thanks to our
Project Sponsors

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Anonymous
Berkshire Taconic
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Commonwealth of
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Dutchess County
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Housatonic Heritage
Iroquois Leaf Fund
Land Trust Alliance
Massachusetts
Environmental Trust
Natural Resource
Damages Fund,
Massachusetts
Sub-Council

BECAUSE OF YOU



Cleanup Volunteers



Golf tournament

You, our faithful members, volunteers and partners, make the difference. We extend our grateful thanks to all of our project sponsors and corporate associates listed on these pages and to . . .

- HVA Board members Diane von Furstenberg and Christine Baranski, and friends Robert Couturier, Annette and Oscar de la Renta and Hamilton South along with generous business owners and residents who supported our annual auction to benefit land and water throughout the Housatonic Valley.
- Crystal Rock, Heritage Development Corp., Charter Business, People's United Bank, FirstLight Power Resources, O'Connor Davies Munns & Dobbins, A.E. Olsen Co., O&G Industries, HVA Board members Bob Houlihan and "Whitey" Frew and the scores of golfers who spent a glorious day on the Heritage Village Golf Course in June to benefit clean water and a healthy river valley.
- All of you who helped lead or attend our hikes, paddles, cleanups and events this year.
- All of our river monitors, from the Berkshires through the Tenmile Basin and on to Long Island Sound. You truly are the eyes and ears of our rivers and streams.

Special Thanks to our
Project Sponsors

NewAlliance Foundation
Norcross Wildlife
Foundation, Inc.
Northeast Utilities
Peabody Foundation
Pitney Bowes Corporation
Sikorsky Aircraft Division
of United Technologies
Corporation
South Central Regional
Water Authority
Town of Beacon Falls
Town of Seymour
Trust for Public Land
Trustees of Reservations:
Highlands Communities
Initiative
The Upper Housatonic
Valley National
Heritage Area



FINANCIAL REPORT

HOUSATONIC VALLEY ASSOCIATION, INC. AND HVA FOUNDATION, INC.

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2008

	UNRESTRICTED	TEMPORARILY RESTRICTED	PERMANENTLY RESTRICTED	TOTAL
SUPPORT AND REVENUE				
Membership Dues	\$ 55,711	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 55,711
Contributions Above Dues	241,413	-	259,381	500,794
Grants	207,180	23,250	-	230,430
Events	224,190	-	-	224,190
Fees	13,465	-	-	13,465
Rent	6,361	-	-	6,361
Investment Income	5,265	12,952	-	18,217
Donated Goods and Services	6,750	-	-	6,750
Unrealized Gains (Losses) on Investments	(41,352)	(40,927)	-	(82,279)
Other	(63)	-	-	(63)
Net Assets Released From Restrictions	22,884	(22,884)	-	-
Total Support & Revenue	<u>741,804</u>	<u>(27,609)</u>	<u>259,381</u>	<u>973,576</u>
EXPENSES				
Program Services				
Watch	130,802	-	-	130,802
Geographic Information Systems	17,125	-	-	17,125
Environmental Education	174,353	-	-	174,353
Land Protection	178,610	-	-	178,610
Water Protection	151,693	-	-	151,693
Total Program Services	<u>652,583</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>652,583</u>
Supporting Services				
Membership	58,163	-	-	58,163
Events	81,705	-	-	81,705
Management and General	20,037	-	-	20,037
Fundraising	45,450	-	-	45,450
Total Supporting Services	<u>205,355</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>205,355</u>
Total Expenses	<u>857,938</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>857,938</u>
Change in Net Assets	<u>(116,134)</u>	<u>(27,609)</u>	<u>259,381</u>	<u>115,638</u>
Net Assets at Beginning of Year	<u>515,834</u>	<u>93,551</u>	<u>620,010</u>	<u>1,229,395</u>
Net Assets at End of Year	<u>\$ 399,700</u>	<u>\$ 65,942</u>	<u>\$ 879,391</u>	<u>\$ 1,345,033</u>

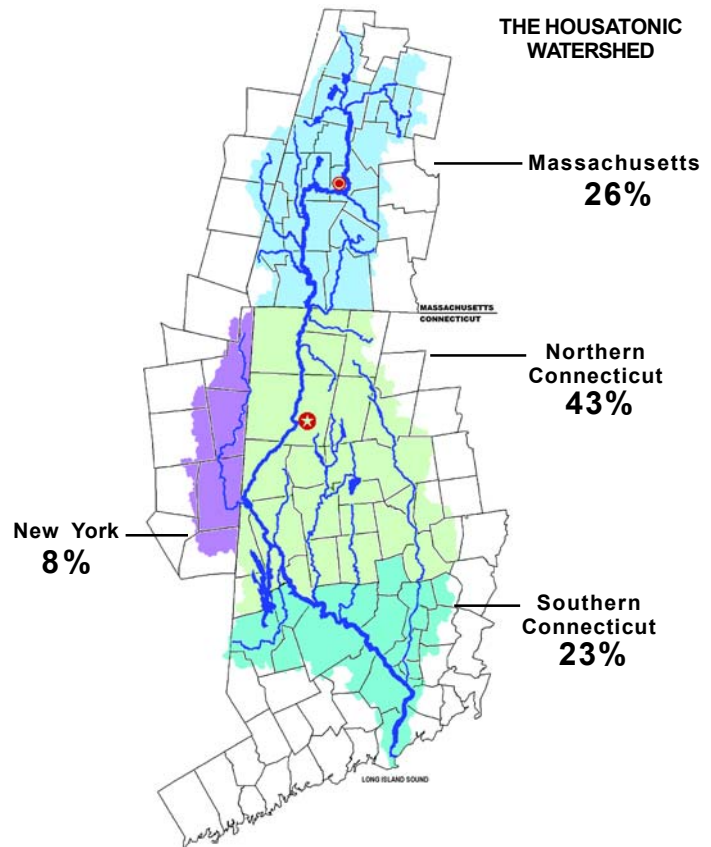
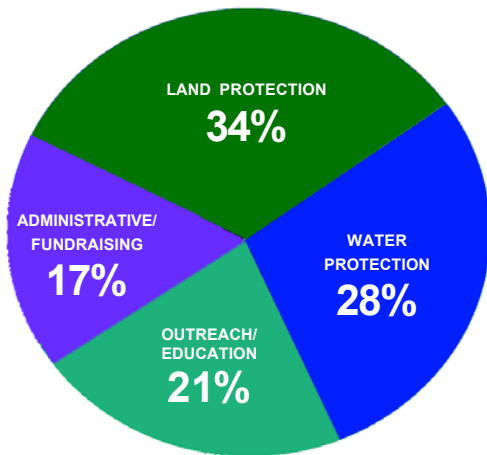
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION JUNE 30, 2008

ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 45,533
Accounts Receivable	78,012
Prepaid Expenses	4,415
Total Current Assets	<u>127,960</u>
Property and Equipment	
Land	216,206
Buildings and Renovations	274,573
Furnishings and Equipment	157,906
Less Accumulated Depreciation	(327,092)
Net Property and Equipment	<u>321,593</u>
Other Assets	
Investments, at Market (Cost \$900,468)	901,310
Deferred Land Sale Costs	6,342
Total Other Assets	<u>907,652</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>\$ 1,357,205</u>
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	
Current Liabilities	
Accounts Payable	\$ 4,925
Accrued Salaries and Wages	7,247
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES	<u>12,172</u>
Net Assets	
Unrestricted	399,700
Temporarily Restricted	65,942
Permanently Restricted	879,391
TOTAL NET ASSETS	<u>1,345,033</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	<u>\$ 1,357,205</u>

2008 AT A GLANCE

The Housatonic Valley Association's mission is to save the natural character and environmental health of our communities by protecting land and water in the Housatonic River valley.

How we spent our resources



Where we spent our resources



CT: P.O. Box 28, Cornwall Bridge, CT 06754 860-672-6678 E-mail: conn@hvatoday.org
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HVA STAFF

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Greenprint Director

Kirk Sinclair
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Mark Brown
*GIS Associate**

CONNECTICUT/NEW YORK
WATER PROTECTION

Jenifer Gunther
Connecticut Water Protection Manager

Ron Skurat
*Southern Housatonic Watershed Coordinator**

Tonia Shoumatoff
*Tenmile River Watershed Manager**

Tyler Cheney
*Philip Crane Jones Fellow**

COMMUNITY EDUCATION AND OUTREACH

Richard Sears
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Jane Bakker
*Development/Marketing Associate**

Brenda Singer
*Membership/Volunteer Coordinator**

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*PARTTIME



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