

An Invitation to Volunteer...



Spruce Creek, its estuary and watershed (which includes its tributaries and feeder streams) comprises 51% of Kittery and is the town's primary watershed. Encompassing nearly 19 miles it also claims a smaller but still significant portion of Eliot.

This beautiful but fragile body of water has been identified by the state of Maine as a nonpoint source priority watershed due to bacterial contamination, low dissolved oxygen, toxic contamination, and compromised ability to support commercial marine resources (clam and oyster beds). The Spruce Creek watershed is also listed by the DEP as one of seven coastal watersheds most at risk from development in the state.

Spruce Creek Watershed Improvement Project (SCWIP), Phase 1

Sponsored by the Town of Kittery (in close partnership with the Town of Eliot, the Spruce Creek Association, and the York County Soil and Water Conservation District), this project is funded under the 319 Stormwater program of the Maine

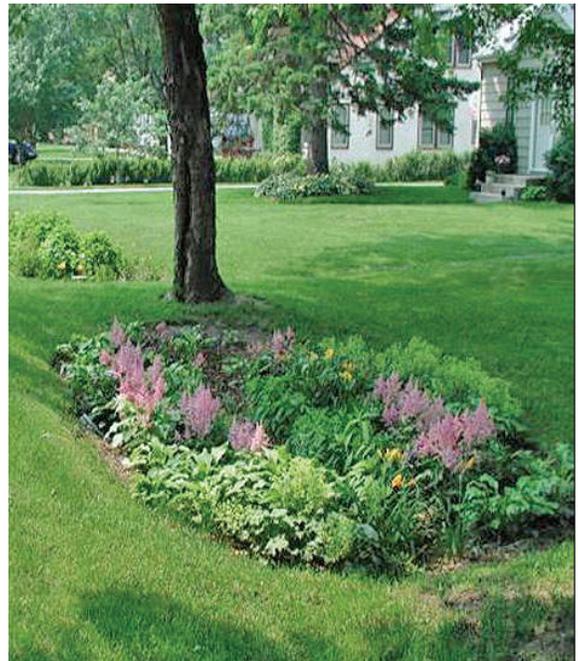
Department of Environmental Protection (using EPA funds). The project funding will total more than \$176,000. The timeline is from May 2008 through March 2010, as participants work to reduce bacteria, sediment and nutrient loading into Spruce Creek by addressing a full suite of polluted runoff problems. Another critical part of the project is community education and outreach.

To learn more about SCWIP, please visit www.savekitterywaters.org.

You Are Invited to Be a Part of this Very Important Project

The "watershed improvement" phase (Phase I) of the overall undertaking will consist of four projects—actual work on the ground including stormwater retrofits and Low-Impact Development efforts—to be completed by the towns of the Spruce Creek Watershed. There will also be three overall coordination teams. A key component of the funding support for SCWIP is community involvement—providing the essential "people power" to organize and implement these actions. It represents a unique and important opportunity for ordinary citizens and residents of the watershed to make a lasting contribution to protecting our local waters for ourselves and future generations.

Volunteer leaders and participants are vital to the Towns' efforts to reduce the stormwater impacts and protect and restore the quality of Spruce Creek. The contributions of time and expertise to team projects are our most important and valued resource. We hope you'll consider joining us in this effort!



The Project Teams

We invite Kittery and Eliot residents to participate on these working teams in whatever way they can. All skill levels are welcome and every effort will be made to schedule activities as flexibly as possible while they extend throughout the year to accommodate a wide range of volunteers.

- **Community Outreach and Education Team**
 - If you're interested in **getting the message out** to our residents and businesses about how their home and land practices can impact water quality, then consider joining our Community Outreach Team in developing educational materials, creating press releases, and coordinating events.
- **Resources Team**
 - If you would like to participate by **finding volunteers and sponsors** to staff our projects and help us meet our goals, then you should join our Resources Team in their efforts to support each of the other teams. You'll also help to find businesses to contribute goods and services to help us reach our goals.
- **Stormwater Retrofit and Low-Impact Development *Project Team***
 - If you're interested in **state-of-the-art stormwater management**, then join the Stormwater Retrofit and LID Development project team in implementing innovative stormwater treatment projects, which will not only treat stormwater but serve as demonstration sites at municipal and commercial locations in town.
- **Septic System Maintenance and Repair *Project Team***
 - If you are interested in **helping reduce the impact of failing septic systems** on the watershed and reclaim our clam flats this is the team for you. We'd like to invite you to join our Septic System Maintenance & Repair project team on their two-fold effort to educate homeowners about septic maintenance as well as to identify and remedy failing systems in the watershed.
- **Residential Conservation Practices *Project Team***
 - If you're interested in **working with residents** to do a better job of managing their direct impact on water quality, then taking part in our Residential Conservation Practices team is just right for you. The programs you'll help to develop and actual practices you'll install will serve as models for how other residents can do their part to protect water quality.
- **Stream Crossing Erosion Control and Culvert Replacement *Project Team***
 - If you're interested in working to **eliminate flow restrictions and reduce sediment loading** at several key sites in Kittery and Eliot, consider working with our Stream Crossing Erosion Control and Culvert Replacement project team to stabilize priority erosion sites and replace failing culverts to reduce the overload of sediment into the water.

How to Join

To respond to this invitation or for more information on becoming a volunteer please contact: **Paula Ledgett** at **207-439-2492** or e-mail **Paula@sprucecreekassociation.org**. To respond by mail, write to Paula Ledgett, Resources Team Leader, Spruce Creek Association, PO Box 53, Kittery, ME 03904.



*Spruce Creek Watershed Improvement Project (Phase 1) - www.savekitterywaters.org
Funded by the Maine Department of Environmental Protection Nonpoint Program*