

Spring 2026



NEWSLETTER

Hammond River Angling Association

Operations



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www.facebook.com/hammondriveranglingassociation



Celebration of Life



Randolph Douglas Giffin

August 27th, 1926 - October 18th, 2025

Family and friends of Randolph Douglas Giffin
are invited to an informal gathering to celebrate his life.

June 13th, 2026 | 1:00pm - 3:00pm

**Hammond River Angling Association Conservation Center
10 Porter Road, Nauwigewauk, NB**

There will be no formal service, but there will be
a brief prayer at 2:00pm and an opportunity to share memories.

Light refreshments will be available.

Meet A Board Member

WELCOME TO OUR NEW BOARD MEMBER, SIMON OSMOND



Simon has lived along the Hammond River for his whole life and has a deep connection to and appreciation for the different environments the Hammond River has to offer. Growing up in the Hammond River area his days were filled with hiking, biking, kayaking, and fishing.

As a teen he was active in Scouts, where he engaged in conservation efforts like tree planting and local park cleanup projects. These experiences instilled a lifelong commitment to conservation and community stewardship.

As a business owner managing a property maintenance enterprise, he has continued to prioritize sustainability and environmental responsibility in his professional endeavors. He is excited to bring his experiences and dedication to the HRAA board, working collaboratively to preserve and enhance the natural beauty of the Hammond River for generations to come.

Recent Events

28th Annual Dinner and Auction

Thank you to everyone who made this year's Hoedown-themed Conservation Dinner and Auction a wild success- we raised over \$25,000 to support our conservation programs here at the HRAA. Grab your bell bottoms and get ready to disco on May 8th 2027 as the theme for next years dinner is the 70's.



Recent Events

Fly-tying

Our fly-tying classes have come to a close for the year. Thank you to Aurele Daigle, Bruce Moore, and Jack Cole for all their help with the classes!



Upcoming Events

Family Fishing Derby 2026

We're excited for the return of our Annual Family Fishing Derby on June 6th and 7th! This event brings together families, experienced anglers, and first-time fishers for a day of fun, community, and hopefully a few fish stories too! We're also hoping to host a Learn-to-Fly-Fish event this year for anyone interested in trying something new.

Whether you're an experienced angler or have never held a fishing rod before, everyone is welcome!



Projects

2026 is shaping up to be one of HRAA's biggest and busiest years yet! From restoring salmon habitat and planting thousands of trees, to youth programs, community science, water monitoring, and exciting volunteer opportunities, our team has a lot planned for the months ahead. Whether you want to get your hands dirty, learn something new, help protect local waterways, or simply follow along, there will be plenty of opportunities to be part of the action!

Salt Springs Brook Restoration

Big things are happening at Salt Springs Brook! This major restoration project will focus on stabilizing streambanks using root wad revetments- natural structures that help reduce erosion while creating important habitat for fish and wildlife. The project will also include extensive soil sampling and analysis, habitat assessments, and a goal of planting an incredible 2,000 native trees!

Community involvement will play a huge role in this project. Volunteers will have opportunities to participate in tree planting events, learn about soil science through citizen science workshops, and help restore one of our watershed's most important salmon streams. If you've ever wanted to spend a day outside making a visible difference, this project will have lots of opportunities to get involved!



Youth Fishing Club

Fishing season is going to be busy! Our Youth Fishing Club will continue meeting monthly (and sometimes twice a month) to teach fishing skills, fish identification, regulations, stewardship, and more. Our first meeting was a huge success filled with smiles and plenty of fish caught! We can't wait to go into this summer with such a passionate group of young anglers. Whether they're just beginning their fishing journey or they've been fishing for years all are welcome!



Our Riverkeepers program is back and packed with hands-on learning experiences! Participants will compare river and pond water samples using Water Rangers testing kits, go critter dipping to discover what lives beneath the water surface, create wildlife habitat for birds, frogs, bugs, and owls, and take part in shoreline cleanups and stewardship activities.

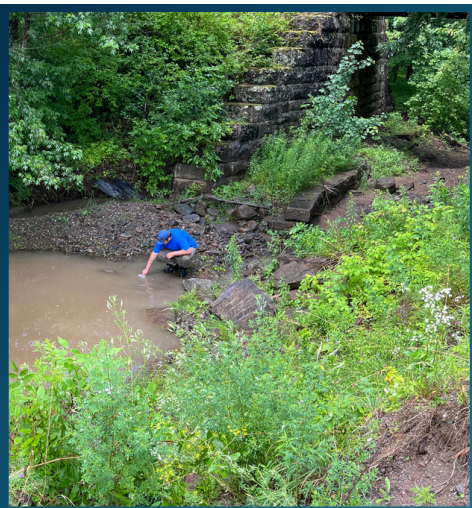
One exciting addition this year will be our public "Data Derby!" Community members will have opportunities to learn how to use Water Rangers kits themselves and contribute data to citizen science efforts. Whether you're a future scientist or just curious about your local streams, there will be plenty of opportunities to jump in and get involved!



Water Quality Monitoring

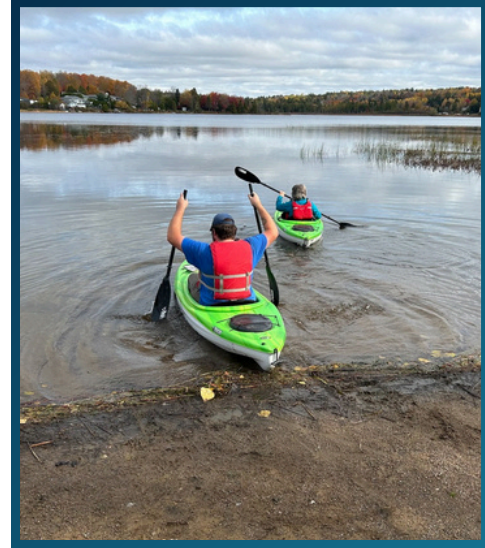
Clean water starts with good data, and HRAA will be collecting a lot of it this year! Our team will monitor 23 sites every month over four months, collecting laboratory samples and in-field measurements to help better understand watershed health.

This work will include installation of temperature loggers, continued cyanobacteria monitoring, and deployment of our CyanoTracker network to provide real-time environmental information. We're also excited to support the creation of the Darlings Lake Management Advisory Committee and continue working alongside local partners and Hampton Town Council to better understand and protect local watersheds.



Ritchie Lake will once again be an important focus area this year. Working with the Town of Quispamsis and the Ritchie Lake Management Advisory Committee, HRAA will conduct monthly monitoring at seven locations around the lake and its inflows and outflows.

Activities will include water quality monitoring, drone surveys, land-use assessments, invasive species investigations, and fish population studies. We'll even be deploying minnow traps to better understand aquatic communities and investigate species presence. Every piece of data collected helps improve our understanding of the lake and support future management decisions.



Salmon Creek Stewardship

Salmon Creek will see a wide variety of activities this year, and community members will have opportunities to get involved too!

Volunteer spring and fall cleanup events will help remove litter and improve the health of the watershed. New educational signs will be installed along trails, while HRAA staff conduct habitat assessments, electrofishing, eDNA sampling, fish passage investigations, and water quality monitoring.

This project will also examine potential digger log installation locations and document fish barriers and gaspereau mortality concerns. If you've been looking for a cleanup event to participate in, keep an eye out- we'd love to see you there!



Outer Bay of Fundy Salmon Collaboration

HRAA is working alongside partners to strengthen collaboration around Outer Bay of Fundy salmon rivers located below the Mactaquac Dam. This initiative will focus on building stronger partnerships, sharing knowledge, identifying information gaps, and increasing coordination between organizations working toward common conservation goals.

We're particularly excited about opportunities for shared monitoring equipment, collaborative field work, and building greater public awareness around these underrepresented rivers and their importance.



Wood, Water, Willows!

One of our most exciting new projects is Wood, Water, Willows! This two-year initiative will explore innovative, nature-based solutions to improve watershed health and reduce nutrient impacts.

HRAA will install wood chip socks and coir logs within tributaries, monitor conditions above and below installations, conduct microbial source tracking investigations, and harvest and plant willows to strengthen riparian areas.

Community members may also have opportunities to assist with willow harvesting and planting activities. This project combines restoration, research, and hands-on stewardship, and we're excited to see where it leads!



American Eel Education and Monitoring

Did you know American eels make one of the most incredible migrations in the animal kingdom? This year HRAA will be launching a project focused on increasing awareness and correcting misconceptions surrounding this fascinating species.

The project will include public education around eel biology, fishing regulations, and conservation, while also helping anglers understand how to safely release accidentally caught eels and avoid unintended capture altogether.

Electrofishing surveys will also help assess eel abundance and habitat connectivity. We're excited to shine a spotlight on a species that often doesn't receive the attention it deserves!



Community Stewardship, Cleanups & Tree Planting!

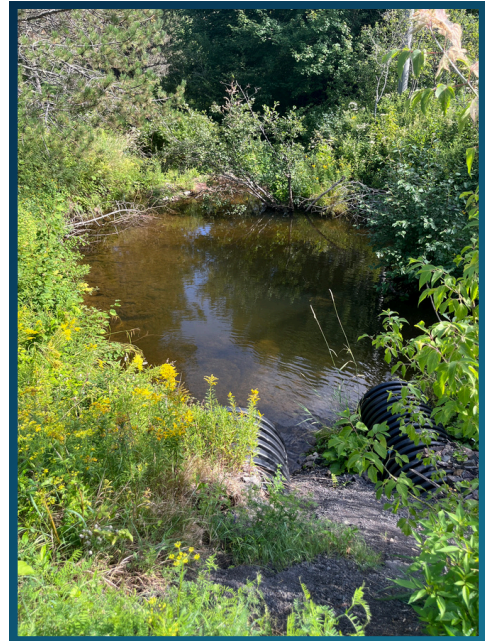
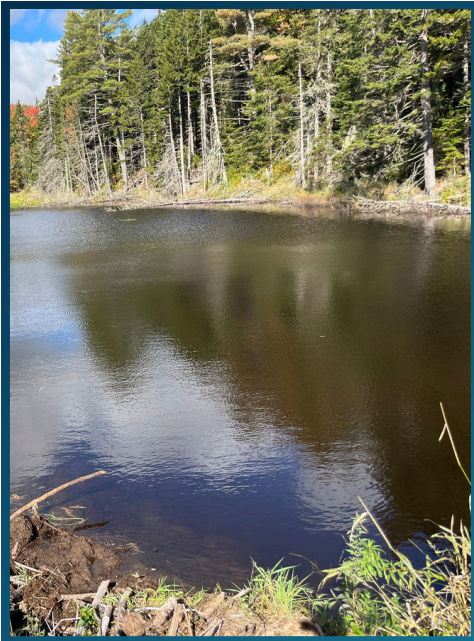
This year will offer more opportunities than ever for community involvement! Across multiple projects, volunteers will have opportunities to participate in shoreline cleanups, habitat enhancement activities, citizen science programs, tree planting events, and restoration projects.

Whether you can spare a few hours or want to become more involved, every helping hand makes a difference. Keep an eye on our social media channels and event announcements- there will be lots of chances to get outside, get involved, and help protect our local watersheds together!



HRAA is continuing important work monitoring glyphosate and AMPA in partnership with Fort Folly Habitat Recovery. This project uses a three-tier monitoring approach including spring sampling, before-and-after sampling, and targeted investigations designed to better understand how these compounds move through watersheds.

Beyond laboratory analysis, the project will collect additional field data including nutrients, water quality information, and salmon habitat observations. This work helps create stronger science and a clearer picture of watershed conditions over time.



Gypsum Monitoring

HRAA will continue ongoing environmental compliance monitoring related to gypsum operations throughout the year. Monthly laboratory sampling and in-field measurements will occur at three monitoring sites, alongside additional sampling after significant rainfall events.

These efforts help provide important information regarding water quality conditions and ensure continued environmental oversight through science-based monitoring.



Summer Camp

Hi everyone! Sarah here, your Nature Camp Director, with some wonderful news: preparations for Summer 2026 are officially underway, and everything is looking fantastic for another amazing season!

We've been busy making the camp better than ever. I am so excited to announce that we have a brand-new outdoor learning structure ready for our campers to explore. Plus, the countdown is on for the waterfront-the dock goes in during the first couple weeks of June!

We've also been dreaming up a ton of new activities that strike the perfect balance between educational discovery and pure summer fun. I can't wait to see all those smiling faces back in the great outdoors very soon.



Thanks to our Sponsors

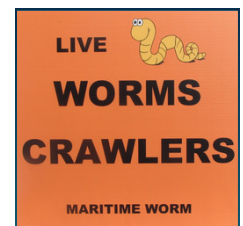
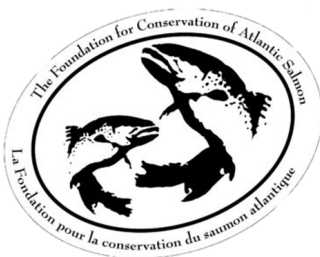


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