Thank you for getting dirty for cleaner rivers! You made the 24th annual Source to Sea Cleanup a success, despite the challenges of this year. So many people turned to their rivers this summer for beauty, fun, and healing. And so many slobs left their trash behind to pollute rivers. It was clear the Source to Sea Cleanup was needed more than ever and had to be different this year.

For the first time, the Source to Sea Cleanup lasted an entire month. Hundreds of volunteers with masks, work gloves, and trash bags gathered in small groups across the four Connecticut River states from Stratford, NH near the Canadian border to Old Saybrook, CT near the Long Island Sound. And, another first, many of you reported your trash directly from your cleanup site using the new Clean Swell app. It wasn’t possible this year to coordinate removal of large debris like abandoned cars and boats, an oil pipe and platform, tanks, and multiple tire dumps. If anyone wants to help and has boats, large trucks, winches, or SCUBA skills, please get in touch—cleanup@ctriver.org

Even though we couldn’t connect as much in-person, you helped create an online river community by sharing your photos and stories using #RiverWitness. You showed off the beautiful places you love and want to protect. You showed the piles of trash pollution you kept out of your rivers. You showed that getting involved to make a difference for your rivers and your community is fun and feels good, too.

You’ve cleaned up more than 1,202 tons of trash from rivers over the past 24 years. We won’t stop until we put ourselves out of the river clean-up business. But we can’t clean our way out of this mess. Head to page 8 to learn more about what we can do to stop trash before it starts.

“Sustaining the environment for generations to come drives our decisions as a family and company. The Source to Sea Cleanup is very special to us—our family of employees and their families participate in this cleanup year after year, while we donate dumpster services to ensure the waste collected is disposed of in a responsible manner. We are proud to be a part of it!”

—Frank M. Antonacci, COO, USA Waste & Recycling
While the Source to Sea Cleanup may be over, the online #RiverWitness community lives on! Keep getting out there to connect with your rivers and keep sharing your photos, videos, and stories.

Here is a small selection of the many wonderful images shared online during the Cleanup using #RiverWitness. Search that hashtag on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter to see more great photos and connect with new river friends.

Louis, age 16, helped the Greenfield (MA) Fire Department clean and stack tires for recycling. Photo: Lea Douville

Plastic foam like this breaks off docks and pollutes rivers. Photo: Deer Paths Nature School

Plogging = Picking up litter + jogging! Photo: Hoang Trinh

Cleaning up rivers can be fun! The Source to Sea Cleanup is a great way to get your family involved and create good habits and traditions that can last a lifetime. Photo: Monique Heller

USA Waste & Recycling sponsor the Cleanup and make sure trash gets disposed properly. Thank you Photo: USA Waste & Recycling

In addition to cleaning up trash, people showed their river love via artwork shared via #RiverWitness. Photo: Rita Jaros

MA State Representative Natalie Blais joined the League of Women Voters of Franklin County for cleaner rivers. Photo: Rep. Natalie Blais

Wegscheider USA Waste & Recycling sponsor the Cleanup and make sure trash gets disposed properly. Thank you Photo: USA Waste & Recycling

Photo: Silvio O. Conte National Fish & Wildlife Refuge

Photo: Northeast Solar

Photo: Whole Recycling & Savings Bank of New Hampshire

Photo: Pioneer Valley Riverfront Club (Springfield, MA)

Photo: The Art Garden

Photo: Micah Goldstein

Photo: Jane Beatrice Wegscheider

版权信息
Participants: #TeamExquisite · #Theriverhouse · Alyssa, Ozzy, and Leo · Amherst League of Women Voters · Aquaculture group · Ashliadot · Beaver Brook · Backcountry Hunters and Anglers · Bennett Family Association · Benesch · Bill Heque · Bill’s Clean-up · Bionatics · Black · Bond’s Island Cleanup · Blackburn Rotary Club · Campion Hill Cleanup · Carec/Vamnon Crew · CCEMA · Charter Oak Cleanup · Clarmont NH Conservation · Commission · Clean River Warriors · Clean up bubbles · Clean and Clear Flowing · CoIunators · Cohen · Connecticut River Clean Up · Juicy Treepassers · Coral Sands · Cove Clean up with Amy for State · Rep · Craft Crew · CRC·High.Tea · CRC: The Vennels · CRC:Tomra · Creek Bed Elementary · Homeschool · Crompton High School Cameron Club · Crystalavas · CT DEEP · Adopt-A:Park Volunteers · CT Green Potickers · CT River Plogging · CTWTTA · Dartmouth Club of Pioneer Valley · Deer Paws Nature School · Deerfield Academy · Deerfield River Cleanup · Deerfield River Shelburne · Deerfield River Trout Unlimited · Defcon One · Dempsey Knox · Ducks · Earthly Heaven · Easthampton Oboe CleanUp·Tighe & Bond, Inc. · Elizabeth Davis · Fall River camps · Fia-Liz · Friel's · Fort River Cleanup/Bay Road · Fort River Cleanup/Dork at Work · Fort River Cleanup/Fort River Watershed Association · Fort River Cleanup/Grave Digger O. Cante National Fish and Wildlife Refuge · Frager Clean Up · FRCPs 5th grade · Friends of Lake Warner and the Mill River · Fuss & D’Neil · Earth LaPointe · George Street Family · Gil Montague Supergroup · Granby Clean Up Crew · Great Falls Discovery Center · Staff · Great Meadows Conservation Trust · Green River Cleanup/Deerfield River Watershed Association · Green River Cleanup/Masons · Green River Cleanup/PV Squared Solar · Green River Cleanup/The Brick House · Green Up VT Stewardship Partner · Greenfield Girls Soccer · GZA Gladstone · Green Team · Hampshire College Outdoor Programs · Hartford Area Hikers · Hartford Conservation Commission · Hartman’s Maui · High Tea · Hilltown Trash Ramblers · Holeyoke High School · HTCA · Ijampa · Kate · Kereny Park Cleanup · KickAllShit · Kleinfelder · Landmark College Civic Engagement Class · League of Women Voters Franklin County · Lindsay’s Clean Team · Lions, Pegasus, and Bears Oh My! · Lower CT River Cleanup · MACSUN · (Friends of Machiaswood and Sunrise) · Mettalsassett River Clean up · Middletown Rotary Club · Mill River Amherst MA · Mill River Clean Up Team · JFK · Milone & MacBroom Inc. · MMBC · MNI Vermont · Moi · Mountain Valley Community Clean up · Mushroom · My Reflection Matters Village CT · Mystical Mountain Maple Syrup · L.L.C. · Neato Trash Collectors · North Beach Zoilla Project · North Charlemont · Northeast Solar · NRG · Paronn Porgers · Patterson Family · Paul and Lan · Philip & Pat · Physically Distant Paddling Club · Pioneer Valley Riverfront Club · Pitch in · Private · PV Squared · PVI Environmental Club · River Valley Community College · River Warriors · Riversides · Rivierlaw · Rob/Thomas/Team · Rockville Clean up · Rozalia Project · Rudi · Feli · Sawmil Clean up · SBS Service and Sustainability Team · Scantic River Environmental/East Windsor American River Comm · Scott Family · Shenokwah · SHAHS National Honor Society · Smithfield Packaged Meats Corp · Source to Sea · State Representative Daniel R. Carey · STS-Groove Beach · Sunderland Families · Susque · Swampout · Take Care Cape Cod · Team Ballantine · Team Bankaffeity · Team Birchmore · Team BLURHOC · Team Central CT Cleaning · Team Christie · Team Clean-up · Team Deep Divers · Team Delles · Team EHLC · Team Edgford · Team Everysource · Team Finchbaugh · Team Geo SubSea · Team Guiford · Team HCWM · Team Hypotherm · Team Lalloche · Team Lucas · Team Mama and Luca · Team Perseverance · Team POODNer · Team SBW · Team Schwagwus · Team SWCA · Team Veneks · Team Vannom/Carev · Team Walborn · The Chester · The Great American River-Dogs · The Spirits of the Salmon · The Thesien’s · The Windsor Crew · Trash Vaccum · Troop 408 · Turners Falls Hot Tickets · Unitarian Universalist Society of Amherst · WM · USA Hauling & Recycling · All American Waste · Valley Ultimate · Vijo Family · Wadsworth Falls State Park · Wadsworth Park via Middlessey Rotary · Westerberg family · Westfield River Watershed Association · Wetherfield Cove cleanup · Wetherfield ecology club · Wetherfield High School Ecology Club · Weyers Family · White River Partnership · Windsor St. Cleanup Crew · WLCCT · Wood Environmental & Infrastructure Solutions · WIRWA, WISEC, AMC

This list represents those who registered or submitted a trash tally. There were likely more groups out there.

To the winners of the 2020 Source to Sea Cleanup Photo Contest This year, participants submitted images online using #RiverWitness. Winners were chosen using a random selector tool in two categories: Dirtiest Kids and Strangest Trash Visit Facebook, Instagram, or Twitter and search #RiverWitness to see tons of great Source to Sea Cleanup images and stories.

Thank you!

You proved them wrong! Tire manufacturers deny that illegal tire dumping is still happening. But the Science that dumped tires are old and it’s a historic problem. Thanks to data you collected on tires you found this year, you proved them wrong! Of the 368 tires you were able to find manufacture dates for, over 5% were made in the past 20 years. CRC will use this is critical information to help put an end to illegal dumping. Thank you!

Trash Tally 2020

This year volunteers used Ocean Conservancy’s Clean Swell app as well as CRC’s Trash Tally form to report trash data. Hardworking Source to Sea volunteers haul so much trash from in and around rivers and streams that it’s impossible to account for everything. Actual numbers/weights are likely much higher than listed here.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Quantity Reported</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Construction materials</td>
<td>181 items</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plastic foam</td>
<td>34.9 tons</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Styrofoam</td>
<td>332 reported</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electronics &amp; appliances</td>
<td>98 items</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scrap metal</td>
<td>8,002 pounds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sheet metal</td>
<td>103 items</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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Unusual Items Found

- Old sewing machine—North Stratford, NH
- Plastic doll house—North Charlestown, NH
- Wooden wagon wheel—West Lebanon, NH
- Old IBM computer—Colrain, MA
- Leather toe of fancy shoe—Amherst, MA
- Old basketball with Bob Cousy autograph—Avon, CT
- Leprechaun Plunge (S. Hadley, MA) giant charity check—Cromwell, CT (pictured)

Additional Items

- Construction materials
- Plastic foam
- Styrofoam
- Electronics & appliances
- Scrap metal
- Sheet metal

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LEAD SPONSORS

Eversource harnesses the commitment of approximately 8,300 employees across three states. The company is empowering a clean energy future in the Northeast, with nationally recognized energy efficiency solutions and successful programs to integrate new clean energy resources like solar, offshore wind, electric vehicles and battery storage, into the electric system.

As local, family owned companies, USA Waste & Recycling and All American Waste recognize and embrace their role as a leader in the community. Giving back to communities has always been a value of its management and has been embraced and embodied by its employees. They are proud to be a steward of the environment and support the communities in which their employees live and work.

WATERSHED SPONSORS

Brookfield Brookfield Renewable creates value by developing innovative, natural power solutions that accelerate the world towards a low-carbon future. We provide clean and reliable power to millions of households and businesses.

TOMRA is the preferred partner for reverse vending solutions for easily collecting and recycling cans and bottles. With over 84,000 installations around the world, TOMRA’s reverse vending machines capture 40 billion used beverage containers every year—ensuring fewer container ends up in streets, oceans and landfills. Learn more: www.tomra.com.

MAIN STEM SPONSORS

CDM Smith cdmsmith.com

RIVER SPONSORS

Thank you for getting dirty for cleaner rivers...safely!

This year, instead of t-shirts we offered Source to Sea Cleanup volunteers a free bandana that can be used as a face covering (or many other uses). Didn’t get your bandana or would like more? Head to CRC’s online store to order for FREE. It’s our small way of keeping you safe and thanking you for making a difference in a challenging year. www.ctriver.org/shop

Thank you to all who help make the Cleanup a success.

Support your rivers all year long!

Together, we all own our rivers. And together we will protect them. Please join us in this work by becoming a CRC member today. Donate online at www.ctriver.org/donate, return the enclosed envelope, or contact Corey Kurtz, Development Director, at ckurtz@ctriver.org or 413-772-2020 ext. 202.

Thank you to all who help make the Cleanup a success.

Be part of the solution for cleaner rivers. Visit www.ctriver.org/cleanup.

Connecticut River Conservancy is the voice for the Connecticut River watershed, from source to sea. We collaborate with partners across four states to protect and advocate for your rivers and educate and engage communities. We bring people together to prevent pollution, improve habitat, and promote enjoyment of your river and its tributary streams. Healthy rivers support healthy economies.

CRC is a membership organization and relies on your support to protect our rivers. Visit www.ctriver.org to become a member and sign up for our email news.

Headquarters: 15 Bank Row, Greenfield, MA 01301
NH & VT 802-258-0413
MA 413-772-2020 ext. 202

Thank you Windham Solid Waste Management District for your trash disposal support!

Thank you Business West for your media sponsorship of the Source to Sea Cleanup!
Speak up for your rivers to stop trash before it starts.
Watch CRC’s events calendar and social media for upcoming events on long-term trash solutions. Get involved, sign up for Action Alert emails, and more at www.ctriver.org/TakeAction.

Wouldn’t it be nice if we didn’t have to clean up every year? If we didn’t trash our rivers in the first place? We didn’t always live this disposable, trash-filled lifestyle. And just like we got rid of lead paint and smog, we can achieve a future free from single-use plastic and dumped tires.

Overhauling our trash and recycling systems to be more effective is a big job. And changing the way products are manufactured to be more sustainable and river-friendly is a big job. But it all starts with a simple choice. The choices we make each day really do add up to make a big difference for our rivers….especially when we all work together. And together we must urge our legislators, businesses, and other decision-makers to make the choice of putting people and planet above profit. But first they need to hear from us, and it needs to be clear that we demand solutions to our trash crisis.

Corporations and manufacturers are profiting from this trash and they won’t make the choice to change willingly. So, join us in contacting your legislators to tell them how bad the trash problem is in your town. Urge them to pass laws to ban unnecessary single-use items like plastic bags, bottles, and packaging. Tell them to improve recycling and disposal of hard-to-get-rid-of items like tires by extending producer responsibility to include the entire life cycle of products. We need to show our legislators, businesses, and manufacturers just how bad the problem is and tell them—as their constituents and customers—that we won’t ignore this problem any longer.

This change is going to take time, decades even. And we’ll keep at it as long as it takes. But our rivers need us to start now. It’s a big job but just like tons of trash get removed from our rivers one piece at a time, we can change the world one action and one choice at a time.
Thank you for joining us to speak up for your rivers and for being part of the solution.