

WITH MUCH APPRECIATION TO OUR RIVERFEST
LEAD ORGANIZATIONAL PARTNERS:
SUDBURY VALLEY TRUSTEES
THE OLD MANSE/THE TRUSTEES
MINUTE MAN NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK
US FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
AND OARS



AND SPECIAL THANKS TO TONIGHT'S MUSICIANS
THE WAYLAND DADDIOS

AND TO RIVERFEST'S SPONSORS:
CONCORD TEACAKES
SUDBURY FARMS
BJ'S WHOLESALE
STOP AND SHOP



Don't forget to join us at the events this weekend!

*Share your pictures! Send them to
Sarah_bursky@nps.gov or post them on facebook and
tag SuascoRSCRiverfest.*

18th Annual

RIVERFEST

**2019 River Steward Awards Ceremony
and Kick-off party Program**



1999–2019
Sudbury, Assabet and Concord
Celebrating 20 Years of Our Wild and Scenic River



The Sudbury, Assabet and Concord
WILD & SCENIC
River Stewardship Council
sudbury-assabet-concord.org

RIVERFEST 2019

River Steward Awards Ceremony

Celebrating 20 Years of Our Local Wild and Scenic River

Welcome

Anne Slugg, River Stewardship Council Chair
Lisa Vernegaard, Sudbury Valley Trustees

Special Remarks

Massachusetts State Senator Jamie Eldridge
Representative Carmine Gentile
Framingham Mayor Yvonne Spicer
Joan Kimball—Former Council Rep and MA Riverways Manager



River Stewardship Awards Presentation

Janet Rothrock, League of Women Voters of Concord-Carlisle
Sarah Bursky, National Park Service

River Steward Awardees

Bethany Baryames
Nancy and Reinier Beeuwkes



2018 RIVER STEWARD AWARDS PROGRAM COMMITTEE

Janet Rothrock, LWV of Concord-Carlisle, Chair
Mary Antes, River Stewardship Council/LWV of Wayland
Elissa Brown, River Stewardship Council/LWV of Concord-Carlisle
Ralph Hammond, LWV of Bedford
Kathleen O'Hara, LWV of Concord-Carlisle

AWARDS SELECTION COMMITTEE

Mary Ann Ashton, League of Women Voters of MA
Karen Pelto, MA Department of Environmental Protection and RSC
Sarah Bursky, National Park Service

2019 RIVER STEWARD AWARDS

(In alphabetical order)

Beth Baryames, West Concord

Beth took the lead on a project to create a view of the Assabet River at Cousins Park in West Concord, a parcel of town-owned conservation land abutting the River. The Park previously consisted of a playing field, a community garden, and a disturbed riverbank area. She and other neighbors met to brainstorm how to connect Cousins Park to the Assabet River, recognizing that most people using the Park have no idea the Assabet flows along its southern edge. Beth agreed to lead and serve as the point person for the project. Beth has spent a multitude of volunteer hours coordinating with the Town of Concord and organizing neighbors to make this project happen, including removing invasive plants, building park benches, and other improvements. As a newcomer, not only to Concord, but to community organizing, environmental restoration and regulation, Beth has demonstrated an inspiring willingness to learn, and a determination to get things done in a way that builds relationships within the neighborhood and the town. Beth has generated much excitement in West Concord neighborhoods and beyond about creating a special place by the Assabet River in Cousins Park. The project has created a beautiful and sweeping view of the Assabet River, and is on its way to restoring a more ecologically robust community of riverbank plants.

Nancy and Reinier Beeuwkes, Concord

Nancy and Reinier are celebrated for their donation of October Farm, 300 acres of undeveloped land along the Concord River in Concord. Gifted to Mass Audubon, it was the largest gift from a living individual in Mass Audubon's 123-year history, and one of the most significant private land conservation gifts in the history of Massachusetts. The land epitomizes all of the values of the Wild and Scenic River; It has scenic views of the Concord River, riparian woodlands and vernal pools. It has walking trails for recreation. It also has historical value, in that it was the homestead of William Brewster, founder of the Nuttall Ornithological Club and the American Ornithologists' Union and first president of Mass Audubon. The land abuts 80 acres of conservation land owned by the Town and further connects to Great Meadows National Wildlife Refuge. The Beeuwkes' care and vision in conserving this land can inspire others to protect their large land holdings rather than sell the land and develop it.