

NEWS RELEASE

STUDY RESULTS IN THE TANKERHOOSEN RIVER WATERSHED TO BE PRESENTED TO THE PUBLIC

**FEB. 26TH, 7:00 P.M. AT THE TOLLAND AGRICULTURAL CENTER
ROUTE 30 – ACROSS FROM NORTHEAST SCHOOL**

The public is invited to hear the results of a four-year study of the Tankerhoosen River and to learn how to take care of its future health. The presentation will be held Thursday, February 26th at 7:00 pm in Vernon at the Tolland Agricultural Center, located on Route 30, across from Northeast School.

The talk, “Managing Threats to the Tankerhoosen River: A Plan for Protecting Its Water Quality and Ecological Health”, will be given by Erik Mas of Fuss and O’Neill, Inc.

The total cost of the project over the four-year period was \$123,000. A grant from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation funded \$72,000 and the remaining matching funds of \$51,000 were provided by a partnership of six local organizations committed to protecting the Tankerhoosen River watershed: the Friends of The Hockanum River Linear Park, Inc., the Town of Vernon, the Belding Wildlife Trust, the North Central Conservation District, the Hockanum River Watershed Association, and Rivers Alliance of Connecticut, Inc.

The Tankerhoosen River watershed has been cited by national, state and local experts for its high water quality and healthy ecosystems. Shelley Green, of The Nature Conservancy, Connecticut Chapter, Coastal Management Section stated that “Through an extensive planning process, our scientists worked with experts from various agencies and organizations from four states to identify the most important rivers within the Connecticut River watershed. The Tankerhoosen was selected as one of these significant tributaries. The highlights of the Tankerhoosen River are its high water quality and the aquatic life that only such a healthy system can harbor”.

Approximately seventy percent of the land area in the Tankerhoosen watershed lies within the Town of Vernon. The remainder is in Tolland, Bolton and Manchester. The Tankerhoosen River supports the Belding Wild Trout Management Area, which harbors one of only two Class I wild trout management areas east of the Connecticut River.

Ann Letendre, Friends of the Hockanum River Linear Park, Inc.

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