

# The Campaign for a Fishable/Swimmable Blackstone River by 2015

## Campaign Priorities:

### Stormwater and polluted runoff:

- reduce pollutants washed into the waterways and the volume of stormwater

### Wastewater treatment plants:

- Implement more stringent limits on nutrients such as nitrates and phosphates

### Land Uses:

- protect undeveloped areas, restore wetlands and riparian areas, protect cold water fishery streams

### Streamflow:

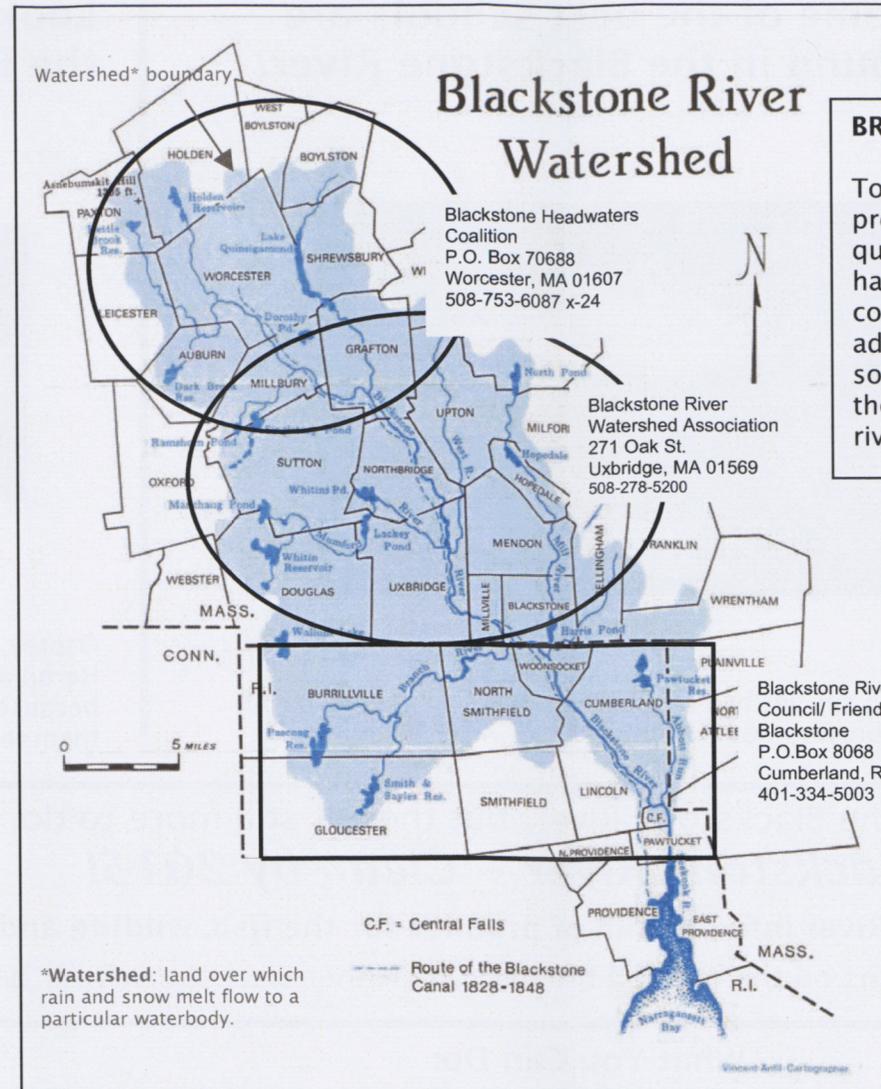
- restore flow by methods such as increase infiltration, breach or remove appropriate dams, improve impoundment management, establish fish passage for migratory fish.

### Recreational Opportunities:

- continue to build a system of river access points to increase opportunities to fish, paddle and enjoy passive recreation.

### Education and Outreach:

- develop programs to increase watershed awareness and appreciation, and to encourage active stewardship.



### BRC Mission:

To restore and protect water quality and wildlife habitat in the river corridor, and to advocate for sound land use in the Blackstone river watershed.

THE BLACKSTONE RIVER COALITION (BRC) is a membership-based, non-profit organization working hard to keep you informed and to support the Blackstone River's watershed organizations from Worcester, Massachusetts to Providence, Rhode Island. This brochure gives you a snapshot of what we are doing. Please visit our website: [www.zaptheblackstone.org](http://www.zaptheblackstone.org) to find out more! To join the Campaign, join your local watershed organization as shown above.

BRC: P.O. Box 70477, Worcester, MA 01607  
Website: [www.zaptheblackstone.org](http://www.zaptheblackstone.org)

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Have you seen what people are throwing into the Blackstone River these days?



Superfund Records Center  
SITE: Peterson/Puritan  
BREAK: 17.7  
OTHER: 266283

The Campaign for a Fishable/Swimmable Blackstone River by 2015

**The Blackstone River Coalition**

[www.zaptheblackstone.org](http://www.zaptheblackstone.org)

The Campaign is sponsored in part by the John H. Chafee Blackstone River Valley National Heritage Corridor Commission and Mass Audubon.

**THE BLACKSTONE RIVER  
CLEAN BY 2015!**

## Have you seen what else people are throwing into the Blackstone River?



Cheryl Thompson Cameron

The Blackstone looks and smells better, and is cleaner than it has been in thirty years. People are paddling more and more, throwing canoes and kayaks into the river at more and more access points.

## Some of the best schools are found in the Blackstone River.



Yellow Perch

Fish species and numbers are increasing because of improving water quality.

## Look who's flocking to the Blackstone River!



© William L. Newton/CLO

Osprey, Kingfisher and Great Blue Heron are flocking to the River because there are more fish for them to eat.



© Mario Reed



Photo by Marshall Cliff

We've come a long way in restoring the Blackstone River, but there's still more to do, and you can help make ***The Blackstone River ~ Clean by 2015!***

Your actions can help transform the Blackstone River into one full of promise for the fish, wildlife and people who live in its watershed.

If you live or own a business in one of the towns on the map on the back, a cleaner Blackstone River begins in your yard or business.

### What You Can Do:

#### Objectives:

##### \* Reduce polluted runoff

#### Homeowners

- \*limit use of fertilizer and lawn chemicals
- \*dispose of pet waste properly
- \*properly maintain vehicles
- \*maintain septic system

#### Business Owners

- \*practice good dumpster management
- \*provide trash receptacles, sweep outdoor areas
- \*avoid excessive salting and sanding in winter
- \*put nothing down stormdrain

#### Communities

- \*encourage Low Impact Development strategies such as reduced impervious surfaces, increased infiltration, more natural drainage and native plantings.

##### \* Increase groundwater and drinking water supplies

- \*redirect rooftop runoff to vegetated areas
- \*use rain barrels to harvest rain
- \*wash car on lawn, not driveway
- \*make a rain garden

- \*reduce impervious surfaces
- \*increase grassed areas
- \*divert runoff from pavement to grassy areas
- \*put breaks in curbs to disperse runoff

