Those I’ve run into this year may have noticed my ever expanding waistline throughout the spring and summer. It’s been an eventful 2014, and I’m ecstatic to introduce you the newest member of the Flint River Watershed – Nile Fedewa Vogt. I’m so excited to introduce the Flint River to this little guy. In the meantime, we’ll be gearing up to get back to work in 2015! Hope to see you at our January Celebration of the Flint River. You’ll probably have a chance then to meet our newest Voice of the Flint River.
The Coalition is an organization representing individuals, businesses, community organizations, and local units of government sharing a vision of a healthier Flint River Watershed. We envision a day when the future of our drinking water is secure and the integrity of the Flint River is protected. We believe that all people should have access to the river for recreation, swimming, and fishing as well as the economic value it provides to our communities.

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FRWC Board Meetings are held the third Friday of the month.

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Lauren Elbing Welcomed to the FRWC Team

Please help us welcome Lauri Elbing to the FRWC. Lauri was hired as our first full-time Outreach and Events Manager. As a published author and an accomplished communications, external affairs and regional collaboration leader, Lauri brings a whole new suite of skills to the FRWC. She’s also known for bringing fresh baked goods to meetings!

Prior to joining the FRWC team, Lauri began her public service career on the staffs of state and federal policy makers. Most notably, Lauri was instrumental in working with Congressman John D. Dingell to establish the Detroit River International Wildlife Refuge, Downriver Linked Greenways, and the Automobile National Heritage Area. You can see MotorCities signage celebrating Flint’s rich industrial heritage around town and on the Flint River Trail.

Lauri most recently worked with The Nature Conservancy in Michigan as its first policy associate, where she helped shape natural resource and environmental policy in Michigan. She developed communications plans for Great Lakes scale projects and strategies to support implementation of science based recommendations. She also led development of its first conservation constituency engagement strategy designed to rebuild a network of informed natural resource advocates at the local regional level in the greater Saginaw Bay Watershed.

“I was so excited when I received the call from Rebecca Fedewa (Executive Director of FRWC) inviting me to join the Flint River Watershed Coalition team,” Elbing said “I’ve enjoyed coming to the Annual Celebration and going on kayaking trips for years, and have long been impressed with the FRWC team and the work of the organization.”

The Flint River watershed is where Lauri’s story began. She was born in Flint and raised in Flushing in the house her grandfather built on River Road. “It is an honor to join the FRWC team and I couldn’t be more thrilled to come home at this time in my life and career to put all that I learned to work for my hometown, the people, and our healthy gorgeous Flint River Watershed,” said Elbing.

Lauri is keenly interested in learning about meetings and events to share information about the FRWC’s work, build new partnerships and friendships, and find opportunities to reach out to the people of the region. This is an explicit invitation to get in touch with her at Ielbing@FlintRiver.org or (810) 767-9491 with those outreach leads and invitations. “I look forward to seeing you in and around our Flint River Watershed!”
The bald eagle is both the national bird and national animal of the United States of America. The bald eagle appears on its Seal. It was chosen as the emblem of the United States of America because of its long life, great strength, and majestic appearance. This selection had its detractors, most notably Benjamin Franklin who expounded on the bald eagle’s “bad moral character.”

The bald eagle is the second largest North American bird of prey, with an average wingspan of 7 feet. (California condor is largest). Body size varies widely, with adult total length 2.3 -3.1 feet and wingspans 5.5 - 8.0 feet. Adult body weights range from 10 -14 pounds. The female is about 25% larger than the male; otherwise there is no distinction between the sexes.

Bald eagles are not actually bald; the name derives from an older meaning of "white headed." The adult is mainly brown with a white head and tail. The sexes are identical in plumage. The distinctive white head, neck, and tail are not attained until 5.5 years of age, which is the age of sexual maturity.

When Europeans first arrived on the North American continent there were an estimated one-quarter to one-half million bald eagles. Bald eagle populations declined due to deliberate killing for feathers and trophies, loss of prey, loss of habitat, intentional poisoning, and unintentional poisoning, especially through the widespread use of the pesticide DDT (dichloro-diphenyl-trichloroethane).

By the late 20th century, bald eagles were on the brink of extinction in the continental United States, and in 1963 the population reached a low with only 417 nesting pairs in the lower 48 states.

Although bald eagles had been protected at federal and state levels since 1940 and 1954, respectively, they received much greater protection after the ratification of the National Endangered Species Act in 1973, and the Michigan Endangered Species Act in 1974. Under the protection of the Endangered Species Act (ESA), and the banning of the use of DDT, the bald eagle population has nearly doubled every 7 to 8 years.

Bald eagle courtship involves elaborate, spectacular calls and flight displays. The flight includes swoops, chases, and cartwheels, in which eagles fly high, lock talons, and free fall, separating just before hitting the ground. Usually, a territory defended by a mature pair will cover ½ - 1¼ miles of waterside habitat.

The bald eagle builds the largest nest of any North American bird and nests may be used year after year, resulting in huge constructions approaching 12 feet in height and 8 feet in diameter. They are the largest tree nests ever recorded for any animal species.

Full grown bald eagles have few natural enemies, and the most frequently reported causes of adult bald eagle mortality are human related. Major threats include habitat loss, disturbance by humans, biocide contamination, decreasing food supply, and illegal shooting.
The Stream Obstruction Removal Project concluded its 9th consecutive year on the South Branch of the Flint River in Lapeer County this past fall. Work crews cleared 16 separate sections and put in over 450 hours to remove 58 obstructions, clearing a total of 11.7 miles of the 20.6 mile stretch of our river. By removing these obstructions, water flows were improved, allowing outdoor enthusiasts to kayak and canoe longer reaches of the river, as well as reducing the potential for flooding, injury, and property damage. The Lapeer Team got a lot done and everyone that participated deserves our thanks and accolades. Much was accomplished despite the conspicuous absence of one of the project’s primary workhorses: Mr. Carl Haas.

Carl recently moved out of state and despite this, he still managed to put in 30 hours of work for the cause. We wish him and his family all our best. We are grateful for his friendship, dedication, indomitable spirit, and the countless hours of effort he put into improving our river. Others to be commended for their efforts include Mark Bilodeau, Jim Masserang, and Peter McCreedy from FRWC, Joe Leonardi and others from DNR Fisheries Division, as well as the F.R.O.G. crew led by Lapeer County Juvenile Probationary Officers Steve Kress and Steve Smith, both of whom were our 2013 FRWC Joe Leonardi Leadership award winners.

The DNR Fisheries Division is committed to this obstruction removal project, but need some strong and energetic volunteers to step forward. If you have an afternoon or a season to work hard, have some fun and make a difference for the people and wildlife of the South Branch of the Flint River, please get in touch with Joe Leonardi, DNR Fisheries Division, at LeonardiJ@michigan.gov or (810) 245-1250.

This July the FRWC partnered with the Genesee County Parks (GCP) at Flint Park Lake and Thread Lake, and also the International Academy of Flint at Thread Lake to hold the first ever community picnics titled ‘Love Your Lake’ Celebrations. Over 100 local residents attended each event and shared in our excitement over the new and improved look of their lakes thanks to the hard work of the GCP Maintenance Crew. Revelers enjoyed the evening fishing, sharing a great meal, observing a variety of bugs and critters that live in the lakes. Some lucky people even won guided kayak trips down the Flint River next summer.

Flint Park Lake resident Terry Williams shared his story with the Flint Journal; “It’s like day and night,” Williams said, of Flint Park’s recent cleanup. “My grandkids can come down here and fish with me. They get more excited to catch fish than opening presents on Christmas.” Program Manager Jaime Welch was on hand at each event doing what she loves best: collecting bugs!

Attendees of all ages were curious to see just what types of “bugs” were living near the shore. We wanted to show residents that their lake is home to more than what they may see at the surface. Flint Park Lake and Thread Lake are thriving natural assets that hold an endless potential for fishing, swimming, boating, and many other recreational opportunities. Thanks to ALL who attended the ‘Love Your Lake’ events, and to our dedicated partners and friends. We look forward to continuing our work on this great project with you.
2014 marked the 25th Anniversary of the GREEN (Global Rivers Environmental Education Network) program. As many of you know, GREEN pairs middle and high school students with mentors who assist in performing water quality tests on local streams and rivers to assess the health of the stream or river.

Water Quality testing helps us determine if there are environmental problems, but the students take the lead in assessing their test results, research possible causes or indicators, and even offer potential solutions to those problems. Students present their findings and recommendations at the GREEN Student Summit each May, giving them an opportunity to teach and learn from one another, but also professionals and scientists from a variety of environmental fields. It is designed to be a collaborative experience that empowers young people to understand their own and their community’s connection and impact on local water resources. Equally important, GREEN leads students to understand how to become agents of change in their communities using research and collaboration to identify practical solutions.

In 2014, over 900 students from 23 schools across the watershed participated in GREEN, and we would like to continue to expand this program. If you are a teacher or parent that would like to learn more about the GREEN program or how to participate, please get in touch with Jaime Welch at 810-767-7140 or jwelch@flintriver.org for more information.

While 2014 was a year of celebration for the GREEN program it was also the year where we lost a long time dedicated member who volunteered countless hours to its success. John Moldovan served as a mentor with Flint River GREEN for nearly 25 years. He also took a leadership role on the planning committee and helped recruit and train other mentors. He took time from his busy schedule to connect with students to share his knowledge and experience as a Senior Environmental Engineer for General Motors. He made science and engineering “real” for thousands of young people across our community. He showed that the knowledge learned in the classroom can be used in a fun and rewarding career. He helped students understand data they collected and what that means for the environment. He helped teachers by going into the classroom multiple times each year to practice, conduct, and analyze water quality monitoring data. John passed away suddenly on August 15th, 2014 at the age of 64. His contributions will be sorely missed by the Flint River Watershed Coalition, teachers, and students. We send our condolences to his family and our thanks to them for sharing John with us.

Friends of the Flint River Trail

It has been a remarkably successful riding season for the Friends of the Flint River Trail, and the fact that virtually every Sunday had pleasant weather made it even better! (Well, pleasant to start the ride though a couple of hard rains opened up on us as the ride wound down.) We have averaged about 35 riders per week with many new first time riders on the trail and from every corner of Genesee County as well as surrounding and near-by counties. Most riders came back several times over the season with a universally positive impression. Our Saturday rides to other mid-Michigan trails have grown in popularity, with most rides drawing 16-22 riders. Those serve to introduce riders to near-by trails and invite riders we meet along those paths to our Flint River Trail. Finally, it’s never too soon to look ahead to the 2015 season. We will have the trail clean-up on April 25, 2015 to prep the trail for our new season, so mark your calendars and come on out! Plan to join us on Sundays from May through October for a ride on the Flint River Trail and on the once a month Saturday rides (each within an hour or so of Flint). Check the FRWC website for details and updates.
Storm drains are everywhere. We drive by them every day, walk past them on our daily travels, never giving them a thought. We may see them clogged with litter and debris or think that they are a handy place to dump that last bit of paint left over from painting the kitchen. Most people don’t realize how important storm drains are to the health of our local rivers and streams or the impact that dumping just one can of paint or a container of oil can have on the whole system. A common misconception is that anything put into a storm drain, including the rain water runoff collected from driveways, parking lots, and streets, is treated before being returned to our local streams and rivers.

Storm drains empty directly into our waterways without the benefit of being cleaned and treated. That means every piece of litter, every drop of motor oil and gasoline that washes off the driveway, any excess fertilizer from the lawn, everything that goes into a storm drain ends up in our river, streams and lakes. This is what is known as nonpoint source pollution (NPS), which is currently the leading cause of pollution in our rivers and lakes.

The FRWC and its partners are working to change that fact and this where the Storm Drain Stenciling program comes in. Every year volunteers of all ages from the FRWC’s Storm Drain Stenciling program go out to various neighborhoods throughout Genesee and Lapeer counties armed with stencils, biodegradable spray paint, and fact sheets on storm drains, nonpoint source pollution and the Seven Simple Steps that homeowners can take to help improve and protect water quality in the Flint River Watershed. If we want our Flint River to continue to thrive and grow healthier, it is up to each of us to make the Seven Simple Steps into a habit every day, every time.

The Genesee County Drain Commission, through the "Our Water" program, is the primary funder of this program, and generously supplies all the materials needed for our stenciling teams. Teams visit local neighborhoods handing out information and spray painting “No Dumping, Drains to River” near every storm drain they find. This “legal graffiti” serves as a visible reminder that what goes into the storm drain empties right into one of your region’s greatest resources: our Flint River Watershed.

In 2014, our volunteers gave information to over 1500 homes and marked over 500 storm drains. This vital program helps empower residents of the watershed to take control and make a positive difference in the Flint River. If you are interested in participating, whether in stenciling your own neighborhood or in another area, contact Jaime Welch at 810-767-7140 or jwelch@flintriver.org. Volunteers of all ages are welcome!

What Happens on the Land Effects Our Water

The FRWC and its partners have been focusing on land conservation strategies and tools that can lead to better water quality. Over the last two years, the FRWC has worked closely with the Michigan State University Institute of Water Research (IWR) on the “Flint River Nutrient Reduction: Focusing Action” project, funded by the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative through the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The FRWC and Genesee County Conservation District also participated in the development and use of the ELUCID (Environmental Learning Using Computer Interactive Decisions) mapping system tool.

The primary goal of the ELUCID tool is to identify areas contributing to nonpoint source pollutant runoff to streams and rivers within the Saginaw Bay Watershed, and to work with landowners to employ the appropriate conservation practices that will fix the problem. It is a web-based tool that is freely accessible at http://elucid.iwr.msu.edu and provides an interactive map of the Flint River Watershed. “It’s a lot of fun to just hop on and play around to see what kind of environmental response you get for a hypothetical project,” said Lauri Elbing, FRWC Outreach and Events Manager, to a room full of planning commissioners at a recent Genesee County Planning Conference held in Flint, Michigan. “This is a tool that can help you make outcome based decisions for your community to meet social, economic and environmental needs.”

Anyone who works in land use planning or conservation or other forms of land management should give it a test run. We need your feedback. Are there data sets missing that would be helpful to your local planning commission or farm for decision-making and project planning? Would your committee or work group like to schedule a hands-on training? ELUCID is a work in progress and the IWR and FRWC teams welcome your feedback and insights, but also your interest in making this a tool you can use to improve water quality in our Flint River and Saginaw Bay Watersheds. Get in touch with Sondra Severn at ssevern@flintriver.org or (810) 618-5969 for more information.
Why would anyone want to pull on waders on a cold and foggy morning to net and collect small animals living among the sediments and stones on the bottom of streams, rivers and lakes?

Because it super fun and what we find tells us a lot about the health of these stretches of river.

“Benthics” are the insect nymphs and larvae that spend a good portion of their lives in our local rivers and streams. They are an excellent benchmark to understand water quality health trends in the stream. The amount and types of benthics found tell us how the stream is doing because the animals have to survive in, and are completely dependent on, the quality of that water. The FRWC has been monitoring benthics every spring and fall in the Flint River Watershed for the past 15 years thanks to the generous support of the Genesee Country Drain Commission. When we compare results from season to season and year to year we are able to track changes and, when necessary, involve others to investigate and address the causes of negative changes.

If someone dumps something toxic into the river between last season and this season, chemical testing may not capture it since whatever was put into the water is long gone. But the benthics had to survive it. A large decline in the benthic population indicates that something has occurred. It could be a response to pollution, but it could also be a natural response to a major storm that elevated water currents, sweeping away the benthic creatures. Conversely, a gradual improvement in the score means that water quality, habitat and other factors are improving and supporting more life. Most of our sites have scores that are either considered “good” or “excellent” and are steadily improving. One site had a declining score, initiating an investigation into the cause by the Genesee County Drain Commission.

While all that sounds interesting, it doesn’t capture just how much fun this program is. The people, the beauty of the sites, the bugs, it all adds up to a great experience that you can walk away from knowing you have made a difference. Learning about what goes on under the surface of the water can be fascinating. Did you know that dragonfly nymphs can spend up to 3 years as a nymph before becoming an adult? Or that in order to move quickly they will draw water into their hindquarters and shoot it out to propel them much like a jet pack? Every season we learn something new about the critters we are catching and why they are so important to the health of the water.

Want to join in the fun? Contact Jaime Welch at 810-767-7140 or jwelch@flintriver.org
This past August the FRWC teamed up with the Flint River Corridor Alliance (FRCA) to put on the first ever Flint River Flotilla. What a beautiful day it was! Over 90 people of all ages brought tubes, rafts, kayaks, and canoes and joined the fun by floating down the Flint River from downtown, through the Chevy Commons area and finally to the Mott Park Golf Course. Everyone agreed that this stretch of the Flint River is as beautiful as it was unexpected. Frances and Edith, two young participants, were thrilled to experience the diversity of the river scenery and the excitement of this event. Edith was hoping to see fish and turtles along the way, but her favorite part of the Flotilla was splashing her hands in the water. Her big sister, Frances, said that here favorite part was the spot where Chevy Commons opens up into a great forested setting. Nan and Ken Yarbrough decided to enjoy their 29th wedding anniversary riding bikes along the Flint River Trail following the vibrant and fun filled Flotilla. Trophies such as “Spirit Award” and “Most Energetic” were bestowed on a few of the most interesting partakers. Dr. Erika Britt and her crew from UM-Flint won the “Most Colorful” trophy for their brilliantly decadent dragon boat.

Plans are already in the making for next year’s Flotilla with hopes that it will be even bigger and better! Event details will be posted on both the FRWA and FRCA Facebook and Twitter pages as well as their websites, so Like Us and Follow Us and Bookmark Us, because you won’t want to miss the 2nd Annual Flint River Flotilla. You can view photos from this year’s Flotilla on the FRWC Flickr site. https://www.flickr.com/photos/frwc/

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S. Olof Karlstrom: Honored Board Member Emeritus

Every organization gets it start through the spark, vision, and tenacity of a few special people. From the very beginning, S. Olof Karlstrom has been that person for the Flint River Watershed Coalition. Through his leadership, the FRWC was created, nurtured, and developed. Olof has touched all areas of the work of the Coalition, so much so, that we do not have enough space in this newsletter to cover all of the ways that Olof has served this organization. But here are a few highlights of his ubiquitous touch on the success of the FRWC.

Olof’s expertise in business and the law were crucial in the founding of the FRWC. As a member of the first board, he was instrumental in drafting our mission, bylaws, and standing rules. Olof has been tireless in making sure that we conduct our programs in a manner that is consistent with our mission and true to our vision. He has been out on every stretch of the river, and in every corner of the watershed. Olof has sorted and identified bugs, he has worked on river cleanups and counted garbage bags. He has helped kids learn about the environment and love our river. He has participated in numerous outreach events, with a pen and clipboard in hand and that wonderful warm smile on his face, inviting and engaging new and old friends to join in his quest.

Olof has provided much of the leadership that we needed to develop all of our community alliances. He was instrumental in bringing in the first big grants to the FRWC that allowed us to grow to the fully staffed organization we are today. The FRWC’s success has remained one of his top priorities and we cannot thank him and his wife, Ms. Olivia P. Maynard, enough for all of the ways they and their networks have provided support to the FRWC.

For those and many more reasons, the Flint River Watershed Coalition is honored to confer the status of Board Member Emeritus to S. Olof Karlstrom. We are proud that Olof has been so generous with his time, talent and treasure, and hope that he is pleased with the organization that he has mentored through all these years. It was Olof who coined the term ‘Voice of the River’, and we are proud to raise our own voices in appreciation of him. We look forward to many more years of his fellowship and guidance as he takes on the role of Board Member Emeritus of the Flint River Watershed Coalition.

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Libby Maynard and S. Olof Karlstrom
**FLINT RIVER AND COMMUNITY CLEAN-UP**

A mannequin head on a stick and a litter of kittens were among the many items collected by volunteers at the 2014 Flint River and Community Clean-up. This year we had hundreds of Flint River watershed residents at nineteen locations across Genesee and Lapeer Counties join us in our ongoing quest to keep our Flint River watershed clean and healthy. Local business leaders and dedicated volunteers filled more than 300 bags of garbage, two and a half dumpsters full of debris, collected over 100 tires and over 95 bags of yard waste. An interesting assortment of large items were also removed from the river and surrounding communities. Wow… That’s a lot of hard work! We are grateful to our volunteers and their dedication to our mission and vision for our home.

We need to extend a special “Thank You” to Linda Johnson-Barnes and her family for cooking and serving lunch to the band of volunteers at FRWC River Clean-Ups for more than a decade now. She drives the family camper out to the site, sets up awnings, provides the cooking grills and does all the work along with several of her family members. We are endlessly appreciative of Linda and her family. You are All-Stars!

Finally, don’t forget to vote for this year’s Golden Gloves winner.

**ACTION ALERT: FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION**

ETF Rover has proposed building a new pipeline from West Virginia, through Ohio and Michigan (going through Lenawee, Washtenaw, Livingston, Shiawassee, Genesee, Oakland, Lapeer, Macomb and St. Clair counties) before ending near Sarnia, Ontario and is seeking approval to move forward from the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). FERC is currently accepting public comment on the pipeline proposal. After careful research and review of the Rover Pipeline proposal, the FRWC Board of Directors passed a resolution opposing the project.

Rebecca Fedewa, FRWC’s Executive Director, provided detailed testimony on December 10, 2014, at FERC’s Environmental Impact Statement scoping meeting held at the Holiday Inn. The FRWC believes that there are clear indications that FERC cannot grant Rover a “Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity” (Section 7 of the Natural Gas Act) for this project to enter the State of Michigan. Two areas where the Rover project appears to fall significantly short are the Environmental Impacts, and the Public Necessity and Convenience.

Rover’s proposed route runs through the headwater regions of the Flint River basin affecting six sub-watersheds: Swartz Creek, Thread Creek, Kearsley Creek, Farmers Creek, Hunters Creek, and South Branch. These sub-watersheds contain wetland features that provide critical ecological services, such as floodwater storage, filtration of sediments and nutrients, as well as critical and rare habitat for aquatic and terrestrial wildlife.

All phases of this pipeline project could structurally interfere with habitat connectivity, increase sedimentation and erosion, and otherwise alter natural stream processes. The project also could undo years of hard work, partnership and financial investment to protect, preserve, and improve the Flint River Watershed. Moreover, Rover has failed to demonstrate that the proposed new pipeline will create a level of public good that would offset the risks and environmental degradation to the Flint River Watershed, our neighboring watersheds, natural areas, lands under conservation easements, and a vital drinking water source for the people of Michigan. The FRWC Board’s Resolution and Fedewa’s testimony are available at www.FlintRiver.org.

FERC is attracting a great number of companies promoting projects linked to the current U.S. natural gas boom, as well as lots of protesters who say the agency approves too many pipelines, export terminals and other gas infrastructure. It is important to note that since 2006, the agency has approved 451, or 56 percent, of 803 applications for pipelines, compressor stations, storage and liquefied natural gas export facilities. Of projects that failed to advance, 94 are pending and applications for 258 either were denied or were withdrawn by the company. It is important to note that the most common reason for denials is related to environmental concerns.

Is your community, your neighborhood, your home affected? You can check the detailed route for the project maps through links on FRWC’s website. You can provide your comments to FERC under Docket Number PF14-14. To read more about this project, get resources and provide public comment or get details about upcoming meetings, please see FRWC’s ET Rover Pipeline webpage: http://flintriver.org/blog/breaking-news-frwc-board-passes-resolution-opposing-et-rover-project-certification
As of the printing of this newsletter, there are more than 795 financial supporters and members of the Flint River Watershed Coalition. And Counting! We are at a high point, and we are very proud of our growth. Membership in the Flint River Watershed Coalition continues to be a very important factor in the success of our organization. Our funders require that we have a broad base of grass roots support in the communities that we serve. Our ability to reach out and energize those who share our vision for the watershed is one of the key measures of our viability, and is spelled out clearly in our strategic plan.

Each watershed member is equally important to us - whether it is a student who can afford $10.00 to show his or her commitment to the work that we do, or it is a Watershed Patron who feels inspired to contribute $1000.00 to help us to be a ‘Voice of the River’.

Over the course of the summer and fall, we have increased our list of friends who we consider to be our newest members, and have continued to enjoy sustained support from our renewing members.

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We sincerely appreciate each and every one. When you see any of the new and renewing members listed here, thank them for their support when you see them on the river in 2015. They might be in waders, in a kayak, on a bike, fishing or floating, but they will be there. Join ‘em! There are many ways that our supporters can become members of the Flint River Watershed Coalition. We accept contributions in the traditional way with cash and checks, but now, at any time during the year, members can use the convenience of the internet. By going to the FRWC website at www.flintriver.org and pressing the ‘Donate Now through Network for Good’ button on the home page, credit card users can become new members or renew their membership in the Coalition. We can now take credit card information over the phone and process your membership through a secure payment option that allows you to receive an immediate confirmation by e-mail.

There are seven levels of membership available. Please contact any one of our Board members or staff if you are interested in membership or volunteer opportunities with the Coalition. Also, on the facing page of this newsletter is an application form. Please feel free to detach this and give it to an individual or business that may be interested in joining the FRWC. Or, call our offices and we will be glad to reach out to them on your behalf.
For more details about these events, please call the offices of the Flint River Watershed Coalition:
(810) 767-6490  or email us at info@flintriver.org

*Sign up for our e-newsletter, The Ripples, by visiting our website: www.flintriver.org*

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**Become a Member of the FRWC Today!**

**MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION JANUARY 2015**

Name______________________________________________________  _____student $10  _____watershed protector $500

Organization________________________________________________ ____individual $25  _____watershed guarantor $1000

Address____________________________________________________  _____family $40  _____river sponsor $100  _____other

City/State/Zip______________________________________________  ____river patron $250  ____$_____

Phone (h)________________(c)______________________________

Email_____________________________________________________  

Some companies will match an employee contribution to an eligible charity or non-profit organization. Please check with your employer to obtain a matching gift form, if applicable.

Your support is sincerely appreciated. The Flint River Watershed Coalition is a not-for-profit organization with 501(c)(3) tax exempt status. Your contribution is deductible.

Please make checks payable to: Flint River Watershed Coalition or FRWC, 400 N. Saginaw Street, Suite 233 Flint MI 48502
Mark your calendars for the 2015 Voice of The River Annual Celebration

Wednesday, January 28, 2015  6:00 pm - 9:00 PM
Flint Institute of Arts  1120 E Kearsley Street  Flint, Michigan 48503

Tickets are $40 per person; $50 at the door - Sponsorships also available.

Great Food  Silent Auction  Raffles

Come Rally Around Our River! We will be celebrating our Flint River Watershed and all the people who help keep and improve the health and vitality of our watershed.

Tickets can be purchased soon online at our Network for Good site. Please contact our office with any questions or to RSVP. 810-767-6490 or lelbing@flintriver.org

Beautiful Artwork