



Town of Danvers
RIVER COMMITTEE

*2010
Annual Report*

The Danvers River Committee serves as an advisory committee to the Recreation/Waterfront Division of the Department of Planning & Human Services on the matters affecting Danvers Harbor. The Committee consists of six members who meet monthly from March through December at Town Hall. The Committee includes support staff from the Harbormaster, Christopher Sanborn, and Selectman Gardner Trask, who serves as the liaison to the Committee for the Board of Selectmen.

The River Committee works closely with the Town, through the Harbormaster, to ensure the assessment of fees to our boaters is fair and equitable. The Town permits all vessels in Danvers, the revenues of which offset waterfront expenditures and contributes greatly to the general fund. In 2011, the Committee will be proposing a slight increase in dockage rates at the Crane River Marina to offset the cost of ongoing improvements.

For the third consecutive year, the River Committee has welcomed back Santa Claus to Pope's Landing for an afternoon of free food and activities. With support from nearly forty-two local businesses and individuals the event could not have been more successful with an estimated 1,400 people attending last December.

The Harbormaster's pumpout boat is continually working to help keep our harbor clean by properly disposing of more than 12,000 gallons of sewage in 2010. The pumpout boat service is funded, in part, through a federal grant which provides "free" pumpouts to boaters in Danvers. The boat removes sewage from a vessel's holding tank preventing it from being illegally discharge into the harbor. The Committee continues to support this program and the Harbormaster's ongoing efforts to improve the water quality of our beaches and waterways.

I would like to take this time opportunity to thank our Waterfront Manager Christopher Sanborn and the River Committee for their continued support of all our past and future endeavors. In conclusion, the River Committee continues to support the Town's commitment to improve the quality of life of the inhabitants of Danvers and the boaters whom call Danvers their homeport.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the River Committee,

Aileen L'Abbe, Chairwoman