



# KinniKeeper

KINNICKINNIC River Land Trust

January 2015



*Photo courtesy of Dan Wilkening*

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## Happy New Year!

The Board and staff of the Kinnickinnic River Land Trust hope you had an enjoyable and safe holiday season. We have three exciting pieces of news to share with you as we begin 2015.

Late last summer we published our long awaited Kinnickinnic Watershed Public Recreation Map with the support of several partners and sponsors. Most of you have already received a complimentary copy with your December membership renewal or annual appeal mailing.

At its December Board meeting, the KRLT Board adopted a resolution regarding the ongoing relicensing of the River Falls hydroelectric facilities that supports a process leading to the removal of the dams and restoration of the river. We continue to work with other stakeholders and the City Council and staff on an outcome that will be best for the Kinni.

Andy Roth, volunteer Stewardship Leader for the Jackson Preserve, is organizing a brush burn for this coming Saturday at the preserve. Volunteers anxious to be

outside are welcome. With temperatures expected above freezing, it could be a great day for roasting something on a stick!

If you have any questions or concerns about our news or KRLT, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Warm wishes,  
Dave Fodroczi, Executive Director  
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## Kinnickinnic Watershed Public Recreation Map

Here is a great resource for planning your visits to the Kinni in the year ahead!

Kinnickinnic River Land Trust (KRLT) is pleased to announce the publication of the Kinnickinnic Watershed Public Recreation Map. This two-sided map brochure is a high quality map of the Kinnickinnic watershed with all publicly accessible recreation sites identified with a legend to distinguish the type and owner characteristics. Insets of the three KRLT preserves are included. The map also includes matrix tables of different categories of recreation properties identifying the types of activities that are available.

The Kinnickinnic Watershed Public Recreation Map design and development were done in partnership with the University of Wisconsin - River Falls through Geography Professor Charlie Rader. Many thanks to Charlie for his gifted contributions.

The River Falls Chamber of Commerce and Tourism Bureau was also a project partner. The Wisconsin DNR made an advance purchase of the map. In addition to the KRLT and Chamber offices, maps are available from the following sponsors who supported the printing of the map:

- Bob Mitchell's Fly Shop
- Kinni Creek Lodge and Outfitters
- Rush River Brewing Company
- Trout Unlimited-Kiap Tu Wish
- Gray Goat Fly Fishing
- Lund's Fly Shop
- St. Croix Valley Adventures
- West Wind Supper Club



To view the map online, please click on the following link: [KRLT Map](#)

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## Kinnickinnic River Land Trust Supports Process Leading to Removal of River Falls Dams - City Council Acts

On December 3, 2014, the KRLT Board of Directors unanimously approved a resolution regarding the River Falls hydroelectric dams that encourages the City

of River Falls to "pursue a process leading to the removal of the dams for the health of the river, for the benefit of the River Falls community, and to help ensure a free-flowing cold water natural resource for years to come."

This resolution was an outgrowth of our participation in the City's ongoing application process to relicense the hydroelectric dams. We shared it with Mayor Dan Toland and the City Council following a December 9th City Council workshop held to evaluate options to the current relicensing process.

KRLT Conservation Committee Chair Hal Watson emphasized that "the spirit and content of the resolution are based on KRLT's longstanding mission to work with the community to conserve and protect the beauty and health of the Kinnickinnic River and its watershed." The KRLT Strategic Plan also includes an organizational vision whereby "we see a cold, clean and free-flowing river". Watson added that "existing information reviewed as part of the relicensing process thus far suggests that the dams and their impoundments compromise a cold, clean and free-flowing river in many ways."

As we stated in our transmittal letter to Mayor Toland and the City Council, "we offer this resolution as a partner in community conservation. We have historically cooperated with the City of River Falls on land protection, KinniRiverCleanUp, stormwater management policy and environment education. We look forward to serving as one of many conservation partners with you to carefully plan and implement the removal of the dams and the restoration of the Kinni through the City of River Falls. The outcomes could be nothing short of a renaissance for the Kinni and the heart of River Falls."

You can review the resolution and related documents at [KRLT Hydroelectric Dams Documents](#).

The City Council just acted at its January 13th meeting to authorize a process whereby dam removal and restoration could be considered as an option. You can find all the related information at the [City of River Falls Hydroelectric Facilities Licensing](#) page.

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## Volunteers Making a Difference

### Saturday, January 17, 2015

#### Brush Burn at Jackson Preserve - Volunteers Needed

On September 26, 2014, volunteer Stewardship Leader Andy Roth coordinated a Brush Eradication Day at Jackson Preserve and inspired volunteers to fight buckthorn and prickly ash along the river trail.

This Saturday, January 17th, Andy will be leading a burn at Jackson Preserve of what was cut down. ***Interested in helping out and making a difference?*** See

Andy's invitation on the Gray Goat Fly Fishing website at [Gray Goat Fly Fishing](#).



**Above:** Volunteers cutting brush and spraying to clean up Jackson Preserve.  
**Below:** Volunteers enjoying a well-deserved break after their hard work, with refreshments provided by Rush River Brewing Company. Thank you to volunteers Randy Arnold, Greg Barkley, Dave Fodroczi, David Hall, Matt London, Andy Roth, Sarah Sanford, Tom Schnadt, Tom Spence, Dean Tsantir, Bob Wiesner and Scott Zager for making a difference!



*Photos courtesy of Scott Zager*

We work with the community  
to conserve and protect the beauty and health  
of the Kinnickinnic River and its watershed.

Donate to KRLT

*KRLT is a 501(c)3 organization. Your donation is tax deductible to the fullest extent allowed by law.*

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