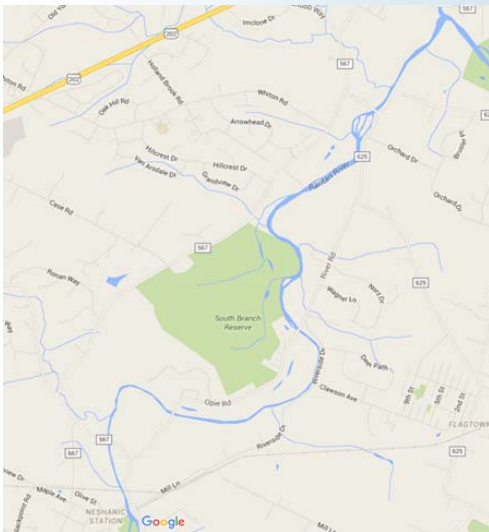


## Vision for 2016

Since the summer of 2013, the Central Jersey Stream Team has cleaned approximately 36 miles of the South Branch and main stem of the Raritan River from Clinton in Hunterdon County to Piscataway in Middlesex County. We know that some of these sections will need more work so in 2016 we will re-visit some of the original stretches along the South Branch. In addition, we expect to do cleanups on some of the tributaries such as the Lamington River, Neshanic River, Peters Brook, Green Brook, and others.



**"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has."  
-Margaret Mead**



Join our Facebook page for more updates for future clean ups & more information.



### Our 2016 Cleanup Dates:

- Saturday, March 28, 2016
- Friday, April 22, 2016 (Earth Day)
- Sunday, May 22, 2016
- Saturday, June 25, 2016
- Sunday, July 24, 2016
- Saturday, August 20, 2016
- Saturday, September 24, 2016
- Saturday, October 22, 2016
- Sunday, November 13, 2016
- Saturday, December 3, 2016

Cleanups generally begin at 8 am with breakfast for our volunteers and a group orientation and safety meeting. We will distribute water, snacks, and tools and then it's into the river (in warmer months)! Or for those who prefer to stay dry, we will have some opportunities for land cleanups too!

Please contact [info@cjstreamteam.org](mailto:info@cjstreamteam.org) or visit our website or Facebook group page for more information and to sign up!

CJST is proud to be a part of



## CENTRAL JERSEY STREAM TEAM

2016



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

[www.facebook.com/groups/centraljerseysteamteam](https://www.facebook.com/groups/centraljerseysteamteam)

## How It All Began...

The Central Jersey Stream Team is a non-profit grassroots 501(c)3 organization with humble beginnings. In July of 2012, the original founders went on a family canoe trip on the South Branch of the Raritan River from Neshanic Station to Raritan Borough. Encouraged to point out any wildlife they saw, the children were pointing out more tires than wildlife. That day they grabbed one tire from the river and decided that it could start right there... with that one tire.

In the summer of 2013, with help from family, friends and over 100 volunteers, 101 tires and enough trash to fill a 30 cubic yard dumpster were removed from sections of the Raritan River between Neshanic Station and Raritan Borough. Two subsequent cleanup events that summer and a few smaller cleanups in the fall added hundreds of additional tires and tons of trash. This part of the river was well on its way to being restored. As 2014 approached, the overwhelming support received from the local community convinced the group that this could be something much bigger and the Central Jersey Stream Team was born. Despite the countless hours of paperwork and discussion it takes to form a new non-profit organization, the group continued to plan cleanups, attend conferences and make new contacts. Three major cleanup events in the summer of 2014 focused on the section of river from Clinton to Neshanic Station. CJST is also proud to



have participated in helping to clean up a local tire dump site next to and in the Raritan River in Bridgewater Township with the



Somerset County Parks Commission and NJ Clean Communities. In 2014, CJST helped pull approximately 900 tires from the site. CJST revisited this site in 2015 with several hundred more tires being removed and plenty more to do.



In 2015, CJST embarked on its most ambitious cleanup schedule yet with 8 major cleanups throughout the year from March through October from Raritan Borough to Piscataway Township. We are also very proud of nine smaller cleanups undertaken with groups of enthusiastic boys from the Bonnie Brae School. 2015 also saw CJST expand its capabilities by obtaining a pickup truck to pull our equipment trailer and haul trash.

A special thanks to our individual supporters and several very generous donors whose financial support helped make this possible. Our sincerest appreciation goes out to our partners who have supported us... NY/NJ Baykeeper (especially for loaning us their canoes!), Raritan Riverkeeper, Duke Farms,

NJ American Water, the American Canoe Association, American Rivers, local municipalities and agencies including Raritan Borough, Bridgewater Township, Branchburg Township, Somerville, Bound Brook, Hillsborough Township, Manville, Piscataway Township, the Somerset County Parks Commission, the Hunterdon County Parks Commission, local environmental and watershed groups, and countless others. In 2016, we expect to increase our volunteer base by working with corporations and other groups to bring their teams to join our Team.



With over 3,000 tires and many tons of trash removed during our cleanups, the Central Jersey Stream Team is continuing to do its best to restore the beautiful Raritan River and its watershed. We believe that the river is now cleaner than it was 100 years ago. We know there is much work to be done, and it is hard work, but we love to be in the river with our river family, the Central Jersey Stream Team.

***“We must begin thinking like a river if we are to leave a legacy of beauty and life for future generations.”***  
**- David Brower.**