

Subject: : Conservation

Topic: : Cleaning Streams!!

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I received this tonight. Our wonderful State Legislature has passed a bill to allow for Cleaning Streams after major weather events. It is going on to the Senate. It's HB2359. As it stands now anyone doing work in stream has to get all the permits, depending on the work to be done.

Many of our Reps. and Senators don't understand how streams work and frankly I don't want them changing things just to get votes. There were many high water events last year the biggest was Hurricane Irene which caused a ton of damage. But these efforts to clean up streams is likely to do more harm than good.

"We have heard from contacts at The Nature Conservancy that the State Senate has a high level of interest in passing some form of stream clearing bill during the Fall 2012 legislative session. We also have heard that there are more than a few senators who question whether the version passed by the House (HB 2359 – Causer's bill) is the right way to go. Thus, we have an opportunity to provide some input as the Senate crafts its legislation. Since the legislature convenes later in September, we need to be thinking and talking about this now."