



Niantic River Watershed Committee

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Niantic River Watershed Coordinator's Report

July 5, 2018

Good evening,

Following is a summary of my activities since the June meeting.

Outreach/Education:

- Niantic River Lawn Care Community-Based Social Marketing Behavior Change Pilot Project: On 6/14, Robert Burg and I distributed approximately 100 door hangers on Sandy Point (Konomoc Ave., Riverside Dr. and Oswegatchie Rd. west to the shore) and 5th, 6th and 7th Avenues in Waterford, and canvassed about ten homes on Pine Grove in East Lyme. On 6/19, Ralph and I distributed another 100 or so door hangers on Saunders Point and the Penn Cove Road through Luce Avenue neighborhood in Niantic. On 6/20 Meaghan Rondeau and I canvassed an additional 20 homes on Shawandasee Road (Sandy Point) in Waterford. As with previous canvassing, the response was overwhelming positive. Folks were familiar with NRWC and are grateful for the work that we do in the watershed to protect water quality.
- Celebrate East Lyme Day: Celebrate East Lyme Day will be held on Saturday, July 21st from 3-9 pm. I requested the spot we had last year, which was in front of Family Pizza. I have not received my registration packet yet (it should come next week). I'll confirm the location with East Lyme Day volunteers. I'd like to focus on our partners and the Behavior Change Campaign this year and will contact Robert Burg about outreach material. I am trying to finish up the newsletter so we can hand it out as outreach. As always, everyone is welcome to come hang out!

Water Quality Improvement Projects:

- Veteran's Memorial Park/Oswegatchie Hills Nature Preserve: I met with several folks from Friends and Town staff at the Nature Preserve on 6/19 to review the rain garden site. I am presently preparing information required by Planner Gary Goeschel for his review. I am hoping to plant the rain garden the last week of July/first week of August.
- East Lyme High School Rain Garden: I met with school and town staff on June 19th to discuss scheduling this project. It is tentatively scheduled for July 25th or 26th. I need to coordinate the excavation with school department staff. The Millstone Environmental Stewardship Team will be assisting with the planting. Anyone who wants to come help is welcome.

Monitoring:

- Stream Temperature Logging: With water levels finally dropping, Don was able to retrieve the temperature logger in Latimer Brook behind the shopping plaza in Flanders. I need to QC the loggers (basically a 0°C check) and then I can download the data.
- RBV: With summer well underway, it is not too soon to start thinking about RBV! I will let you know when the RBV workshop/refresher is scheduled (usually in August).

Grants:

- NRWPP Update: The RFP subcommittee has begun to prepare an RFP to retain a consultant to conduct a series of workshops and draft an Update Addendum based on feedback from the workshops.

ECCD Projects:

- East Lyme High School Infiltration Project: Subsequent to the 6/19 meeting, we will likely be postponing the infiltration project 'til next summer to allow for the identification of additional funding and further development of the BMP design.
- LISFF 100 Rain Gardens/100 Rain Barrels: Dan has been working with Maureen FitzGerald to identify some suitable sites in Waterford for a rain garden. We have identified one site in Montville, although it is not in the Niantic watershed. We are planning a rain barrel workshop in Waterford or East Lyme in August. I will inform board members if anyone would like to sign up for the workshop to make their own rain barrel.

Staff hours: In June, I worked approximately 49.5 hours on Niantic River Watershed Committee business and projects. Of that, 21.75 hours were for core NRWC activities (administration, outreach and monitoring activities) and 27.75 hours were applied to billable projects, including the Behavior Change project (20 hrs), the East Lyme High School rain garden (4 hrs) and the Watershed plan update RFP (3.75 hrs).

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Judy Rondeau", is written over a light yellow rectangular background.

Judy Rondeau
Watershed Coordinator