



Niantic River Watershed Committee

www.nianticriverwatershed.org

Niantic River Watershed Coordinator's Report

November 1, 2018

Good evening,

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

Outreach/Education:

- Niantic River Nitrogen Work Group: I attended the work group meeting on Oct. 1st and updated the group on the status of NRW projects.
- Teacher Loan Kit: The Waterford High School AP Biology class borrowed the kit to visit Jordan Brook in Waterford in early October. I noted while preparing the kit for the loan that many of the reagents are expired and need to be replaced.
- Niantic River Lawn Care Community-Based Social Marketing Behavior Change Pilot Project: I've participated in several conference calls to plan the follow-up surveys to evaluate the effectiveness of the campaign. The field surveys scheduled for Saturday, October 27th were cancelled due to bad weather. They have been re-scheduled to mid-November.
- Long Island Sound Futures Fund Rain Barrel Workshop (ECCD): On Saturday, Oct. 20th I attended the rain barrel workshop at Perennial Harmony Garden Center. I set up a NRW display for workshop attendees and promoted our organization.
- Flanders School (East Lyme) Student Outreach: I met today with 3rd grade teacher Lisa Vaudreil to discuss incorporating the East Lyme High School rain garden into a "Becoming Citizen Ornithologists" curriculum she and other teachers are developing.

Water Quality Improvement Projects:

- Rain Garden Initiative: We've not had any new applicants for this program.

Monitoring:

- I did not conduct any activities associated with monitoring this month.

Grants:

- NRWPP Update: There has been no forward action on this project. I had brief discussion with Jesse Baldwin of GZA regarding the RFP.

ECCD Projects:

- East Lyme High School Infiltration Project: Planning is on-going for this project, pending preparation of a grant amendment with DEEP. The project is on target for next summer.
- LISFF 100 Rain Gardens/100 Rain Barrels: This project is winding down for the winter. ECCD plans to request an extension so we can continue to install rain gardens in 2019.
- Four-Town Bioretention Project: DEEP is in the process of preparing a contract for the Niantic watershed-targeted project. ECCD will be installing rain gardens, rain barrels and tree filters (or tree wells) in each of the watershed towns (funded by the CWA §319 NPS grant program) in 2019 - 2020.

- Southeast Connecticut Stormwater Collaborative Pilot Project: The kick-off meeting for this project was held on October 27th in the Southeastern Connecticut Council of Governments (SCCOG) office in Norwich. About 15 municipal staff attended, including staff from Waterford and East Lyme.

Staff hours: In October, I worked approximately 20 hours on Niantic River Watershed Committee business and projects. Of that, 17.25 hours were for core NRWC activities (administration, outreach and monitoring activities) and about 2.75 hours were applied to billable projects, including the Behavior Change project and the Watershed Plan Update.

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