



Niantic River Watershed Committee

www.nianticriverwatershed.org

Niantic River Watershed Coordinator's Report

September 6, 2018

Good evening,

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

Outreach/Education:

- Niantic River Lawn Care Community-Based Social Marketing Behavior Change Pilot Project: We had a conference call in mid-August. Future plans include follow-up surveys to evaluate the effectiveness of the campaign, and a workshop in 2019 to share the results and lessons learned.
- Save the River-Save the Hills Watershed Seminar/Field Trip: Suzanne Thompson and I have had several discussions about this outreach project. The event has been scheduled for September 27th, and will be discussed further at his evening's meeting.

Water Quality Improvement Projects:

- Rain Garden Initiative: I have not had any new requests for rain gardens.

Monitoring:

- I put together an additional set of RBV cards at the request of the Monitoring Subcommittee.

Grants:

- NRWPP Update: The RFP was distributed to a list of 11 consultants on August 13th. Proposals are due Friday Sept. 7th.

ECCD Projects:

- East Lyme High School Infiltration Project: Planning is on-going for this project. The Town Engineering Department has prepared a design. ECCD has worked with DEEP to identify additional funding for installation. The School Department has entered into an agreement with ECCD to conduct the project and to provide a small amount of funding. The project is on target for next summer.
- LISFF 100 Rain Gardens/100 Rain Barrels: A rain garden was installed at Veteran's Memorial Park/Oswegatchie Hills Nature Preserve on Friday, August 31st. The garden was planted by six volunteers from Friends of the Nature Preserve and three ECCD staff. ECCD is planning a Rain Barrel Extravaganza in the Niantic watershed this fall. The workshop will be primarily organized by Sean Slusarz, the Eagle Scout who is installing the rain garden at Pine Grove rain garden this month (possibly this Saturday).
- 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: ECCD has just begun work on a pilot project to develop a stormwater collaborative in southeast CT, in partnership with the Southeast CT Council of Governments (SCCOG). The purpose of this grant is to bring together

SE CT municipal highway departments to create a coalition to provide support, share information and create equipment and idea sharing to the benefit of all the towns in the coalition.

Staff hours: In August, I worked approximately 25.5 hours on Niantic River Watershed Committee business and projects. Of that, about 15 hours were for core NRWC activities (administration, outreach and monitoring activities) and about 10.5 hours were applied to billable projects, including the Behavior Change project (2.25 hrs) and the Watershed Plan Update RFP (8.25 hrs).

Respectfully submitted,

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

Judy Rondeau
Watershed Coordinator