

Niantic River Watershed Committee

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Niantic River Watershed Coordinator's Report

December 5, 2019

Good evening,

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

Outreach/Education: I spoke about NRWC programs and projects at the East Lyme Public Trust Foundation's annual meeting on Nov. 18th. I have been coordinating with University of CT Conservation Ambassador Program staff and New London high school student to develop a Niantic River-related project as discussed at last month's meeting. Planning continues for the Community Based Social Marketing workshop, which is a follow-up to the LISS CBSM Niantic River behavior change campaign. The 2-day workshop date is Apr. 28-29, 2020 at the Beardsley Zoo in Bridgeport.

Monitoring: On Nov. 20th, Maureen Fitzgerald and I collected RBV samples from Willys Meadow Brook. On Nov. 13th I participated in a conference call to review the draft Niantic River Data Synthesis report in preparation for finalizing the report and closing out the data synthesis project. I contacted Xylem regarding purchasing a new YSI meter.

NRWPP Update: A project progress conference call for the NRWPP Update Steering Committee and Fuss & O'Neill project staff is scheduled for December 11th. I've been invited to participate in a stakeholder kickoff meeting at the Coast Guard Academy later this month to discuss the Coastal Resiliency course and term project.

Grants: Ralph Bates and I attended National Fish & Wildlife Foundation Long Island Sound Futures Fund (NFWF LISFF) award ceremony in Bridgeport on Nov. 4th. The National Association of Conservation Districts has an Urban Agriculture grant round closing on January 10, 2020. The Community Foundation of Eastern CT has announced their 2020 environmental grant round. Proposals are due on January 13, 2020. The Long Island Sound Stewardship Fund proposals are due on January 17, 2020. The Environmental Professionals of CT (EPOC) have announced their annual grant round, which is due on March 15, 2020.

Water Quality Improvement Projects: There are no active water quality improvement projects at present.

Staff hours: In November, I worked approximately 47.75 hours on Niantic River Watershed Committee business and projects. Of that, about 41.25 hours were for core NRWC activities (administration, outreach and monitoring activities) and about 6.5 hours were applied to the Watershed Plan Update.

Respectfully submitted,

Judy Rondeau Watershed Coordinator