



Niantic River Watershed Committee

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Niantic River Watershed Coordinator's Report

February 6, 2020

Good evening,

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

Outreach/Education: On Jan. 15th, I attended a meeting at the Coast Guard Academy. Waterford staff reviewed with the cadets sensitive coastal areas to conduct their coastal resiliency projects. No projects are proposed for East Lyme. I will be attending site visits this Friday with the various project teams and Waterford planning staff. On Saturday, Jan. 25th, Peter Harris, Rich Chmiel and I accompanied Kayla, the UConn CAP to conduct oyster sampling in the Niantic River. On Feb. 5th, I met with Kayla and program coordinator Amy Cabaniss to assist Kayla with the development of her project poster. On Feb. 3rd, I attended a Niantic River Nitrogen Work Group meeting. I gave a presentation on the East Lyme High School infiltration practice project, as well as updating the group on NRW activities and the status of the NRWPP update.

Monitoring: I have no monitoring updates this month.

NRWPP Update: I have continued to facilitate the watershed plan update with Fuss & O'Neill. We had a progress conference call on Jan. 22nd. The next call is scheduled on Feb. 18th. I distributed the draft site-specific BMP recommendations and the wbp update outline to board members for review and ranking. I submitted an interim project report to the Community Foundation of Eastern Connecticut on Jan. 24th. I am in the process of preparing the open space planning/strategizing workshop for the end of February.

Healthy Lawns, Healthy River CBSM Outreach Campaign: I am in the process of preparing the contract with the National Fish & Wildlife Foundation (the funder). I hope to have this project underway in early March. Anyone who would like to assist is welcome!

Grants: The CT Society of Women Environmental Professionals (SWEP-CT) has announced their 2020 grant round. Proposals are due Feb. 15th. The Environmental Professionals of CT (EPOC) annual grant is due on March 15, 2020. CT DEEP released the RFP for the FY20 CWA §319 grant program; proposals are due on February 27, 2020. I am preparing a proposal for stormwater management in the Niantic watershed, based on recommendations provided by Fuss & O'Neill subsequent to their visual field assessment.

Water Quality Improvement Projects: There are no active water quality improvement projects at present. ECCD is in the process of preparing a contract with CT DEEP to install BMPs in each of the watershed towns (Four-town Bioretention project).

Staff hours: In January, I worked approximately 32.5 hours on Niantic River Watershed Committee business and projects. Of that, about 17 hours were for core NRWC activities (administration, outreach and monitoring activities), about 12.75 hours were applied to the Watershed Plan Update and about 2.75 hours were applied to the new LISFF CBSM campaign.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Judy Rondeau", is placed on a light yellow rectangular background.

Judy Rondeau
Watershed Coordinator