



Niantic River Watershed Committee, Inc.

www.nianticriverwatershed.org

Niantic River Watershed Coordinator's Report

October 1, 2020

Good evening,

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

Outreach/Education: I have put up several cross-posts on Facebook that I felt were applicable to the NRWC Facebook page. Please feel free to share with me any posts you think should be posted.

Monitoring: Don Landers and I coordinated with East Lyme engineering staff to prepare for outfall sampling. I returned the two temperature loggers on loan from DEEP since MEL will be providing loggers for temperature logging in Oil Mill and Stony Brooks and select tributaries.

NRWPP Update: We are waiting for the updated Watershed Compact to be signed by the four municipal CEOs, so it can be included in the final version of the Plan. Fuss & O'Neill is standing by until we provide that document. Then they will finalize the Plan and deliver it to us in MS Word and PDF digital formats.

Healthy Lawns, Healthy River CBSM Outreach Campaign: With the arrival of fall, I have wrapped up the weekly Facebook posts for this project. I participated in the Long Island Sound Study Community-Based Social Marketing workshop on Sept. 21-23. Although I had gone through the process when we designed the pilot project several years ago, it was very instructive to see the CBSM process laid out in more detail. I jotted down several ideas that I would like to explore when we implement our CBSM project this coming spring.

Grants: There were no new grant opportunities this past month. The 2020 National Fish & Wildlife Foundation Long Island Sound Futures Fund should be announced in October or November. We had applied for funding to fully develop and implement the Niantic River outfall sampling program.

Water Quality Improvement Projects: ECCD has begun the Four-town Bioretention project. First steps were developing Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs) with the watershed towns and identifying locations in the watershed for storm drain filters.

Staff hours: In September, I worked approximately 32 hours on Niantic River Watershed Committee business and projects. Of that, about 13.25 hours were for core NRWC activities (administration, outreach and monitoring activities); about 3 hours were applied to the Watershed Plan Update, and about 15.75 hours were applied to the LISFF CBSM campaign. As a reminder, I have expended all funding for basic coordinator services and will need to be very careful to limit any non-grant-funded activities.

Respectfully submitted,

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

Judy Rondeau
Watershed Coordinator