

Niantic River Watershed Committee

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Niantic River Watershed Coordinator's Report

January 5, 2017

Happy New Year!

Following is a summary of tasks I have been working on since the December 1, 2016 Board of Directors meeting.

Outreach/Education: I have continued to work on the NRWC website, updating outdated information, moving and consolidating content and deleting old or duplicated information. In particular, I will be adding new pages for the Rain Garden Initiative, the Small Farms BMPs and the Lawn Fertilizer Behavior Change campaign. I will be participating in a webinar on January 12th that follows up the November 12th Southeastern CT Regional Resilience Solutions workshop hosted by SCCOG, the SE CT Enterprise Region and The Nature Conservancy.

Monitoring: Meghan Lally of CT DEEP has announced that a limited amount of stream temperature loggers will be available for volunteer groups. I have asked if our collection of stream temperature data from Latimer Brook might help with IFD assessments related to the aquatic habitat impairment, and am awaiting a response from DEEP.

Grants: There are a number of grants available at present. CT DEEP has announced the 2017 CWA §319 grant round, which is due March 3rd. NFWF has announced the Five Star and Urban Waters Restoration Gran, due at the end of this month. The 2017 EPOC grant announcement is due on March 15th.

ECCD Projects: ECCD has received the signed contract for the East Lyme High School parking lot infiltration project (I erroneously reported last month that we were waiting for it, when in fact we had it in hand!). I will be meeting with East Lyme engineering and highway staff later in January to begin planning. I will also be meeting with East Lyme staff to discuss a potential stormwater management project on Grand Street, which discharges stormwater directly to the Niantic River.

Staff hours: In December, I worked approximately 14.5 hours on Niantic River Watershed Committee business and projects.

Respectfully submitted,

Judy Rondeau

Watershed Coordinator