



# *Niantic River Watershed Committee*

[www.nianticriverwatershed.org](http://www.nianticriverwatershed.org)

## **Niantic River Watershed Coordinator's Report**

December 7, 2017

Good evening,

Following is a summary of my activities since the October 5, 2017 Board of Directors meeting.

### **Outreach/Education:**

- I met Diane Herr, a science teacher from Waterford High School, and her biology class on October 12<sup>th</sup> to sample Jordan Brook, using the teacher water quality loan kit and RBV kit.
- On Oct. 18<sup>th</sup> I attended a Niantic River Nitrogen Work Group meeting in Waterford. I and other committee members updated the group on NRWC activities and the status of the Grand Street project.
- I have participated in several Behavior Change campaign conferences calls. At present, the group is planning a pilot project to test out the selected message, reviewing potential pilot project target areas (neighborhoods), preparing material for the pilot project, and planning a partner meeting for January.

**Monitoring:** I did not conduct any monitoring activities the past two months. I had hoped to get out to the streams and download temp logger data before redeploying the loggers for the winter, but was not able to schedule it.

**Grants:** EPOC has just announce their annual grant round. I don't have any particular projects in mind or this grant, but would welcome ideas.

### **ECCD Projects:**

- Ted Hunt from the East Lyme school department informed me in November that the school board has approved the rain garden and parking lot infiltration projects. We anticipate installation of the rain garden in late spring (after danger of frost) and the infiltration project in the summer while school is out of session.
- The Grand Street water quality improvement project is well underway. We installed 19 tree wells in the Grand Street neighborhood. We installed several drywells, a deep sump catch basin and two tree wells on Hope Street, which is connected to the storm drain system on Grand Street. We have funding remaining to install 6-7 more tree wells or other BMPs. Town engineer Victor Benni and I are reviewing the catchment area for additional opportunities and will complete the installation in the spring. We are also planning a half-day workshop in the spring in partnership with CT NEMO to show off the various BMPs we and the Town have installed through-out the downtown area and discuss how the installation of these BMPs helps towns meet some of the requirements of their MS4 permits.
- ECCD was notified by DEEP that it has been awarded funding to conduct a Niantic River 4-Town Bio-infiltration, Filtration & Rainwater Collection Project. This project will promote the installation of rain barrels, rain gardens and storm drain filters.

- In November, ECCD was awarded funding from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation Long Island Futures Fund to conduct 10 workshops for the general public to support the planting of 100 rain gardens and installation of 100 rain barrels in eastern Connecticut.

**Staff hours:** In October, I worked approximately 10.5 hours on Niantic River Watershed Committee business and projects. Of that, about 7.5 hours were for administrative activities, outreach and monitoring activities, and 3 hours were applied to projects. In November, I worked approximately 8 hours on Niantic River Watershed Committee business and projects. Of that, about 1 hour was for administrative activities, outreach and monitoring activities, and the remainder was applied to projects.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Judy Rondeau". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Judy Rondeau  
Watershed Coordinator