



# *Niantic River Watershed Committee*

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

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

February 1, 2018

Good evening,

Following is a summary of my activities since the December 7, 2017 Board of Directors meeting.

### **Outreach/Education:**

- I will be attending a Niantic River Nitrogen Work Group meeting on Feb. 5<sup>th</sup>.
- Planning for the Behavior Change campaign pilot project continues. Robert, Holly Drinkuth and I met with municipal staff on January 9<sup>th</sup> to present the project to date and solicit their input. The next phase is to conduct a “pilot to the pilot” in which we will test passive vs interactive messaging (distribution of informational material vs direct conversation), and message dissemination via recycle bin stickers vs. temporary yard signs. I provided our logo for the sticker, but the designer was not able to work with it and created a substitute. Please look at the sticker and let me know if you think the substitute is acceptable. If not, I will try to work with Robert to come up with an alternative.

**Monitoring:** I've not conducted any monitoring activities in the last two months.

**Grants:** The EPOC grant is open until March. The 2018 Dominion grant is open and I will be preparing a proposal. I also provided a letter of support to Save the River-Save the Hills for a Community Foundation of Eastern CT proposal.

### **ECCD Projects:**

- East Lyme High School infiltration project: East Lyme Town engineer Victor Benni will be designing the BMP over the winter for early summer installation. I would like to install the Dominion-funded rain garden in May.
- Grand Street water quality improvement project: 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.
- Eastern Connecticut Rain Gardens and Rain Barrels: ECCD will be launching this project to install 100 rain gardens and rain barrels in the next month or so.



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**Staff hours:** In December, I worked approximately 14 hours on Niantic River Watershed Committee business and projects. Of that, about 10.5 hours were for administrative activities, outreach and monitoring activities, and 3.5 hours were applied to projects. In January, I worked approximately 26 hours on Niantic River Watershed Committee business and projects. Of that, about 10 hours were for administrative activities, outreach and monitoring activities, and the remainder was applied to projects.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Judy Rondeau".

Judy Rondeau  
Watershed Coordinator