

Niantic River Watershed Committee

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Niantic River Watershed Coordinator's Report

September 7, 2017

Good evening,

Following is a summary of tasks I have been working on since the August 3, 2017 Board of Directors meeting.

Outreach/Education: I did not conduct any outreach or education activities this month. Diane Herr, a science teacher from Waterford High School, has reserved the teacher water quality loan kit and an RBV kit for a class trip to Jordan Brook in October. NRWC was invited to participate in a "Gathering on the Greene" by the Waterford Historical Society on Sept. 9th. However, I have a commitment that day and am not able to attend. Save the Sound is sponsoring two coastal clean-ups in East Lyme on Sept. 16th at Cini Park and Rocky Neck State Park. If anyone is interested in attending, I will sign us up.

Monitoring: Due to other commitments, I've not been able to visit Bogue Brook this month to photodocument stream levels for DEEP's stream flow program.

Grants: Dan Mullins identified a grant program offered through the US Forest Service and NRCS, the Joint Chiefs' Landscape Restoration Partnership program, that may be appropriate for open space preservation in the Niantic watershed. If the program is suitable, Dan will review the proposal and prepare an application.

ECCD Projects: I am not sure of the status of the East Lyme High School rain garden. It was my understanding that the project needed to be approved the Board of Education. I reviewed the minutes for the August BOE meetings, but did not see any discussion. I have contacted Ted Hunt, the school facilities manager, to find out what the status is on the school department's end, but have not yet heard back.

Planning for the Grand Street water quality improvement project is well-underway. Work is scheduled to start the first week of October. The Town engineering department plans to install 30-35 tree filters throughout the Grand Street/Smith Street neighborhood.

Staff hours: In August, I worked approximately 17 hours on Niantic River Watershed Committee business and projects. Of that, about 8 hours were for administrative activities, outreach and monitoring activities, and 9 hours were applied to projects. My allotted time for the rest of this quarter (July – Sept), has been used, so I will be limiting my coordinator activities to a minimum until October 1.

Respectfully submitted,

Judy Rondeau Watershed Coordinator