Niantic River Watershed Committee, Inc.

www.nianticriverwatershedcommittee.org

Niantic River Watershed Coordinator's Report

May 6, 2021

Good evening,

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

Outreach/Education: In honor of Earth Day 2021, we partnered with the Town of East Lyme and East Lyme High School to host an Earth Day clean-up of the high school rain garden. Students from Laura Ashburn's environmental science class did a great job cleaning up the garden. I put up posts on the NRWC and ECCD Facebook pages and the ECCD Instagram page with a few photos of the clean-up.

Monitoring: I received notice from EPA (Region1) that we have been awarded the Stormwater Toolbox for 2021. I also received notice that we were awarded funding from SWEP-CT to support the outfall sampling project.

NRWPP Update: The summit is on-hold until later this summer or early fall. I would like to convene a small committee to begin planning the event.

Healthy Lawns, Healthy River CBSM Outreach Campaign: The CBSM project team met on April 28th and May 5th to begin planning the outreach campaign. We have a great team and I am looking forward to working with them. I would like to begin the neighborhood canvassing by the beginning of June, so it is a bit of an ambitious timeline, but I think we can get it done.

Grants: As previously noted, we were awarded funding from SWEP-CT to support the outfall sampling project. I have not heard from EPOC whether that proposal was approved.

Water Quality Improvement Projects: 4-Town Bioretention project – We are in the process of working with the towns of Waterford and East Lyme to identify locations for tree filters (3 in each town) and stormdrain filters (8 in each town). We will also be identifying locations for rain gardens (7 in each town) and planning a rain barrel distribution event.

Staff hours: In April, I worked approximately 31 hours on Niantic River Watershed Committee business and projects. Of that, about 12.75 hours were for core NRWC activities (administration, outreach and monitoring activities) and about 18.25 hours were applied to the LISFF CBSM campaign.

Respectfully submitted.

Judy Rondeau

Watershed Coordinator