



Niantic River Watershed Committee

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Niantic River Watershed Coordinator's Report

June 1, 2017

Good evening,

Following is a summary of tasks I have been working on since the May 4, 2017 Board of Directors meeting.

Outreach/Education: We've had several inquiries regarding the Rain Garden Initiative. I also had an email from a Smith Cove resident interested in assistance with a riparian buffer. I distributed rain garden outreach material and applications to several local nurseries/garden centers. I participated for the 3rd year in the East Lyme elementary school (3rd grade) stormwater classroom at Hole-in-the-Wall on May 16th. The Behavior Change Campaign continues to move along. I participated in a conference call/ workshop on May 30th with a social marketing expert on the process to select the most effective behavior to target.

Monitoring: Yesterday, Don Danila, Meg Lally and I deployed temperature loggers at DEEP's fish sampling sites along Latimer Brook. The loggers will collect temperature data that may help DEEP fisheries biologists better understand the lack of fish and fish species in the brook. We also deployed loggers in Cranberry Meadow Brook and Bogue Brook (in Montville). DEEP has asked us to photo-document water levels in Bogue Brook to help support streamflow regulations.

Grants: The NFWF Long Island Sound Future Fund grant RFP was announced in mid-May. The (very short!!) deadline is June 22nd. At last month's meeting Jesse Baldwin mentioned a small grant through his employer, GZA Environmental, which might be suitable for a small oyster restoration pilot project.

ECCD Projects: The Latimer Brook stormwater infiltration project at East Lyme High School is still on target for summer 2017. Victor Benni and I will meet with the school superintendent on June 19th. The Grand Street water quality improvement project contract preparation is moving along on target, as well. The project is slated for September 2017.

Staff hours: In May, I worked approximately 32 hours on Niantic River Watershed Committee business and projects. Of that, 23.25 hours were for administrative activities, outreach and monitoring activities, and 6.75 hours were applied to projects.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Judy Rondeau'.

Judy Rondeau
Watershed Coordinator